

M2M Sunday, 2 August 2020 Class Topic/Material

***Understanding God's Anger
An Overview of Micah***

Before we begin, I would like to give credit to Irving L. Jensen, *Jensen's Survey of The Old Testament*, and Precept Ministries International *Precept Upon Precept* studies for I have used both resources to help develop the following overview of the Old Testament (OT) book of Micah.

As I mentioned weeks ago, I have been drawn to the book of Micah. I do not know specifically why, but I desired to bring you along with me on this journey of discovery. As one of our number commented to me about his first read through the book...bad news, then more bad news, but some hope. I have been drawn so often to Micah 6:8; especially, in these days

He has told you, O man, what is good;
And what does the Lord require of you
But to do justice, to love kindness,
And to walk humbly with your God?

Yes, in the times of darkness there is light, because God, El Elyon, the Most High God, is always God!

Yes, in the throws of personal despair there is hope, because God, El Roi, the God who sees, is the God of hope; for He is Jehovah-shammah, The Lord Is There!

Even in the world of corruption there is truth; though hidden to some, God is not silent; His Word speaks to us and those a far off. Jesus was born to testify to the truth (John 18:37 - 38)

Who is like our Lord? Who are we too fully understand what God has done, is doing, and will complete?

Let us open this minor prophet's book and see the mighty hand of a broken hearted creator; disregarded king/provider; a just judge; a faithful Father; and a compassionate God.

First let us get a better understanding of the time in history, whom Micah was, where Micah ministered, to whom Micah prophesied, and what was the message.

Scholars compare Micah's message and his writing to around 734 to 722 BC. The dates correspond to major events prophesied and recorded history. Assyrian conquest of Damascus (Biblical account noted in 2 Kings 16:5 - 9 and Isaiah 7 - 10) to the fall of Samaria which was the capital of Israel (the Northern kingdom).

Our study of Micah must include a read of the following OT:

2 Kings 15:17 - 20:21
2 Chronicles 26 - 30

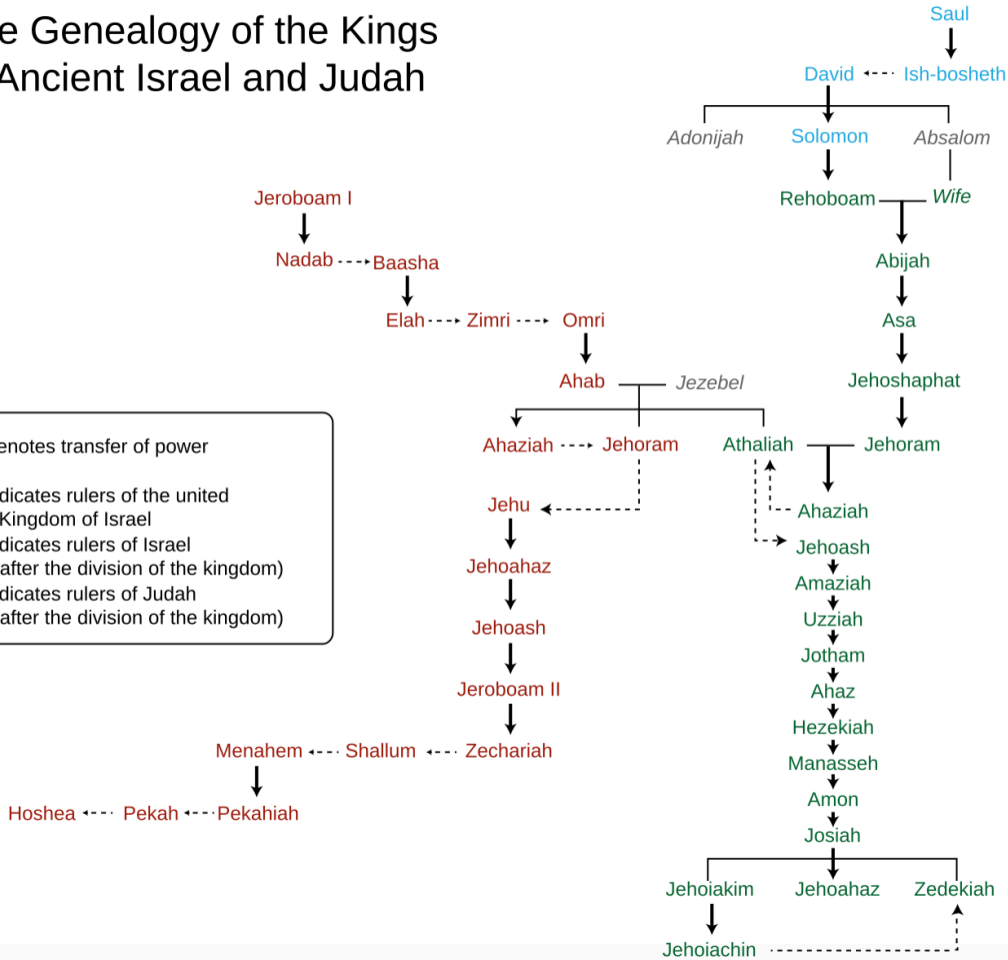
Recommend you read these chapters/material to get a feel for the political environment and how the country of Israel, now divided into two kingdoms, are behaving. Also look closely at the kings of Judah and their actions, rulings, and impact upon the people of the Southern kingdom of Judah.

While you read the above scriptures you may want the following charts from Jensen's to help you see the players and geography:

Who were the kings of Judah that reigned during Micah's ministry?

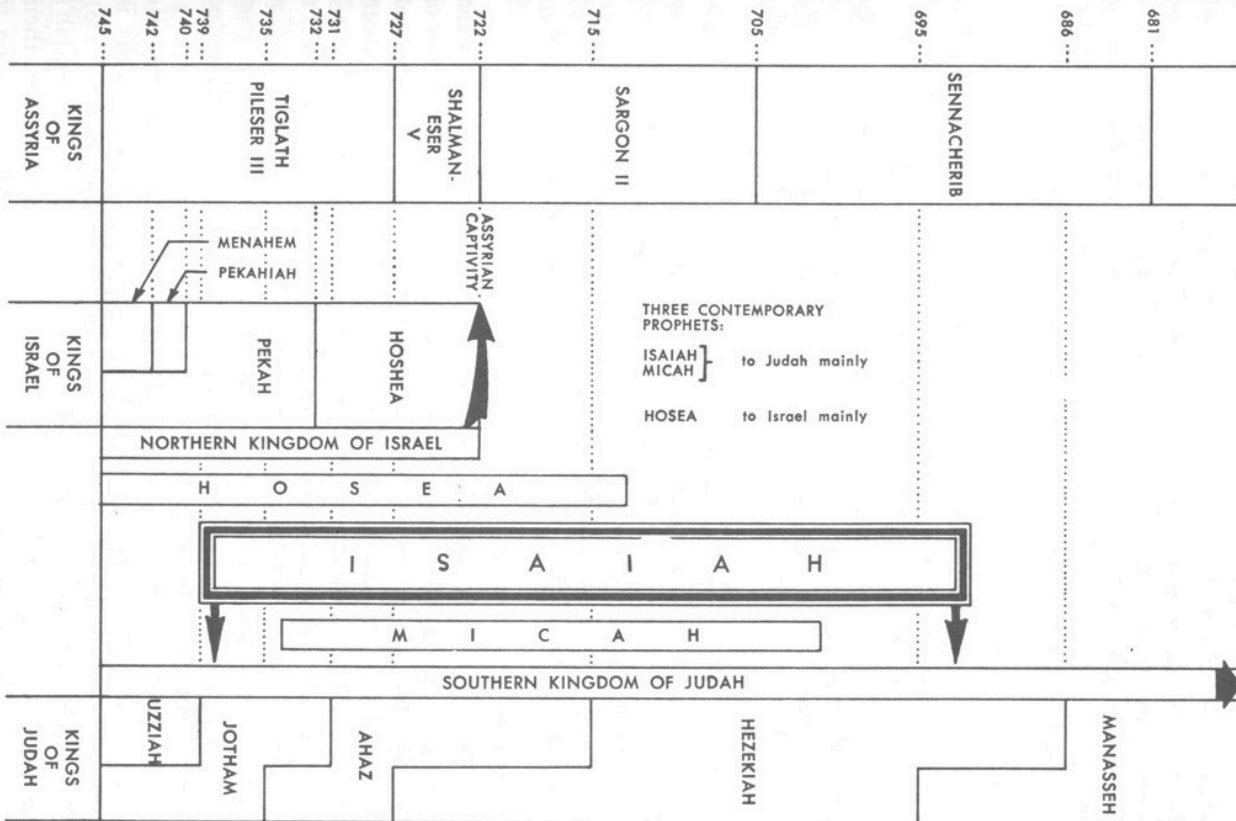
The Genealogy of the Kings of Ancient Israel and Judah

- ↓ Denotes transfer of power
- Indicates rulers of the united Kingdom of Israel
- Indicates rulers of Israel (after the division of the kingdom)
- Indicates rulers of Judah (after the division of the kingdom)



ISAIAH AND HIS CONTEMPORARIES

CHART 80



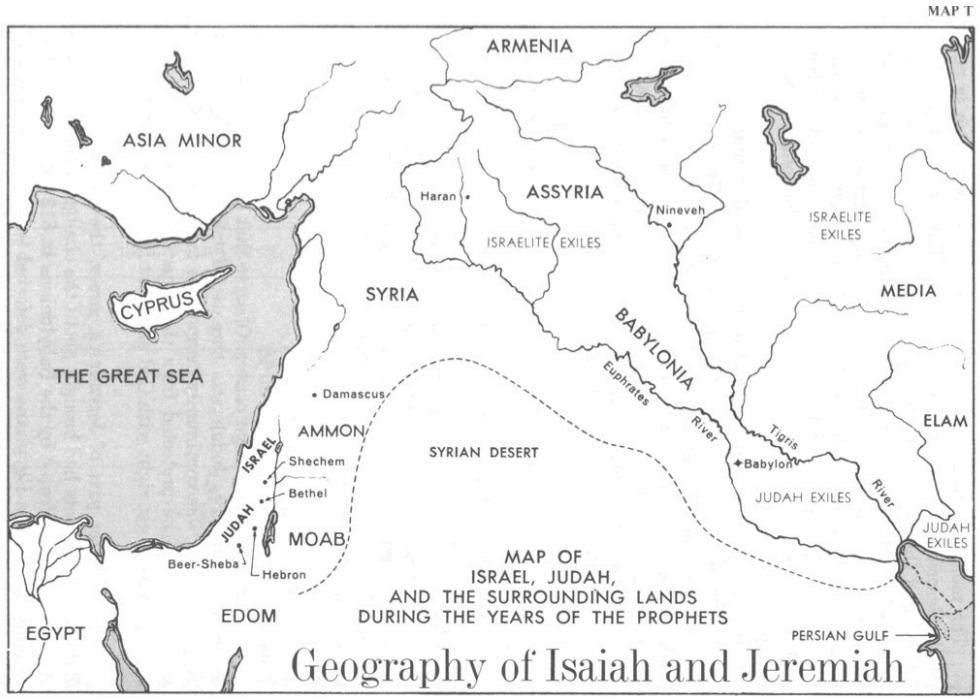
Isaiah: The Glorious Throne of Jehovah, the Holy One

What other prophets of God were ministering during Micah's service?

Micah's name means: Who is Jehovah like?

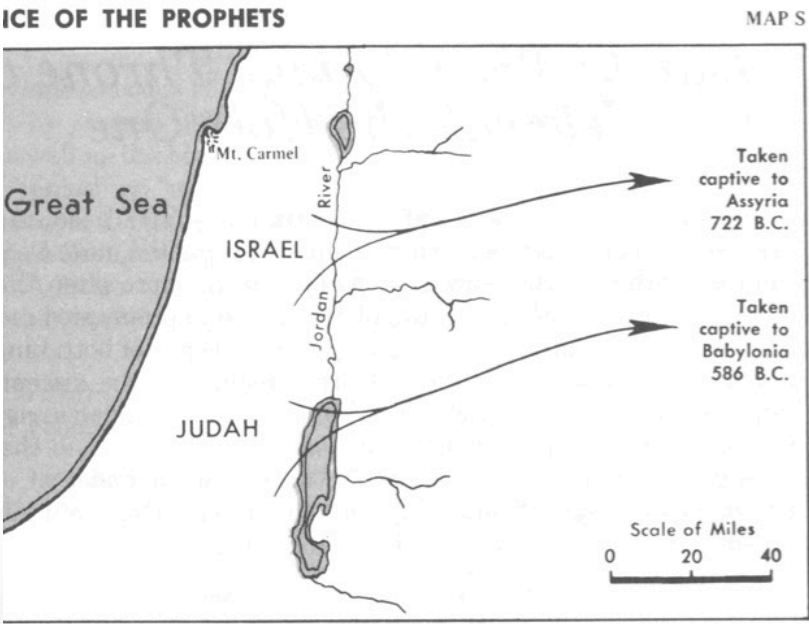
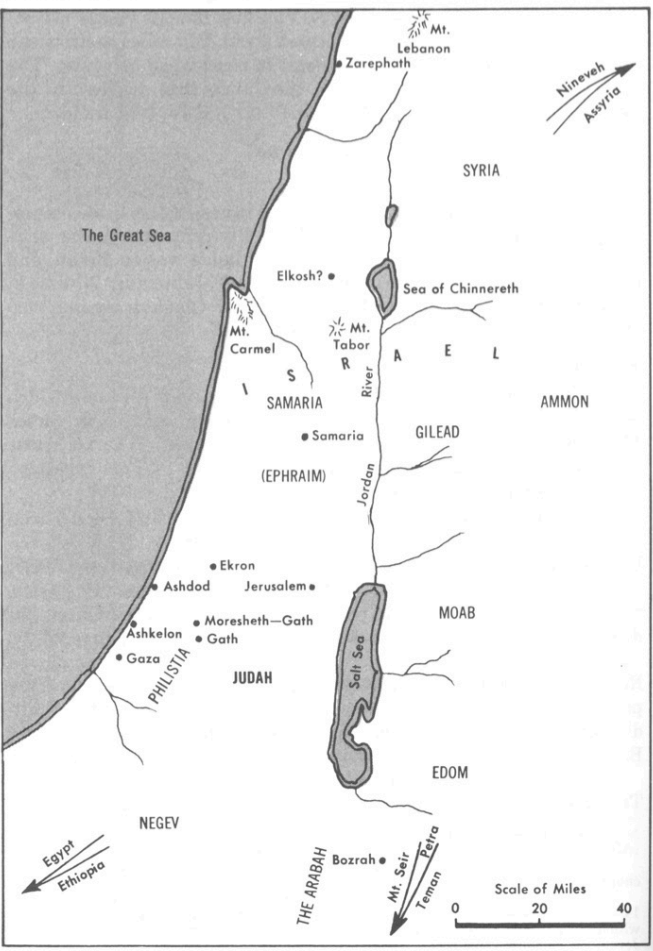
When you read the book of Micah, did you wonder if Micah's message was connected to the meaning of his name?

What calamity befell the kingdom of Israel during Micah's ministry?



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Jensen's Survey of the Old Testament

Let us take a quick look at the geography of the nation of Israel and the time frame of Micah



Taken captive to Assyria 722 B.C.
Taken captive to Babylon 586 B.C.

Scale of Miles
0 20 40

Who was Micah's main audience or focus of his message(s) from God?

As you read the designated sections of 2 Kings and 2 Chronicles what did you learn of the Kings under which Micah ministered?

Name the king and whether he was good or bad; and why.

From your reading of Micah coupled with the 2 Kings and 2 Chronicles sections describe the times under which Micah and his audience lived. **What was the culture, morals, spiritual interests and social practices like?**

Therefore, what would you say was **the main theme of Micah's message?**

As you read Micah, **did you notice the repeated word, "Hear"?**

It appears that **Micah is divided into three sections**, or message to audience:

Chapters 1 & 2 — Hear, _____

Chapters 3 - 5 — Hear, _____

Chapters 6 & 7 — Hear, _____ and hear _____

Micah was quoted three times in the Bible

1) Jeremiah 26:18 Who referred Micah? _____

2) Matthew 2:5 - 6 Who referred to Micah? _____

3) Matthew 10:35 - 36 Who quoted Micah? _____

Micah foretold the birth of the messiah and His birth place.

As we study Micah look for the six prophecies that Micah gave that have already come true.

Our journey should help us see God's justice, His severity and His kindness. Remember God's purpose is to restore man's relationship with Him; and to restore the entire creation...a new heaven and new earth!

Therefore, pardon from sin must be made possible...Praise God for the Son's obedience to pay the cost of freedom from slavery of sin on the cross!