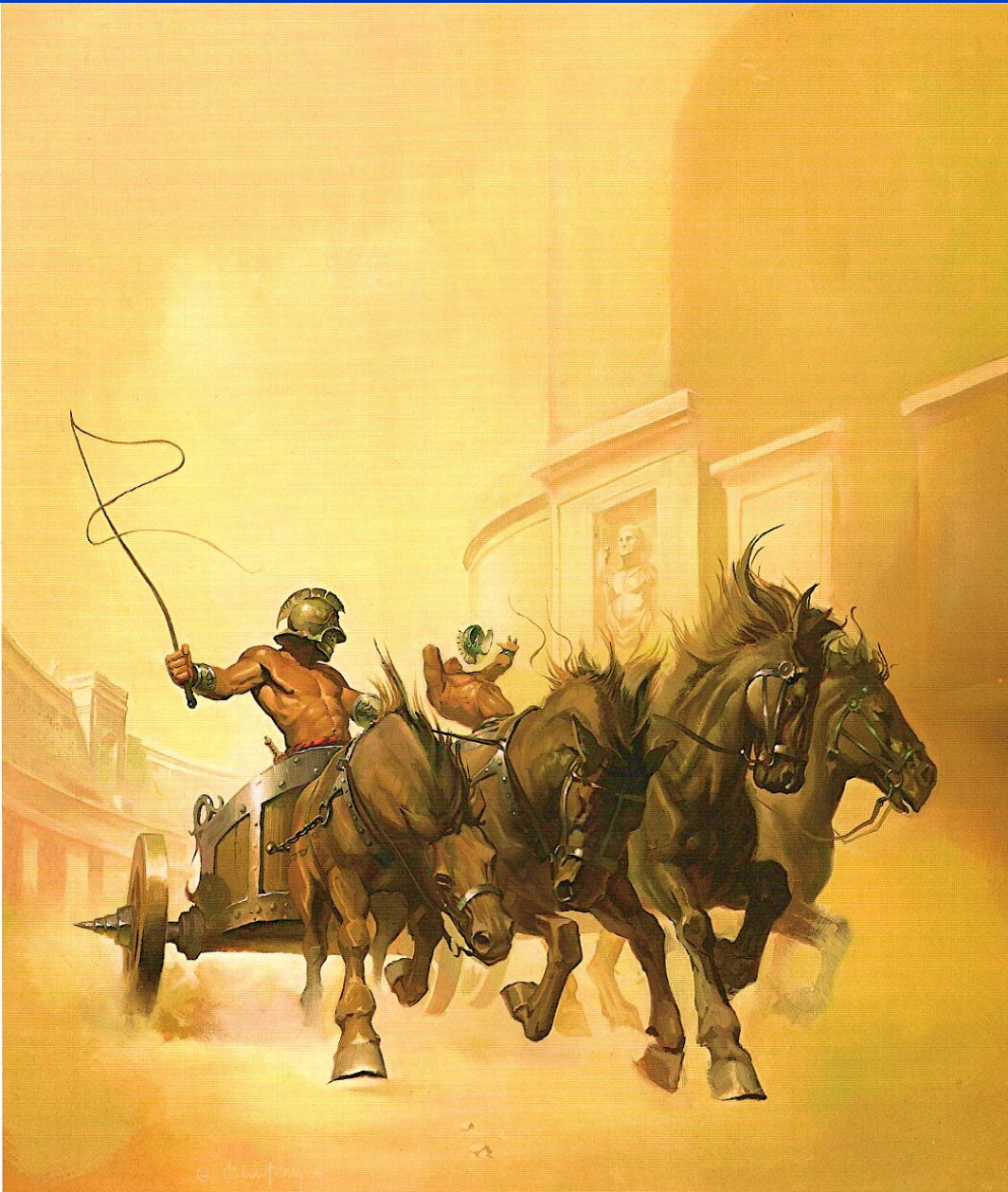




- Micah 5:9-14 A vision of time when Israel will be avenged, and be purified from their sins
- The message of chapter 4 is about the End Times treatment and response of gentiles/nations
- The message of chapter 5 is about the End Times treatment and response of Israelites/Israel

# "I WILL CUT-OFF"



- ***Kareth*** = cut-off
- Identity destroyed, separated from the community
- Usually negative, but in Micah 5 is positive
- Micah 5:9 God to cut-off horses...chariots
- King Solomon followed David and brought peace, respect, a huge military to Israel
- Deut. 17:14 – 16 Israel is not to acquire horses for their military use



# RESETTING THE PARADIGM



- Egypt was the chief developer of chariots/horses
- It made sense to Solomon to have a powerful military, but it did not represent God's ideal Israel
- Israel had veered away from the divine intentions
- Step 1: incite the nations to attack 2) Israel wants to defend itself with powerful weapons but God intervenes 3) Purify Israel and restore them from their many rebellions



# MODERN SEERS & SORCERERS ?



- Micah 5:10 God cuts-off cities and strongholds
- Probably means cities full of idolatry, religious corruption, social injustice, and also military bases
- Micah 5:11 God cuts-off seers and sorcerers
- Deut. 18:10 – 12
- Cut-off of information sources or spiritual perspective?



HUMAN  
HANDS CAN  
NOT MAKE  
HOLY  
OBJECTS



- Micah 5:12 *...you will no longer worship what your own hands have made*
- Ancient Israel never gave up use of pagan symbols
- Even the manmade Temple had to be made holy by means of the presence of The Glory to holy-fy it
- Israel could no longer distinguish between the truly holy and the fake-holy



# THE PERVERSION OF TRUSTING MANMADE THINGS

- Micah 5:13  
no sacred poles
- The actual Hebrew word is ***Asherah*** (not pole)
- The “poles” were primarily about fertility
- God has never allowed the pagan to be re-purposed for holy worship of Him
- Micah 5:14 anger and fury on the nations
- Why? Because they would not listen to Him
- Reliance on self, wealth, science, and not on God is IDOLATRY





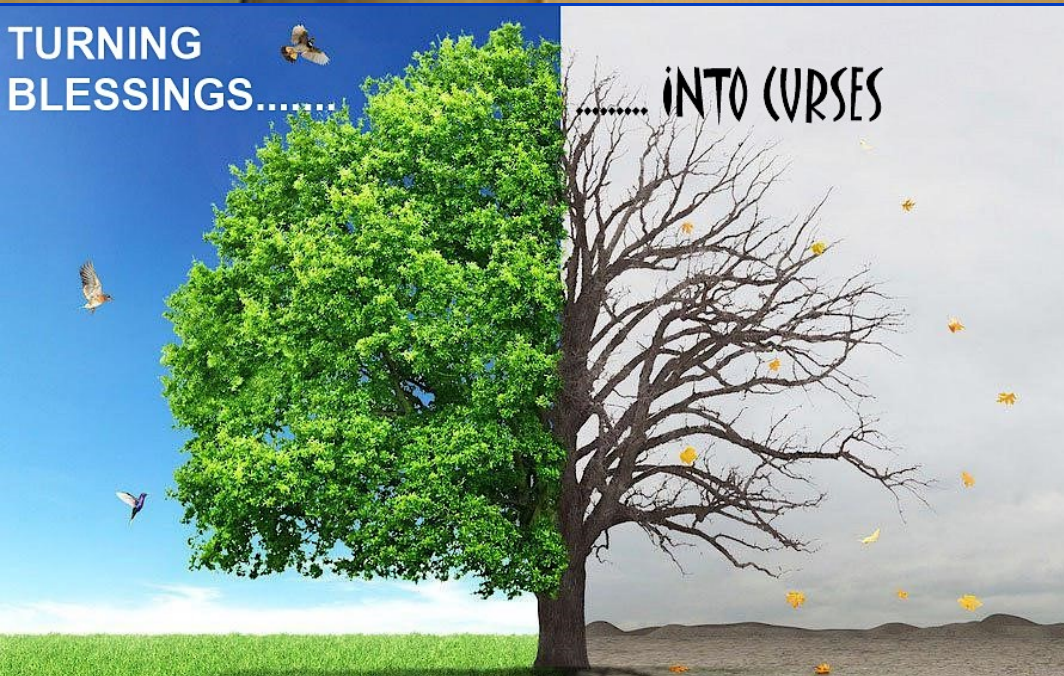
# WHAT DOES GOD WANT?

MICAH 6



- Final 2 chapters of Micah (6 & 7) ask what the Lord requires of us
- We witness not a judicial trial but a covenant dispute
- **Rib** or **riv** (Hebrew) = covenant dispute
- Constantinian Christianity has always been in a covenant dispute with God
- No one who wishes to worship God can do so outside of the covenant terms and conditions





- Our relationship with God is NOT based on Church or Judaism doctrines
- John the Baptist told people to repent from disobedience to the covenant, NOT from obedience to it!!
- Vss. 1 -5, Israel is to state their case
- Vss. 6-7  
Israel's response
- Vss. 9-12 List of charges against Israel
- Vss. 13 – 16  
punishment



# GOD'S WITNESSES



- Micah 6:1 State your case to the mountains
- Deut. 30:19 heavens and earth are witnesses
- When a nation had no mountains they built pyramids and mounds of all kinds to represent mountains
- Cosmic significance is attached to both manmade and natural mountains






# God's Everlasting Covenant with Israel

- Micah 6:1 based on the factor that God is still in covenant with Israel, despite Israel no longer being in harmony with God
- Due to the Hebrew poetry, both covenant and judicial vocabulary are used and are in tension
- Micah 6:2 Forms a symmetrical couplet with vs. 1
- In ancient cosmology, mountains support the earth





# ISRAEL DISPUTES WITH GOD

- Micah 6:3 My people...how have I wearied you?
- “My people” validates that God remains in relationship with Israel
- Did Israel pull away from God because of something He did? (a rhetorical meaning)
- Christianity’s fundamental flaw: a broken covenant means a terminated covenant... a false conclusion