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There is more than one Micah recorded in the Bible. There is only one Prophet called Micah and he was a righteous man and a prophet of God. One of the other Micah's, an unrighteous man can be found in Judges 17 and 18.

The Prophet Micah was a prophet at the same time of Isaiah, Amos and Hosea. Amos and Hosea prophesied in the northern tribes of Israel while Micah prophesied to both Israel and Judah for about 59 years according to historians.

<https://craigtowens.files.wordpress.com/2014/07/screen-shot-2020-08-28-at-3.40.59-pm.png>

The condition of the 12 tribes at this time was split. God had warned Solomon that He was going to divide the nation due to the sins of Solomon but not until he was dead. The split would come quickly after Rehoboam, Solomon's son took over as king.

After the split, the Tribes of Judah and Benjamin under King Rehoboam had as its principal city Jerusalem, Rehoboam was of the Tribe of Judah.

The 10 tribes of Israel under King Jeroboam had as its principal city Shomron in Hellenized Hebrew and Samareia in Latin and Samaria in Greek. Jeroboam the first King of Israel (northern tribes) was from the tribe of Ephraim. It was all downhill from then on.

**Q.** What is left today of the 10 northern Tribes of Israel? In the New Testament it is usually referred to as Samaria and even in this Book of Micah it is referred to as Samaria. They are called the lost tribes of Israel after they were conquered and dispersed by the Assyrians. Samaria is a geographical area and the capital city of Israel under King Omri the sixth king of Israel. His son Ahab followed in his footsteps becoming the seventh king of Israel. Both were evil kings.

In 1948 the land reverted back to its original name as a Nation called Israel.

God allowed this split in order to humble Solomon's son Rehoboam and the tribes of Judah and Benjamin. God told Jeroboam of Israel:

1 Kings 11: **26**And Jeroboam the son of Nebat, an Ephrathite of Zereda, Solomon's servant, whose mother's name was Zeruah, a widow woman, even he lifted up his hand against the king. **27**And this was the cause that he lifted up his hand against the king: Solomon built Millo, and repaired the breaches of the city of David his father. **28**And the man Jeroboam was a mighty man of valour: and Solomon seeing the young man that he was industrious, he made him ruler over all the charge of the house of Joseph. **29**And it came to pass at that time when Jeroboam went out of Jerusalem, that the prophet Ahijah (akh ee yaw/mine) the Shilonite found him in the way; and he had clad himself with a new garment; and they two were alone in the field: **30**And Ahijah caught the new garment that was on him, and rent it in twelve pieces: **31**And he said to Jeroboam, Take thee ten pieces: for thus saith the LORD, the God of Israel, Behold, I will rend the kingdom out of the hand of Solomon, and will give ten tribes to thee: **32**(But he shall have one tribe for my servant David's sake, and for Jerusalem's sake, the city which I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel:) **33**Because that they have forsaken me, and have worshipped Ashtoreth the goddess of the Zidonians, Chemosh the god of the Moabites, and Milcom the god of the children of Ammon, and have not walked in my ways, to do that which is right in mine eyes, and to keep my statutes and my judgments, as did David his father. **34**Howbeit I will not take the whole kingdom out of his hand: but I will make him prince all the days of his life for David my servant's sake, whom I chose, because he kept my commandments and my statutes: **35**But I will take the kingdom out of his son's hand, and will give it unto thee, even ten tribes. **36**And unto his son will I give one tribe, that David my servant may have a light alway before me in Jerusalem, the city which I have chosen me to put my name there. **37**And I will take thee, and thou shalt reign according to all that thy soul desireth, and shalt be king over Israel. **38**And it shall be, if thou wilt hearken unto all that I command thee, and wilt walk in my ways, and do that is right in my sight, to keep my statutes and my commandments, as David my servant did; that I will be with

***thee, and build thee a sure house, as I built for David, and will give Israel unto thee. 39And I will for this afflict the seed of David, but not for ever. 40Solomon sought therefore to kill Jeroboam. And Jeroboam arose, and fled into Egypt, unto Shishak king of Egypt, and was in Egypt until the death of Solomon. (emphasis mine)***

**Q.** Anybody know how Jeroboam did on that command from God?

***1 Kings 14: 9But hast done evil above all that were before thee: for thou hast gone and made thee other gods, and molten images, to provoke me to anger, and hast cast me behind thy back: 10Therefore, behold, I will bring evil upon the house of Jeroboam, and will cut off from Jeroboam him that pisseth against the wall, and him that is shut up and left in Israel, and will take away the remnant of the house of Jeroboam, as a man taketh away dung, till it be all gone. (emphasis mine)***

All of God's prophets had their work cut out for them in dealing with these stiff-necked people. Judah was blessed to have Jerusalem; it is God's city and He put His name on it for all the world to see then and now. Israel according to God would have been blessed if King Jeroboam would have been obedient to God.

Micah's prophecies were at a minimum 2 phases and perhaps repeat prophecies as they covered not only the near term for Israel and longer term for Judah but are clearly Messianic and End Times.

## Micah 1

### Judgment against Israel

[\(Isaiah 7:17-25\)](#)

**1The word of the LORD that came to Micah the Morasthite in the days of Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, which he saw concerning Samaria and Jerusalem.**

We know the division was between the 12 tribes of Israel. But Micah does not refer to the Tribe names but to geographic principal city locations; Jerusalem the city of God and Samaria the geographic location of where Israel's 10 tribes would be.

In Hebrew Samaria was Shamron according to Strong's Concordance:

Transliteration: Shomron

Phonetic Spelling: (sho-mer-one')

Definition: capital of N. kingdom of Israel

The Capital of Israel (Samaria) was later changed to the city of Samaria by King Omri.

The Prophet Isaiah received a word from the Lord near the same time: Isaiah declared which king would defeat Israel.

***Isaiah 7: [17](#)The LORD shall bring upon thee, and upon thy people, and upon thy father's house, days that have not come, from the day that Ephraim departed from Judah; even the king of Assyria.***

**2Hear, all ye people; hearken, O earth, and all that therein is: and let the Lord GOD be witness against you, the Lord from his holy temple.**

Micah addresses this prophecy to both Israel and Judah as well as the entire “earth and all therein is.” That seems strange because Micah was sent as a prophet to the Hebrew Tribes divided. We will see that his prophecy was far broader than for a certain time and certain place.

God’s Holy Temple is wherever God is at, when He leaves a temple at least here on earth it is no long Holy. Regardless God will be a witness against whom ever it is that is being judged. God is a witness as He knows all things even the hearts of men.

**3For, behold, the LORD cometh forth out of his place, and will come down, and tread upon the high places of the earth.**

This is a multi-phase prophesy. God came to earth as a man in Christ Jesus, the servant sacrifice.

He will come again as a conquering King and will set up His Kingdom on earth as High Priest and King.

He will sit in judgement of the lost from His Throne after destroying the earth and will sit on His Throne in New Jerusalem and the New Earth.

Yes, God is going to tread upon the “high places of the earth”. These high places could be good or evil. They were often designated as places of evil idol worship. He is King and will walk wherever and whenever He chooses.

***Numbers 22: [41](#) And it came to pass on the morrow, that Balak took Balaam, and brought him up into the high places of Baal, that thence he might see the utmost part of the people.***

***[4](#) And the mountains shall be molten under him, and the valleys shall be cleft, as wax before the fire, and as the waters that are poured down a steep place.***

This description of matter being at a minimum rearranged and at worst destroyed. This has never happened so it must be future. The closest to this prophecy even slightly being fulfilled was when God met Moses on Mt. Sinai. Even though the earth was scorched it did not melt at that time.

***2 Peter 3: [10](#) But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.***

***[11](#) Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation***

and godliness, **12** Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat? **13** Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.

**5** For the transgression of Jacob *is* all this, and for the sins of the house of Israel. What *is* the transgression of Jacob? *is it* not Samaria? and what *are* the high places of Judah? *are they* not Jerusalem?

In our study of Revelation, it was clear that God is going to judge Israel and Jerusalem the Harlot.

God calls out several things here. He first calls out Jacob the father of the 12 tribes. God renamed Jacob to Israel, and now Micah is speaking to the 10 tribes that kept the name Israel. Israel the 10 tribes as we already discussed inhabited what was referred to as Samaria a region north of Judah the land given by God to the 10 tribes that were there.

God then directs His attention to Israel's sister as He calls her from time to time; Judah and then specifies Jerusalem. Not only does He call them out but specifies Jerusalem as "high places" not in a loving manner but in an accusatory manner.

**Jeremiah 31** *They say, If a man put away his wife, and she go from him, and become another man's, shall he return unto her again? shall not that land be greatly polluted? but*



***thou hast played the harlot with many lovers; yet return again to me, saith the LORD. (emphasis mine)***

***2Lift up thine eyes unto the high places, and see where thou hast not been lien with. In the ways hast thou sat for them, as the Arabian in the wilderness; and thou hast polluted the land with thy whoredoms and with thy wickedness. (emphasis mine)***

Continuing in Jeremiah 3:

***6The LORD said also unto me in the days of Josiah the king, Hast thou seen that which backsliding Israel hath done? she is gone up upon every high mountain and under every green tree, and there hath played the harlot.***

What specific thing did King Jeroboam do that caused God to declare Israel a “harlot”?

***1 Kings 12: 27If this people go up to do sacrifice in the house of the LORD at Jerusalem, then shall the heart of this people turn again unto their lord, even unto Rehoboam king of Judah, and they shall kill me, and go again to Rehoboam king of Judah. 28Whereupon the king took counsel, and made two calves of gold, and said unto them, It is too much for you to go up to Jerusalem: behold thy gods, O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt. 29And he set the one in Bethel, and the other put he in Dan. 30And this thing became a sin: for the people went to worship before the one, even unto Dan. 31And he made an house of high places, and made priests of the lowest of the people, which were not of the sons of Levi. 32And Jeroboam ordained a feast in the eighth month, on the fifteenth day of the month, like unto the feast that is in Judah, and he offered upon the altar. So did he in Bethel, sacrificing unto the calves that he had made: and he placed in Bethel the priests of the high places which he had made. 33So he offered upon the altar which he had made in Bethel the fifteenth day of the eighth month, even***

*in the month which he had devised of his own heart; and ordained a feast unto the children of Israel: and he offered upon the altar, and burnt incense.*

Back to Jeremiah 3:

***7***And I said after she had done all these things, Turn thou unto me. But she returned not. And her treacherous sister Judah saw it. ***8***And I saw, when for all the causes whereby backsliding Israel committed adultery I had put her away, and given her a bill of divorce; yet her treacherous sister Judah feared not, but went and played the harlot also. ***9***And it came to pass through the lightness of her whoredom, that she defiled the land, and committed adultery with stones and with stocks. ***10***And yet for all this her treacherous sister Judah hath not turned unto me with her whole heart, but feignedly, saith the LORD.

God through His prophet Micah has called out both Israel and Judah to include all the tribes associated with each. If Israel had done what God asked then Judah would have repented, but Israel played the Harlot and taught her sister Judah to do likewise. The wrath of God is building against these two harlots.

***6***Therefore I will make Samaria as an heap of the field, and as plantings of a vineyard: and I will pour down the stones thereof into the valley, and I will discover the foundations thereof.

Again, this can be looked at as a multi-phase prophecy. Samaria: Israel would indeed be rendered non-existent by the Assyrians in the not to distant future from the time of this prophecy.

**7And all the graven images thereof shall be beaten to pieces, and all the hires thereof shall be burned with the fire, and all the idols thereof will I lay desolate: for she gathered *it* of the hire of an harlot, and they shall return to the hire of an harlot.**

With so many of these idol worshipping's of that day it was about the money. As we have often quoted Mike Agresta's 2 laws:

1. People are stupid
2. People are easily duped

When Assyria initially attacked it was about a 3-year campaign starting in 734 BC.

***2 Kings 18: 9And it came to pass in the fourth year of king Hezekiah, which was the seventh year of Hoshea son of Elah king of Israel, that Shalmaneser king of Assyria came up against Samaria, and besieged it. 10And at the end of three years they took it: even in the sixth year of Hezekiah, that is the ninth year of Hoshea king of Israel, Samaria was taken. 11And the king of Assyria did carry away Israel unto Assyria, and put them in Halah and in Habor by the river of Gozan, and in the cities of the Medes: 12Because they obeyed not the voice of the LORD their God, but transgressed his covenant, and all that Moses the servant of the LORD commanded, and would not hear them, nor do them.***

A later attack would not conclude until 724 BC. Besides all out victory the Assyrians as well as all conqueror of that day, they set

out to not leave one thing standing that would give these Israelis any hope.

So, everything would be destroyed that had any value to Israel.

Consider today's harlots in America for example. The harlots of race bating, environmentalism, abortion(ism), transsexualism, religions, they all want their money for promoting the thing that we should all bow down to. I would submit that what God told Micah for that time is still in effect for today beyond Israel and Judah.

**8Therefore I will wail and howl, I will go stripped and naked: I will make a wailing like the dragons, and mourning as the owls.**

Out of the King James Lexicon as a side note on "dragons"

*"tanniyn (tan-noon')*  
*a marine or land monster, i.e. sea-serpent or jackal -- dragon, sea-monster, serpent, whale."*

Stripped and naked is a reference to tearing or wrenching one's upper garment that left them in a "naked" condition. The mourning and wailing was likened to dragons and owls. Apparently, there is anecdotal evidence by people that have heard these creatures.

Benson Commentary

[“Job 30:29](#). *“It is affirmed by travellers of good credit,” says Pocock, “that ostriches make a fearful, screeching, lamentable noise.” Shaw also observes, that “during the lonesome part of the night, they often make a very doleful and hideous noise;” and that he had “often heard them groan, as if they were in the greatest agonies.”*

***Job 30:29 I am a brother to dragons, and a companion to owls.***

**9For her wound *is* incurable; for it is come unto Judah; he is come unto the gate of my people, even to Jerusalem.**

The Micah prophecy has not yet identified the actual attacking army it has simply lain out what God intends to do about their harlotry. We saw however in Isaiah 7 that he identified the army that would destroy them as the Assyrian Army. We know from Isaiah that it will be the Assyrians a most unpleasant aggressor that will come calling. The Assyrian were a brutal and used psychological warfare to soften their intended targets. They would offer surrender before the attack. If refused most would be killed; they would skin the men alive and hang their skin over the walls of the city. They would kill the children and rape the women often. ‘The would cut off the heads of the kings and make the royals left alive to wear the head of their king on a neckless around their necks. They would stack up skulls after burning them in front of the city as a warning to others.

When Assyria destroyed Babylon, it took it to the very foundation then dug canals to cover the entire area of Babylon and turn it into a swamp as a further warning to any who would defy them.

**10 Declare ye *it* not at Gath, weep ye not at all: in the house of Aphrah roll thyself in the dust.**

*2 Samuel 1:20 Tell it not in Gath, publish it not in the streets of Askelon; lest the daughters of the Philistines rejoice, lest the daughters of the uncircumcised triumph.*

This is a quote from David's dirge over Saul. Gath was a city of the Philistines. Micah did not want them as David did not want them to have joy at the loss of Saul or the loss of Israel, so they were told to stifle their grief so no one would hear them crying.

Aphrah is an unknown city it may be Ophrah in Benjamin

*Joshua 18: 23 And Avim, and Parah, and Ophrah,*

**11 Pass ye away, thou inhabitant of Saphir, having thy shame naked: the inhabitant of Zaanan came not forth in the mourning of Bethel; he shall receive of you his standing.**

"Pass ye away" is the sense that God has not intervened on this fair city "Saphir" means "Fair". It will cease to exist due to its nation's sins and their own shame of nakedness, not fulfilling God's desire and plan for them.

Zaanan (tze-nan) a city in Judah known for its many flocks of sheep at that time. The herders would happily take their flocks out into the fields but now they will cower in fear of who is coming and what is to happen to them. The world knew the brutality of the Assyrian Army that was coming.

Bethezel means “standing ground” in other words they were known to stand their ground but in this case they should have fled, but like Zaanan they would cower out of fear, knowing the Assyrians were at their gates.

**12For the inhabitant of Maroth waited carefully for good: but evil came down from the LORD unto the gate of Jerusalem.**

Maroth means bitterness. The inhabitants just a short distance from Jerusalem would be in anguish over the knowledge that the Assyrians were coming; hoping for good to come, but evil would find them for the sins of their nation and their own.

**13O thou inhabitant of Lachish, bind the chariot to the swift beast: she *is* the beginning of the sin to the daughter of Zion: for the transgressions of Israel were found in thee.**

Lachish was a well-fortified city and of great importance to Judah. When Jerusalem fell to Nebuchadnezzar, Lachish still stood. They

are warned by the prophet to hook their best horses to their chariots and flee at the approach of their enemy.

It is believed “she is the beginning of the sin of the daughter of Zion” that it was through this city that the first idol worship began in Judah. God would not forget her role in defying Him.

**14Therefore shalt thou give presents to Moreshethgath: the houses of Achzib *shall be* a lie to the kings of Israel.**

Moreshethgath was a small town where the prophet Micah was from. It was protected by Judah but now Micah is told by God that they should give parting gifts to the enemy because it would fall.

Achzib mean “false or lie” it was used as a term when a thirsty traveler would see what appeared to be a stream bed only to find it dried up and disappointing. The false prophets of the time would tell the evil kings that they had God on their side and no worries. It is one thing to think you have God on your side but with self-examination it may show that you need God on your side and repentance is needed or destruction will come upon you.

**15Yet will I bring an heir unto thee, O inhabitant of Mareshah: he shall come unto Adullam the glory of Israel.**



It is a play on a word. Mareshah sounds similar to the word for “inheritance”. God is saying that Judah’s inheritance would fall to Sargon the Assyrian King, whom God called the heir.

Addulam was the name given to the cave that David took refuge in while Saul was pursuing him. It was in a sense the “glory” of Israel due to what David did to honor God and the King of Israel when he could have killed him.

**16** Make thee bald, and poll thee for thy delicate children; enlarge thy baldness as the eagle; for they are gone into captivity from thee.

The law prohibited the shaving of the beard and hair in certain ways as it was a ritual from heathen tribes. God is telling them that those who survive will be shaved bare.

*Leviticus 19:27 27'You shall not round off the side-growth of your heads nor harm the edges of your beard. 28'You shall not make any cuts in your body for the dead nor make any tattoo marks on yourselves: I am the LORD.*

“Thy delicate children” means as with most parents the children are their greatest possession and they too will go into captivity. It is likely speaking of the Babylonians as they took many into captivity, unlike the Assyrians who killed almost everyone and took only a few into captivity. They left some there but brought in other captives from other heathen nations and forced the

cohabitation and marriage of the Israelites to these heathens. It was one of the reasons those from Judah despised the Samaritans their brothers and sisters from Israel due to intermarriage with heathens and the tainting of the blood lines.

“Enlarge thy baldness as the eagle” meant to shave off the hair and beard and affront and against God’s law.

The eagle spoke of here is likely the “griffin” an eagle like bird more like a vulture with no feathers on its head or neck. This was to be the condition of those taken captive.

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