Having A Basic Understanding of Some Old Testament Truths

Part 441 – Woe To Devisers Of Iniquity Through The Breaker (Micah 2:1-13)

1. Regarding what the Lord called "this family", what did He devise against them?

An evil [trouble; affliction; calamity; adversity; harm (strong's # 7451]: *"(1) Woe to them that devise iniquity, and work evil upon their beds! when the morning is light, they practise it, because it is in the power of their hand. (2) And they covet fields, and take them by violence; and houses, and take them away: so they oppress a man and his house, even a man and his heritage. (3) Therefore thus saith the LORD; Behold, against this family do I devise an evil, from which ye shall not remove your necks; neither shall ye go haughtily: for this time is evil"* (**Micah 2:1-3**).

- Woe to them that devise iniquity [wickedness] (**Genesis 6:5-7**, **Deuteronomy 17:1-7**, **Deuteronomy 28:20**, **Psalms 5:4-5**, **Proverbs 11:5**, **Proverbs 13:6**, and **Jeremiah 2:19**).
- The working of evil upon their beds (**Psalms 36:1-4** and **Proverbs 4:14-16**).
- They do those things just because they can, not because there was even something to reason gain from. Not that there is ever gain in sin (**Romans 6:22**).
- They took lands and houses that were not theirs for the taking (**Exodus 20:17**, **I Kings 21:1-24**, **Jeremiah 22:17**, and **Matthew 23:14**).
- Land was their inheritance (**Numbers 26:55** and **Numbers 33:54**).
- "This family" (**Jeremiah 8:1-7** and **Amos 3:1-2**).
- A punishment they would not remove their necks from (**Lamentations 5:5**).
- The time is evil is something we studied in **Amos 5:13**.

2. What was going to be taken up against them in that day?

A parable: *"In that day shall one take up a parable against you, and lament with a doleful lamentation, and say, We be utterly spoiled: he hath changed the portion of my people: how hath he removed it from me! turning away he hath divided our fields"* (**Micah 2:4**).

- A parable or proverbs or byword against them as was long ago promised for disobedience in Israel (**Deuteronomy 28:15-37**; cf. **Psalms 44:14** and **Jeremiah 24:4-10**).

3. What is the meaning of the statement in Micah 2:5?

The statement is: *"Therefore thou shalt have none that shall cast a cord by lot in the congregation of the LORD"* (**Micah 2:5**).

- Israel was divided up by lot (**Joshua 18:10**).
- If a person could not show their inheritance, they could not be in the congregation of the Lord or come before Him with sacrifices (**Nehemiah 7:61-64** and **Ezra 2:59-62**).

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4. Did they want to hear the words of the prophets?

No: *"Prophesy ye not, say they to them that prophesy: they shall not prophesy to them, that they shall not take shame"* (**Micah 2:6**).

- **Isaiah 30:9-13**, **Jeremiah 6:15-19**, **Jeremiah 8:9**, and **Hosea 4:1-6**

5. Should they have been capable of reasoning that the Lord's judgment on them indicated that they were not doing good?

Yes, for the Lord did good to those that walked upright in Israel: *"O thou that art named the house of Jacob, is the spirit of the LORD straitened? are these his doings? do not my words do good to him that walketh uprightly"* (**Micah 2:7**)?

- They were named the house of Jacob which carried a lot in meaning of promise (**Isaiah 14:1**, **Ezekiel 39:25**, and **Malachi 3:6**).
- The word translated "straitened" is complex and can be confusing. I can mean vexed (Strong's # 7114). The Lord's Spirit was vexed (**Isaiah 63:10**). So, that's not the meaning. Short or shortened is fitting (**Isaiah 59:1-13**).
- Had they been doing good and walking uprightly, they were have experienced good from the Lord (**Psalms 84:11**). In the New Testament times we live under now, the blessings we have are spiritual rather than carnal (**Romans 8:28-39**).

6. How was the passerby and the women being treated in Israel?

The were being mistreated: *"(8) Even of late my people is risen up as an enemy: ye pull off the robe with the garment from them that pass by securely as men averse from war. (9) The women of my people have ye cast out from their pleasant houses; from their children have ye taken away my glory for ever"* (**Micah 2:8-9**).

- Brethren against brethren had occurred (**II Chronicles 28:1-21** and **Isaiah 9:21**).
- They robbed the passer-by (**Ezekiel 22:7**; i.e. **Luke 10:30**). They were taught better (**Exodus 22:21**).
- The women casts from their pleasant houses (**Isaiah 10:1-2** and **Mark 12:38-40**).
- Seeing as how God was removed from among them through their sins, the children did not get to see the presence of His glory (**I Chronicles 16:26-27**).

7. Was Israel a place to be at during this time?

No, it was time to depart: *"Arise ye, and depart; for this is not your rest: because it is polluted, it shall destroy you, even with a sore destruction"* (**Micah 2:10**).

- What they had taken from others was not their own. They needed to arise and get out of what belong to others (**Deuteronomy 27:17**, **Proverbs 22:28**, and **Proverbs 23:10-11**).
- God gave each their own inheritance, their own land of rest (**Exodus 32:13** and **Joshua 11:23**).

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- It, the land, was said to be that which would destroy them (**Jeremiah 9:19**).

8. What kind of prophets were they willing to listen to?

   The one that encouraged sinfulness: *"If a man walking in the spirit and falsehood do lie, saying, I will prophesy unto thee of wine and of strong drink; he shall even be the prophet of this people"* (**Micah 2:11**).

   - **I Kings 22:1-40**, **Isaiah 30:9-11**, **Jeremiah 5:22-31**, **Jeremiah 14:14**, and **II Timothy 4:1-5**, and **II Peter 2:1-3**
   - When a prophets taught to drink alcohol, the people should have known he was a liar (**Proverbs 20:1**, **Proverbs 21:17**, **Proverbs 23:29-35**, **Isaiah 5:11**, **Isaiah 5:22**, and **Hosea 4:11**).

9. When the Lord reassembled His people, who was going to be the head of them?

   No, to be broken up: *"(12) I will surely assemble, O Jacob, all of thee; I will surely gather the remnant of Israel; I will put them together as the sheep of Bozrah, as the flock in the midst of their fold: they shall make great noise by reason of the multitude of men. (13) The breaker is come up before them: they have broken up, and have passed through the gate, and are gone out by it: and their king shall pass before them, and the LORD on the head of them"* (**Micah 2:12-13**).

   - **Jeremiah 3:14-18**, **Ezekiel 36:33-36**, **Amos 9:14-15**, and **Zechariah 10:8-12**
   - Ultimately, the gathering into Christ (**Isaiah 11:1-12**).

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