



# MICAH 2

Three Big Ideas

Woe to those who plan iniquity,  
to those who plot evil on their  
beds!  
At morning's light they carry it out  
because it is in their power to do  
it.  
They covet fields and seize them,  
and houses, and take them.  
They defraud people of their homes,  
they rob them of their  
inheritance.

Therefore, the LORD says:

"I am planning disaster against this  
people,  
from which you cannot save  
yourselves.  
You will no longer walk proudly,  
for it will be a time of calamity.

In that day people will ridicule you;  
they will taunt you with this mournful song:  
'We are utterly ruined;  
my people's possession is divided up.  
He takes it from me!  
He assigns our fields to traitors.'"  
Therefore you will have no one in the assembly of  
the LORD  
to divide the land by lot.

"Do not prophesy," their prophets say.

"Do not prophesy about these things;  
disgrace will not overtake us."

You descendants of Jacob, should it be said,

"Does the LORD become impatient?  
Does he do such things?"

"Do not my words do good  
to the one whose ways are upright?"

Lately my people have risen up  
like an enemy.

You strip off the rich robe  
from those who pass by without a care,  
like men returning from battle.

You drive the women of my people  
from their pleasant homes.

You take away my blessing  
from their children forever.

Get up, go away!

For this is not your resting place,  
because it is defiled,  
it is ruined, beyond all remedy.

If a liar and deceiver comes and says,

'I will prophesy for you plenty of wine and  
beer,'

that would be just the prophet for this  
people!

"I will surely gather all of you, Jacob;  
I will surely bring together the  
remnant of Israel.  
I will bring them together like sheep in a  
pen,  
like a flock in its pasture;  
the place will throng with people.  
The One who breaks open the way will go  
up before them;  
they will break through the gate and  
go out.  
Their King will pass through before them,  
the LORD at their head."

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# Three Big Ideas

- Justice
- Faithfulness
- Hope



# Justice

- Retributive Justice – Economic justice – balancing the books.
- Restorative Justice – Social Justice – community focused justice.



# Faithfulness

- Micah 2:7 “Do not my words do good to the one whose ways are upright?”
- Prophecy as returning to the teachings of the Law – Looking back not forward.
- Covenantal Lawyers.
- Covenant Nation.
- This a common cycle with Israel – Faithful and Unfaithful People – Good Kings and Bad Kings.



# Deuteronomy 4:1-6

Hear now, O Israel, the statutes and ordinances I am teaching you to follow, so that you may live and may enter and take possession of the land that the LORD, the God of your fathers, is giving you. You must not add to or subtract from what I command you, so that you may keep the commandments of the LORD your God that I am giving you.

Your eyes have seen what the LORD did at Baal-peor, for the LORD your God destroyed from among you all who followed Baal of Peor. But you who held fast to the LORD your God are alive to this day, every one of you.

See, I have taught you statutes and ordinances just as the LORD my God has commanded me, so that you may follow them in the land that you are about to enter and possess. Observe them carefully, for this will show your wisdom and understanding in the sight of the peoples, who will hear of all these statutes and say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people."



# Deuteronomy 4:7-10

For what nation is great enough to have a god as near to them as the LORD our God is to us whenever we call on Him? And what nation is great enough to have righteous statutes and ordinances like this entire law I set before you today?

Only be on your guard and diligently watch yourselves, so that you do not forget the things your eyes have seen, and so that they do not slip from your heart as long as you live. Teach them to your children and grandchildren. The day you stood before the LORD your God at Horeb, the LORD said to me, "Gather the people before Me to hear My words, so that they may learn to fear Me all the days they live on the earth, and that they may teach them to their children."

# Who is Faithful?



# Three Visions of Hope

- Bono U2 – Peace on Earth

*Heaven on Earth*

*We need it now*

*I'm sick of all of this...*

*Sick of hearing again and again*

*That there's gonna be*

*Peace on Earth*



*Peace on Earth*

*Hear it every Christmas time*

*But Hope and History don't*

*rhyme*

# Second Vision

- Gene Roddenberry (1921-1991)
- *Star Trek* – 1964-69
- *Vision that is post scarcity, post war, post discrimination after humans move beyond that which divides us then we can reach the stars and boldly go.*
- Utopian Humanism



# Where Does our Hope Come From?

- King of Kings by Brooke Ligertwood
- *In the darkness, we were waiting  
Without hope, without light  
'Til from heaven, You came running*

For Israel – hope and history do rhyme.

Israel's hope is that the God that was faithful is still faithful.

