

Micah 6

1 – 2 The mountains and hills are called upon to listen to the LORD's accusation against His people. I think this is more than poetical language. The earth is blessed or cursed according to man's relationship with God. The creation is said to wait with groaning for our redemption. The rocks would cry out praise if the people didn't. Some religions believe the plants, trees, and rocks have spirits. The Bible does not teach that, but it does tie the fate of the earth with the obedience or disobedience of the people in it. Jeremiah 2:29-33

3 God asks what is our problem? What kind of burden has He placed on us that we should treat His laws with such contempt? Dare we answer? Jeremiah 2:5

4 He gave them redemption from their captors and leaders that cared about them. Deuteronomy 4:34; Isaiah 63:9,10

5 When a prophet was hired to curse them, all he could do was bless (Deuteronomy 23:4-5). This was evidence that God had done nothing but bless them. That is the only intention upon God's heart. Shittim to Gilgal is the crossing of the Jordan at flood stage which put the fear of God in their enemies. They brought out stones to mark the occasion so that they could tell future generations what God had done. God encouraged their faith and fulfilled His promises in spite of their 40 years of unbelief. He raised up a new generation that was willing to go in.

6 Considering all of God's faithfulness to man, what can I offer in return? Is an animal offering a sufficient way of thanking such a faithful loving God? Hebrews 10:4-10

7 Would a thousand rams be enough, with rivers of oil? Or perhaps like the heathen, I could offer my firstborn to take my place as a sin offering? No! Our firstborn has his own sin to die for. Only God could do that for us. 1Samuel 15:22; Psalm 50:9; 51:16; Isaiah 1:11-15

8 Here is our requirement: "To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." Deuteronomy 10:12-13; Ecclesiastes 12:13 We must be as He is to us toward others. Hosea 6:6; 12:6 This was the sin Micah cried out against. Justice was being trampled. Mercy was no longer esteemed. The proud were the admired ones.

God is the only One who can pay for your sins. In response He wants you to act toward others as He is toward you, justice tempered with mercy. All that is left is to walk humbly with Him. If you will do that, you will be letting God lead your life. Humility says, "God knows best. I'll take my marching orders from Him."

9 Learn from God's just punishments and learn of God. When God afflicts us we should learn not only the wrong we must forsake but the nature of God that is opposed to that sin. Lying is wrong because God is true, etc. Psalm 107:43; Lamentations 3:39,40

10-11 Social injustice! The measure was not the full size though the people paid the full price. GREED! Taking from others what is not rightly yours by injustice. Should God let injustice go unpunished? Then what kind of a god would He be? An ephah is a dry measure -

12 The rich are violent. We saw this during prohibition, and still see it around the world. The wealthiest in Russia are mobsters whose men murder at will. In the USA, the wealthiest can afford the best attorneys for defense. The people are liars. Isaiah's conviction of sin and that of the sin of the people he lived amongst was their unclean lips. Isaiah 6:5 How often we twist the truth with exaggeration or spin it to give the impression we would like others to have. Jeremiah 9:4-6

13 Sin destroys us. God allows it to so that we will turn from it. God will not hold back the consequences of our sin.

14 Laboring for nothing. All the effort and nothing remains. Sin always ends in emptiness.

15 You will do all the work, but not reap the rewards.

16 1 Kings 16:25-30; 21:25 They had the good example of Hezekiah and the evil example of Ahab. They preferred Ahab's ways. Jeremiah 7:24