

PROPHET MICAH



- Micah lived and wrote in the 8th century B.C.
- The united Israel of David and Solomon had ended and divided into 2 kingdoms: Judah and Ephraim
- Judah still revolved their faith around the Torah and the Temple in Jerusalem
- Under King Jeroboam, Ephraim/Israel established its own priesthood and temple, based in Samaria

MICAH

Who is like Yehoveh?



VS



MICAIAH
BEN IMLAH

- Micah of Moresheth-Gath his extended name
- Micaiah Ben Imlah is spoken of in 1st Kings
- Micah a Judean, from the town of Moresheth-Gath
- An era ended and a new began when King Uzziah died in 740 B.C.
- Assyria overtook nations bringing their culture, religion, and religious institutions with them

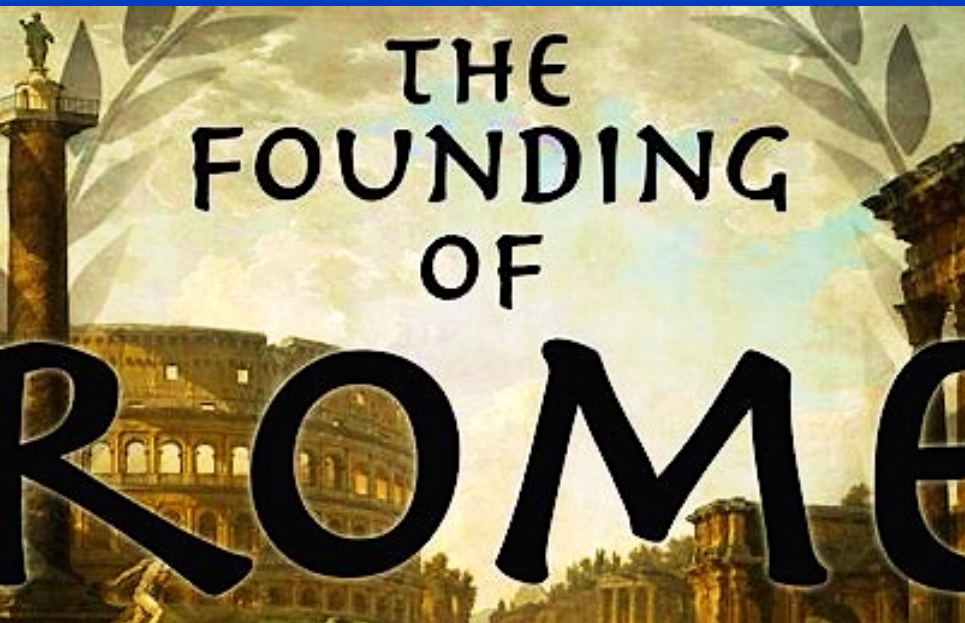
The **FIRST OLYMPICS**

of Ancient Greece



THE REST OF THE WORLD

- In the same time as Micah:
- 1) Greece began colonizing using the polis system of city-states
- 2) Homer wrote
- 3) Rome established by Romulus
- 4) Kush was arising, soon to dominate Egypt
- 5) India in a huge religious transition
- A world of transition



MICAH

Chapter Summaries



- Ch. 1 The idolatry of Samaria and Jerusalem
- Ch. 2 Denunciation of oppression and worship
- Ch. 3 Rebuke of leaders and false prophets
- Ch. 4 Restoration of Jerusalem & house of YHWH
- Ch. 5 Powerful king of Judah will vanquish the nations
- Ch. 6 Israel reproved for its injustice
- Ch. 7 Lament of the lack of righteous men, corruption

THE MANUSCRIPT

- Micah's writing style is abrupt, rough, shorthand
- Subjects change mid-sentence, plays on words, switches from symbolism, to simile, to literal narrative
- Some commentators prefer to re-write Micah's sentences
- Hand copying always produced some errors
- Ancient literary protocols were neither standard nor written down, unlike modern Western standards





CHAPTER 1

MALACHAI RECEIVES THE WORD OF YHWH

- Vs. 1 is the Superscription
- The body of the message only begins in vs. 2
- Gen. 1:1 The Superscription for the entire Bible
- Only Micah received this prophecy
- Saying that this is the word of God means it is authentic
- Does not mean “words” of God
- Some words are Micah’s

SHEMA!



- Micah prophesied under the Judean kings Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah
- Micah 1:2 “*Listen, peoples, all of you!*”
- Verse opens with **shema**, then to complete the poetic parallel uses the word **qashab** (incline your ears)
- The reference to earth means to our planet itself
- Our planet’s geography will be affected due to the judgment
- Zechariah 14:3 - 4

MICAH
1:2

GOD HAS A COURTROOM

DEATH



Life

- **Le-ed** means “be witness” in a judicial setting
- The Cosmic Temple, Mt. Sinai, and earthly Temple all have the same structure and purpose
- Adonai Elohim is literally Adonai Yehoveh
- God is sovereign over all people and all places
- A declaration of absolute monotheism

“For look! YHWH is coming...”
MICAH
1:3



- A theophany. God will shatter peoples and nations, and the earth will convulse
- All will be judged: But God's own people will be first!
- ***Hinneh!*** Behold. A sense of suddenness.
- Ezekiel 38:1 – 12
- What is coming will be unexpected

HIGH PLACES



- The high places are probably everywhere on earth, not just in Israel
- From hills, to piled earth, to Ziggurats, also opulent buildings with spires and obelisks... for false gods
- ***Darak*** = trample down, subjugate, incursion
- Micah 1:4 “Beneath Him the mountains will melt...”



- Nature is terrified at God's appearance
- Micah 1:5 Why is all this happening?
- The cause is the crimes of Jacob, the sins of Israel
- It is YHWH reacting to these things
- The capital cities of the 2 kingdoms are mentioned:
Samaria and Jerusalem, the source of the corruption