

God's Final Solution

Chapter 8

Audio Lesson: Old Testament number 81



Objective: To understand the hope found in the book of Micah.



Who is a God like you, who pardons sin and forgives the transgression...? You do not stay angry forever but delight to show mercy. You will again have compassion on us; you will tread our sins underfoot and hurl all our iniquities into the depths of the sea.

—Micah 7:18-19

Blessed is he whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered. Blessed is the man whose sin the Lord does not count against him and in whose spirit is no deceit.

—Psalm 32:1-2

In Micah's third sermon, God confronted His people as if they were in a courtroom, reminding them of how He has cared for them in the past. What did He require in return for His great works? More than sacrificial offerings, God desires that His people live justly, love mercy, and walk in humility toward Him.

After addressing the failure of government in Israel and Judah, Micah preached a message of hope for the people of God and all the nations of the world through a Messianic prophecy. Where human government had failed in Jerusalem and Samaria, Christ's ultimate authority would not fail, and He would bring true peace to His people. He would be the perfect example of a Prophet, Priest, and King.



1. **True** or false? Micah is the only prophet to tell where the Messiah would be born.
2. True or **false**? Because Micah is one of the minor prophets, his message is not very important.
3. **True** or false? Micah prophesied that the Messiah would rule in the strength of the Lord.
4. True or **false**? The Bible is very specific about the place and time of Jesus' return.

Unless otherwise noted, choose one answer for each question.

5. When did Jesus assume control of Israel's government?
 - a. Immediately after His resurrection
 - b. At the end of the New Testament
 - c. He already tried but failed
 - d. He will at His second coming.**
6. In the reign of the Messiah, who will come to see the mountain of the Lord?
 - a. All nations**
 - b. The entire Middle East
 - c. Israel and Judah
 - d. Only a few Christians
7. What scene does Micah describe for God's conversation with His people in the third sermon?
 - a. A garden
 - b. A valley of dry bones
 - c. A courtroom**
 - d. The rivers of Babylon
8. What does God want most from His people?
 - a. Animal sacrifices
 - b. Financial gifts
 - c. Obedience and pilgrimages
 - d. A right heart**
9. How does Micah's prophecy end?
 - a. With harsh judgment of God
 - b. With a positive message of hope**
 - c. With God abandoning His people
 - d. With Israel's sudden repentance
10. From where will the Messiah rule the earth?
 - a. From far away in heaven
 - b. From Jerusalem**
 - c. From Rome
 - d. From the city with the most Christians in it when He returns

11. What is Micah's final and ultimate message of hope?

- a. Governments will be run by godly people.
- b. Religious leaders will all be Christians.
- c. God will send His Salvation, the Messiah, who will rule righteously.**
- d. There is no hope. The world will be judged by God.



Is it easier for you to give God sacrifices or to have a pure heart toward Him? Which does He want most from you? Why?



Thank God that He sent His son, who was prophesied by Micah, just as He promised, and that one day Jesus will return to rule. Thank God the gift of salvation includes a new heart. Ask Him to fill your heart with love for Him, love for others, and a desire to do His will. Thank God that we have hope that Jesus will come again and will righteously rule all the earth.



Going Deeper

1. Based on the message of Micah, should a follower of Christ have anything to do with the political process? _____

2. According to Micah, what are three things the Lord requires of every God-passionate believer? (Consider Micah 6:8) _____

3. What does it mean to *do justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly* with our God? _____

4. As we apply *doing justly*, in what ways would that mean that we should step up and stand up for justice and against injustice? _____

5. Since mercy is unconditional love, in what ways should you and I apply the teaching of Micah that we are to *love mercy*? _____

6. Since God is just and the essence of unconditional love, what are the practical applications of *walking humbly* with our God? _____

7. In addition to the birth of Christ in Bethlehem, when does Micah see the providential solution to corrupt governments taking place on the earth? _____
