

Message Meditation

February 8, 2015

Text: **Micah**

Message Meditation:

1. Context: Micah's ministry was during the reigns of King Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah (2 Kings 15-20).
2. God's message to His people through Micah:
 - a. To the wealthy (2:1-5):
 - i. The wealthy are coveting and seizing property, houses and inheritances.
 - ii. God is going to give the land away to terrorist and foreigners.
 - b. To the rulers/leaders (3:1-4):
 - i. The leaders should be administrating justice, but they oppress and feed off the people they have been called to serve.
 - ii. When the oppression turns on them, God will not hear or respond to their cries.
 - c. To the prophet/priest (3:5-12; 2:11):
 - i. The (false) prophets and priests preach lies (peace and prosperity) for pay.
 - ii. Those who preach lies (only what the people want to hear) will be covered with shame.
 - d. A summary statement(s) of the people and times of Micah's day:
 - i. Micah 3:9-12; Micah 7:1-5.
3. God has shown what is good and what is required of humanity: to act justly, love mercy and walk humbly with God (Micah 6:8).
 - a. We are guilty of not doing what God has required.
 - b. Jesus has performed what God has required.
 - c. Faith in Jesus yokes us with Him and gives us His record.
 - d. We, by God's grace, through faith in Jesus, can now do what we could not before - because of Christ in us.
4. The Rescuer promised in the Garden of Eden (Gen. 3:15), was born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2), and will securely Shepherd His people (Micah 5:4). He is the one we have offended; and He is the one Who will uphold our cause and be our righteousness (Micah 7:7-10). He will removed our sin and reconcile us to God (Micah 7:18-20).
5. God, in grace, gives us what we do not deserve – a Savior.
God, in mercy, doesn't give us what we do deserve – condemnation.
God, in humility, thinks of us and serves us by becoming sin for us and being our Savior.
God, in love, forgives our sin and welcomes us as His own as we believe Him.

Message Application Questions:

1. Can God overlook sin and still be just?
2. Why is Jesus' work on the cross the best display we have in all of Scripture of God's justice and mercy? What effect does the cross have on your love of justice, mercy and humility?