

## The Book of Micah

# 6

## Morning Devotions

Select a passage in God's Word. Talk with the Lord as you read the passage, then go back and find one or two verses which the Lord has impressed on your heart and meditate on them.

## Morning Study

Today we study the book of **Micah**. This is the sixth book of "The Minor Prophets."

In **1:1**, the author identifies himself as Micah of Moresheth, a town in southern Judah, and also identifies the time in which he prophesied – a time spanning the reigns of Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah. This would have made him a contemporary of Isaiah (see **Isaiah 1:1**). In fact, the historical background of **Micah** matches that of **Isaiah 1-39**, and **Micah** shares many of the literary styles of **Isaiah**, including a love for wordplay.

### Read Micah 1:10-15

Gath sounds like the Hebrew word for "tell," while Beth Ophrah means "house of dust." Shaphir means "pleasant," and Zaanaim sounds like the Hebrew for "come out." Beth Ezel means "house by the side of another," suggesting help or support, while Maroth sounds like the Hebrew word for "bitter." Lachish sounds like the Hebrew word for "team," Aczib means "deception," and Mareshah sounds like the Hebrew word for "conqueror." The Septuagint's version of **1:10** says "weep not in Acco," and "in Acco" sounds like the Hebrew word "weep."

The dominant event during Micah's ministry was the Assyrian invasion of Israel, followed by the invasion of Judah. In fact, Micah foretells the downfall of Samaria (**1:5-7**) and predicts that "disaster" would come "even to the gate of Jerusalem," (**1:9-16**) which it did. Judah was devastated by the Assyrian hordes, and Jerusalem looked set to fall. God, however, turned the Assyrians back at the gate.

### Read Isaiah 36-37

The theme of **Micah** is one of judgment and deliverance. In fact, the positive and the negative interplay continually within **Micah**. The prophet alternates between predictions of impending doom and predictions of glorious hope. Let's now sit back and read this book in one sitting.

# Memory Verse

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive  
ourselves and the truth is not in us.

1 John 1:8

## Your Fishing Kit

This is the eighteenth verse in your fishing kit. **1 John 1:8** doesn't pull any punches. Like **Romans 3:23**, it states that no one can claim they are without sin. In fact, any such claim is a self-deception! Salvation begins with a realization that we are in desperate need to be saved.

Here are the other verses in your "fishing kit":

|                        |                      |                     |                           |
|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>John 3:16</b>       | <b>Isaiah 55:6-7</b> | <b>John 1:12</b>    | <b>2 Corinthians 5:17</b> |
| <b>John 3:18</b>       | <b>Romans 5:8</b>    | <b>John 3:3</b>     | <b>2 Corinthians 5:21</b> |
| <b>John 3:36</b>       | <b>1 John 4:10</b>   | <b>John 5:24</b>    | <b>Matthew 10:32-33</b>   |
| <b>Ephesians 1:7-8</b> | <b>Acts 2:38</b>     | <b>John 6:37</b>    | <b>Romans 2:4-5</b>       |
| <b>Romans 3:23</b>     | <b>Acts 3:19</b>     | <b>John 8:32</b>    | <b>Acts 17:30</b>         |
| <b>Romans 6:23</b>     | <b>Acts 4:12</b>     | <b>John 8:36</b>    | <b>1 John 5:10</b>        |
| <b>Isaiah 53:5</b>     | <b>John 14:6</b>     | <b>John 10:10</b>   | <b>1 John 5:11-12</b>     |
| <b>Isaiah 53:6</b>     | <b>1 John 1:8</b>    | <b>John 10:28</b>   | <b>John 14:1-3</b>        |
| <b>Isaiah 59:1-2</b>   | <b>1 John 1:9</b>    | <b>Romans 10:9</b>  | <b>John 16:33</b>         |
| <b>Isaiah 64:6</b>     | <b>1 John 1:10</b>   | <b>Romans 10:13</b> | <b>Revelation 3:20</b>    |

Store these verses in your heart. Memorize them until they have an "on the tip of your tongue" familiarity. You will find them of immeasurable value as you cooperate with the Lord in his mission of bringing the Gospel to this lost world.