

Micah 3-5 with key words and phrases in bold

Micah 3

[Speech against rulers]

**Micah 3:1** And I said: Hear, you **heads** of Jacob and **rulers** of the house of Israel! Is it not for you to know justice?--

<sup>2</sup> you who hate the good and love the evil, who tear the skin from off my people and their flesh from off their bones,

<sup>3</sup> who eat the flesh of my people, and flay their skin from off them, and break their bones in pieces and chop them up like meat in a pot, like flesh in a cauldron.

<sup>4</sup> Then they will cry to the LORD, but he will not answer them; he will hide his face from them at that time, because they have made their deeds evil.

[Speech against corrupt prophets]

<sup>5</sup> Thus says the LORD concerning the **prophets** who lead my people astray, who cry "Peace" when they have something to eat, but declare war against him who puts nothing into their mouths.

<sup>6</sup> Therefore it shall be night to you, without vision, and darkness to you, without divination. The sun shall go down on the prophets, and the day shall be black over them;

<sup>7</sup> the seers shall be disgraced, and the diviners put to shame; they shall all cover their lips, for there is no answer from God.

<sup>8</sup> But as for me, I am filled with power, with the Spirit of the LORD, and with justice and might, to declare to Jacob his transgression and to Israel his sin.

[Speech against all officials with threatened destruction of Jerusalem and temple]

<sup>9</sup> Hear this, you **heads** of the house of Jacob and **rulers** of the house of Israel, who detest justice and make crooked all that is straight,

<sup>10</sup> who build **Zion** with blood and **Jerusalem** with iniquity.

<sup>11</sup> **Its heads** give **judgment** for a bribe; its **priests teach** for a price; its **prophets** practice divination for money; yet they lean on the LORD and say, "Is not the LORD in the midst of us? No disaster shall come upon us."

<sup>12</sup> Therefore because of you **Zion** shall be **plowed as a field**; **Jerusalem** shall become a **heap of ruins**, and the **mountain of the house** a **wooded height**.

### Micah 4

<sup>ESV</sup> **Micah 4:1** It shall come (וְהָיָה) to pass in the latter days

that the **mountain of the house of the LORD** shall be established as the **highest** of the mountains, and it shall be lifted up above the hills; and **peoples** shall flow to it, <sup>2</sup> and **many nations** shall come, and say: "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob, **that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.**" For out of **Zion** shall go forth the **law**, and the **word** of the LORD from **Jerusalem**.

<sup>3</sup> He shall **judge** between **many peoples**, and shall decide disputes for **strong nations** far away; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against **nation**, neither shall they learn war anymore; <sup>4</sup> but they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree, and no one shall make them afraid, for the mouth of the LORD of hosts has spoken.

<sup>5</sup> For all **the peoples** walk each in the name of its god, but we will walk in the name of the LORD our God forever and ever.

<sup>6</sup> **In that day**, declares the LORD, I will assemble the lame and gather those who have been driven away and those whom I have afflicted;

<sup>7</sup> and the lame I will make the remnant, and those who were cast off, a **strong nation**; and the LORD will reign over them in **Mount Zion** from this time forth and forevermore.

<sup>8</sup> And you, O tower of the flock, hill of the daughter of **Zion**, to you shall it come, the former dominion shall come, kingship for the daughter of **Jerusalem**.

<sup>9</sup> **Now** (עַתָּה)

why do you cry aloud? Is there no king in you? Has your counselor perished, that pain seized you like a woman in labor?

<sup>10</sup> Writhe and groan, O daughter of **Zion**, like a woman in labor, for now you shall go out from the city and dwell in the open country; you shall go to Babylon. There you shall be rescued; there the LORD will redeem you from the hand of your enemies.

<sup>11</sup> **Now** (עַתָּה)

**many nations** are assembled against you, saying, "Let her be defiled, and let our eyes gaze upon **Zion**."

<sup>12</sup> But they do not know the thoughts of the LORD; they do not understand his plan, that he has gathered them as sheaves to the threshing floor.

<sup>13</sup> Arise and thresh, O daughter of **Zion**, for I will make your horn iron, and I will make your hoofs bronze; you shall beat in pieces **many peoples**; and shall devote their gain to the LORD, their wealth to the Lord of the whole earth.

## Micah 5

ESV **Micah 5:1 Now** (עַתָּה)

muster your troops, O daughter of troops; siege is laid against us; with a rod they strike the judge of Israel on the cheek.

<sup>2</sup> But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are **too little** to be among the clans of Judah, from you **shall come forth for me** one who is to be **ruler** in Israel, **whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days**.

<sup>3</sup> Therefore **he shall give them up** until the time when **she who is in labor has given birth**; then **the rest of his brothers shall return** to the people of Israel.

<sup>4</sup> And he shall stand and shepherd his flock **in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth.**

<sup>5</sup> [**And this shall be peace** (וְהָיָה)]:<sup>1</sup>

when the Assyrian comes into our land and treads in our palaces, then we will raise against him seven shepherds and eight princes of men;

<sup>6</sup> they shall shepherd the land of Assyria with the sword, and the land of Nimrod at its entrances; and he shall deliver us from the Assyrian when he comes into our land and treads within our border.

<sup>7</sup> Then the remnant of Jacob **shall be** (וְהָיָה)

in the midst of **many peoples** like dew from the LORD, like showers on the grass, which delay not for a man nor wait for the children of man.

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<sup>1</sup> I have inserted my own translation here at the beginning of the verse, the text in brackets, departing from the ESV.

<sup>8</sup> And the remnant of Jacob **shall be** (וְהָיָה)

among **the nations**, in the midst of many peoples, like a lion among the beasts of the forest, like a young lion among the flocks of sheep, which, when it goes through, treads down and tears in pieces, and there is none to deliver.

<sup>9</sup> Your hand shall be lifted up over your adversaries, and all your enemies shall be cut off.

<sup>10</sup> [And it shall be (וְהָיָה)]<sup>2</sup> in that day,

declares the LORD, I will cut off your horses from among you and will destroy your chariots;

<sup>11</sup> and I will cut off the cities of your land and throw down all your strongholds;

<sup>12</sup> and I will cut off sorceries from your hand, and you shall have no more tellers of fortunes;

<sup>13</sup> and I will cut off your carved images and your pillars from among you, and you shall bow down no more to the work of your hands;

<sup>14</sup> and I will root out your Asherah images from among you and destroy your cities.

<sup>15</sup> And in anger and wrath I will execute vengeance on **the nations** that did not obey.

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<sup>2</sup> I have added the translation "it shall be" to reflect the perfect plus *waw* consecutive in the Hebrew text.