

Micah 7

Micah 7:1-4 say, “Woe is me! For I am Like the fruit pickers, like the grape gatherers. There is not a cluster of grapes to eat, Or a first-ripe fig which I crave. The godly person has perished from the land, And there is no upright person among men. All of them lie in wait for bloodshed; Each of them hunts the other with a net. Concerning evil, both hands do it well. The prince asks, also the judge, for a bribe, And a great man speaks the desire of his soul; So they weave it together. The best of them is like a briar, The most upright like a thorn hedge. The day when you post your watchmen, Your punishment will come. Then their confusion will occur.” These opening verses spoken by Micah speak to the _____ he was feeling over the deeds of the wicked. Whether the commoner who murdered another or the leader who bribed to his advantage, the _____ presented here is just awful. The judgment of the Lord would come, and the people of Judah would seemingly be _____ as to “why” they were being judged. Just as it was in the days of Noah, the deceitfulness and the deceptiveness of human sin and rebellion with its corresponding judgement does not seem to register with many bound for everlasting perdition.

Micah 7:5-6 say, “Do not trust in a neighbor; Do not have confidence in a friend. From her who lies in your bosom Guard your lips. For son treats father contemptuously, Daughter rises up against her mother, Daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; A man’s enemies are the men of his own household.” Our Lord Jesus quoted Micah 7:6 in Matthew 10:35-36. His context was great family _____ over faith and commitment to His saving gospel. Micah’s context was just the _____ of wickedness that even penetrated “blood” family lines, such was the spiritual depravity of Micah’s day.

Micah 7:7-10 say, “But as for me, I will watch expectantly for the Lord; I will wait for the God of my salvation. My God will hear me. Do not rejoice over me, O my enemy. Though I fall I will rise; Though I dwell in darkness, the LORD is a light for me. I will bear the indignation of the LORD Because I have sinned against Him, Until he pleads my case and executes justice for me. He will bring me out to the light, And I will see His righteousness. Then my enemy will see, And shame will cover her who said to me, “Where is the LORD your God?” My eyes will look on her; At that time she will be trampled down Like mire of the streets.” From these verses, Micah declared the Lord as the God of his _____. As for

his people Judah, Micah's enemies rejoiced in their sinfulness, but a time would come where they would find God's mercy and forgiveness through the _____ and the _____ ("though I fall I will rise") of their sins. The Lord would perform His justice on their behalf, and their enemies would be trampled down!

Micah 7:11-13 say, "It will be a day for building your walls. On that day will your boundary be extended. It will be a day when they will come to you From Assyria and the cities of Egypt, From Egypt even to the Euphrates, Even from sea to sea and mountain to mountain. And the earth will become desolate because of her inhabitants, On account of the fruit of their deeds,." Whenever the time of their deliverance would come from the Lord (most probably in the 1,000 year reign of our Lord Jesus), the _____ of the witness of Israel/Judah of their faith in the Lord would be extended from nation to nation. The figurative language from Micah 7:13 suggest that the nation of Israel would _____ the earth because of the righteousness in their deeds because of their trusting on the Lord.

Micah 7:14-15 say, "Shepherd Your people with Your scepter, The flock of Your possession Which dwells by itself in the woodland, In the midst of a fruitful field. Let them feed in Bashan and Gilead As in the days of old. As in the days when you came out from the land of Egypt, I will show you miracles." These verses proclaim the _____ that the people of Judah would once again trust and know that 'the Lord was their Good Shepherd.'" Just as the Lord accomplished so many miracles in the midst of their ancestors who were delivered by the Lord out of Egyptian bondage, so the Lord would again _____ His miracles of salvation!

Micah 7:16-17 say, "Nations will see and be ashamed Of all their might. They will put their hand on their mouth, Their ears will be deaf. They will lick the dust like a serpent, Like reptiles of the earth. They will come trembling out of their fortresses; To the Lord our God they will come in dread And they will be afraid before You." These verses bring a very _____ tone of the judgment that will come when Jesus Christ returns someday. Every act of man is either approved or rejected by the Lord. It is therefore a very prudent and wise thing to _____ have a biblical "fear of the Lord" in considering our ways. Those that do not respect the _____ of the Lord will certainly be ashamed on the Day of His approaching judgment.

Micah 7:18-20 say, "Who is a God like you, who pardons iniquity And passes over the rebellious act of the remnant of His possession? He does not retain His anger

forever, Because He delights in unchanging love. He will again have compassion on us, He will tread our iniquities under foot. Yes, You will cast all their sins Into the depths of the sea. You will give truth to Jacob And unchanging love to Abraham, Which You swore to our forefathers From the days of old.” In these closing verses and the conclusion of Micah, he wrote of God’s compassionate _____ to forgive the remnant of believers, not holding the sins of the past which resulted in judgment against the people of Judah forever. The repentance of the remnant brings that relationship with God from of old back to their present _____ in Him. Our Lord’s “unchanging love” for those who love Him is eternal!