

**Micah 6,7****1-9-03***“He delights in Mercy!”***1. Intro:**

- 1.1. **Q:** What does the Lord seek from a believer? (we'll see later)

**2. Hhjjkj (Chapter 6)**2.1. **THE CASE!** (1-5)

- 2.2. (1,2) God is called to the witness stand.

2.2.1. The “silent ancient witness” of the **mountains**, become **His jury!**

2.2.2. As if an incriminating “global tape recorder” is witted on for evidence.

- 2.3. (3-5) He pleads His case against Israel.

2.3.1. I have not let you **down**(3);...I brought you **up!**(4)

2.3.2. **Q:** Had they forgotten all that He did for them?

2.3.2.1. It is good for **us** to review God's gracious acts toward us, & make sure we express gratitude to Him.

2.4. **THE CONFESSION!** (6-8)

- 2.5. (6,7) They wanted to shove their requirements over into the **religious & ritual** realm.

2.5.1. **Q:** Don't **we** try the same kind of heap-it-up appeasing?

2.5.2. We clock-in a few more “religious work hours” on our eternal time-card.

2.5.3. Or we spout a few more verbal promises of obedience or holiness.

- 2.6. (8) **Q:** What is good? What does the Lord require?

2.6.1. **This is not the gospel!** – We aren't saved by obeying this list. We can't obey it...unless we are saved!

2.6.2. Deut. 10:12 also tells us how to live as God's forgiven people, “**And now, Israel, what does the LORD your God require of you, but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all His ways and to love Him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, "and to keep the commandments of the LORD and His statutes which I command you today for your good?"**”

- 2.6.3. The **Library of Congress** was set up primarily to assist Congressmen in preparing laws. Numerous quotations from Scripture can be found w/in the walls of the library of Congress. Former President Charles Eliot from Harvard selected this verse to be inscribed on the walls. (Micah 6:8)
- 2.6.4. **Do justly** – The Lord wants justice!
- 2.6.4.1. There is something worse than appearing before the Lord **empty-handed**, namely appearing before him **dirty-handed & empty-handed**. (Juan Alfaro)
- 2.6.4.2. **Define Justice** – “a commitment & a responsibility for the defense of the poor & the powerless so that they will not be victimized by the more powerful groups of society.”
- 2.6.5. **Love mercy**(loving kindness) – or merciful kindness.
- 2.6.5.1. **Define Mercy** – “compassion & steadfast & loyal love,...a community-oriented activity, expressed concretely by protecting & helping those in need & thru a spirit of solidarity.”
- 2.6.6. **Walk humbly w/your God** – When Martin Luther was asked, “what is the 1<sup>st</sup> step in religion?” He replied, “**humility**”; when asked the 2<sup>nd</sup> & the 3<sup>rd</sup> he answered in the same way!
- 2.6.6.1. **Define walking humbly** – “is in direct opposition to the pride & presumption that drives persons to be self-centered & closed to everyone else.”
- 2.7. **THE CONDEMNATION!** (9-16)
- 2.8. (10-12) Centers upon commercial crookedness.
- 2.8.1. **Story** - A non-Christian worked for a Christian in the printing business. This prominent businessman left Christian pamphlets out in his front waiting room & even had regular devotions during business hours for all employees. Yet the non-Christian observed the obvious-while the boss contracted to use one grade of paper w/customers in the front room, he used a cheaper grade of paper to carry out the job in the back room. Needless to say, the non-Christian employee wasn't too impressed.
- 2.8.1.1. God cares very much how we run our businesses.
- 2.9. (16) **Omri & Ahab** were 2 of the most wicked kings which ever ruled Israel. The nation suffered because they followed their bad examples.

### 3. **Kjjhkhkj** (Chapter 7)

- 3.1. **ISRAEL'S CRIME!** (1-7)
- 3.2. (3) They were experts in evil.
- 3.3. (5,6) No hope in man. Only hope in the Lord(7)
- 3.4. (7) We can make the same **3 decisions** as Micah did: **I will look; I will wait; & I will pray.**
- 3.5. **ISRAEL'S COMFORT!** (8-13)
- 3.6. (8) God **lifts up** those who **fall**; **gives light** to those who are in **darkness.**
- 3.7. (9) **Until He pleads my case** - At salvation the Lord changes from being the **Prosecuting Attorney** against you, to being your **Defense Attorney!**
- 3.8. (10-13) One day the Lord will also defeat all of our enemies also.
- 3.9. **ISRAEL'S CLEMENCY!** (14-20)
- 3.9.1. Clemency - A disposition to show mercy, especially toward an offender or enemy!
- 3.10. (18,19) If I was holding a **woman's diamond necklace** & we looked at it link by link starting at the top...what do we find hanging at the very bottom?...**here we have the diamond!**
- 3.11. **Who is a God like you?** – Play on words, Micah's name(consonants).
- 3.12. **He delights in mercy** - **Q: What do you delight in?**
- 3.12.1. **Causes** are best discovered in their **effects.** (i.e. a tree is known by its fruits) - I believe we can best understand "**who** God is" by "**what** God does"!
- 3.12.2. gfg
- 3.13. When we come to Him & confess our sins, he pardons us(**Tolath worm**), puts our sins underfoot(**like defeated enemies**), & hurls them into the depths of the sea...& they are seen no more.
- 3.13.1. **Show** how subduction works. **Microsoft Encarta 98 Encyc.**

- 3.13.2. The **deepest** place on earth (*Deepest seafloor depression*) is the Mariana Trench (36,198') in the Pacific Ocean. South & East of **Guam** (largest of the Mariana Islands).
- 3.13.3. Things fallen to the bottom of the oceans floor are carried into the crust of the earth (the asthenosphere) This is called **subduction**. Subduction is when an ocean plate moves under a continental plate.
- 3.13.3.1. This occurs when magma (molten rock) in the asthenosphere, is heated by the mantle below & needs to release somewhere because of its high temperatures. It often blows in the form of a volcano. When this takes place the asthenosphere is cooled off by pulling in cold water at the trench.
- 3.13.4. **He will remember your sins no more!**
- 3.14. **You will cast** - *Tashleek* -  $\_ \approx \square \ell \circ \_ \approx \_ \rightarrow$
- 3.14.1. Charles Feinberg declared, "Once a year on the afternoon of New Year the orthodox Jew goes to a running stream or river & symbolically empties his pockets of his sins into the water, while he recites vs. 18-20. The service is called *Tashleek* after the Hebrew words 'you will cast'."
- 3.14.2. (*It is well w/my Soul* – 3<sup>rd</sup> stanza) "My sin – oh the bliss of that glorious thought – my sin – **not in part but the whole**, Is nailed to the cross, & I bear it no more, Praise the Lord, Praise the Lord, oh my soul!" (H.G. Spafford)