

## Micah 2

Micah 2:1-2 say, “Woe to those who scheme iniquity, Who work out evil on their beds! When morning comes, they do it, For it is in the power of their hands. They covet fields and then seize them, And houses, and take them away. They rob a man and his house, A man and his inheritance.” In these beginning verses, notice the sins committed here that \_\_\_\_\_ the Lord so much. Those who were sinning first \_\_\_\_\_ their plan to do evil! In the context of these particular verses, the “sinners” were wealthy landowners who had the \_\_\_\_\_ to carry out their corruption upon the common family. They \_\_\_\_\_ (in a breaking of the tenth commandment) the fields and houses of others—and were able to accomplish their evil deeds with the help of those who controlled the government of that day. They \_\_\_\_\_ the fields and \_\_\_\_\_ the houses away—the beloved inheritance of a common family. Such corruption would be dealt with by the Lord!

Micah 2:3-5 say, “Therefore thus says the Lord, “Behold, I am planning against this family a calamity from which you cannot remove your necks; And you will not walk haughtily, For it will be an evil time. On that day they will take up against you a taunt And utter a bitter lamentation and say, ‘We are completely destroyed! He exchanges the portion of my people; How He removes it from me! To the apostate He apportions our fields. “Therefore you will have no one stretching a measuring line For you by lot in the assembly of the Lord.” As these evildoers planned their wickedness, the Lord would \_\_\_\_\_ His judgment (called a family calamity) against them. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the rich landowners would be brought down to the ground. The “on that day” refers to the coming attack of the Assyrians and the fall of Samaria and the northern kingdom of Israel. They would indeed be removed and taken into exile. The \_\_\_\_\_ (those who have forsaken/not known God) in this context were the Assyrians. They would take over the fields that had been taken over by the wicked landowners in Israel. At the time of their judgment from God, they no longer would have Him to \_\_\_\_\_ for them (to “stretch a measuring line”) in the assembly of the Lord’s mercy, because they had forsaken His covenant promises with their conditions for blessing.

Micah 2:6-7 say, “Do not speak out, so they speak out. But if they do not speak out concerning these things, Reproaches will not be turned back. “Is it being said, O house of Jacob: ‘Is the Spirit of the Lord impatient? Are these His doings? Do not

my words do good To the one walking uprightly?” Just as we have studied the need to discern false prophets from 2 Corinthians, so \_\_\_\_\_ were active in Micah’s day as well. They had been speaking out lies of comfort, rather than the need to repent with great humility unto the Lord for their many sins. Micah brought for their questions to God: “Is the Spirit of the Lord impatient? Are these His doings?” The false prophets could not believe that the Lord could possibly judge them and those deceived by them for their sins. But the Lord responded His absolute \_\_\_\_\_: “Do not My words do \_\_\_\_\_ To the one walking uprightly?” As always, the Lord never changes His standard for faith and salvation. From the verses to follow, the Lord would speak about \_\_\_\_\_ Israel.

Micah 2:8-11 say, “Recently My people have arisen as an enemy—You strip the robe off the garment From unsuspecting passers-by, From those returned from war. “The women of My people you evict, Each one from her pleasant house. From her children you take My splendor forever. “Arise and go, For this is no place of rest Because of the uncleanness that brings on destruction, A painful destruction. “If a man walking after wind and falsehood Had told lies and said, ‘I will speak out to you concerning wine and liquor,’ He would be spokesman to this people.” The \_\_\_\_\_ of the people—mostly the wealthy, had demonstrated their unfaithfulness to the Lord. Instead of being His friend by trusting and obeying Him, they had “arisen as an enemy.” They robbed the unsuspecting; they evicted families from their homes; they so treated the Lord with contempt, that the Lord’s \_\_\_\_\_ would be removed (for a season of unknown length) from the children of Israel. They would be compelled to leave the land, which would be taken from them by the Assyrians in terrible destruction. In biting \_\_\_\_\_, the Lord described the total disregard for Him and for His word from Micah 2:11. The people, and especially the leaders, had become hardened of heart to the voice of the Lord. As a result, in 722-721 B.C., Israel fell to the Assyrians. It is recorded in the annals of the Assyrians that 27,290 inhabitants were led away in captivity. Many had previously been killed in the three-year siege. The Assyrians moved into the cities of Israel ruthlessly.

Micah 2:12-13 say, “I will surely assemble all of you, Jacob, I will surely gather the remnant of Israel. I will put them together like sheep in the fold; Like a flock in the midst of its pasture They will be noisy with men. “The breaker goes up before them; They break out, pass through the gate and go out by it. So their king goes on before them, And the Lord at their head.” In the closing verses for this chapter, a message of \_\_\_\_\_ is given. It is a message for the “\_\_\_\_\_ (the few having

remained faithful to God out of many unfaithful – see Matthew 7:13-14) of Israel.” They would recover from the Assyrian occupation of Israel—but Israel herself with the ten tribes that composed her, really could never return again to her former glory. But for the remnant, they would be put together again by the Lord like “sheep in the fold.” They would be led by a king (Hezekiah assumedly), with the “\_\_\_\_\_ at their head.”