

Jonah + Micah



St. Rose Community Church EQUIP

Micah



Micah's Context

The name Micah means **no one is like Yahweh**

The word of the Lord that came to Micah of Moresheth in the days of Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, which he saw concerning Samaria and Jerusalem.

Micah prophesied in the 8th Century during the reign of 3 Kings of Judah.

Micah's prophecies were for both Kingdoms.

Micah's Context

- At the beginning of Micah, Assyria is about to **invade** Israel.
- At the end of Micah, the Northern Kingdom is **conquered** and scattered.
- The Southern Kingdom will remain, but for a time it looked like the Assyrians would do the same to them.

Micah's Message

God will judge all people;
yet he will save a remnant
through a future King.

Key Themes

1. Not all of Israel would be saved, only a remnant.

The Remnant

- The remnant are those who will still be saved even after the fall of the Northern and Southern kingdoms of Israel.
- The remnant is made up of those who **repent**.

The Remnant

- The remnant will be expanded to include those not ethnically **descended** from Israel.

But it is not as though the word of God has failed. For not all who are descended from Israel belong to Israel.

Romans 9:6

- The promises made to the ethnic people of Israel are fulfilled in the New Testament through the **church**.

Key Themes: God wants wrongs to be rebuked

Social and Economic Sins Micah Rebukes:

covetousness, theft, fraud (2:2)

dishonest business practices (6:11)

bribery (3:11)

deceit (6:12)

violence and bloodshed (6:12 and 3:10)

Key Themes: God wants wrongs to be rebuked

Religious Sins Micah Rebukes:

witchcraft (5:12)

idolatry (1:5-7)

Unwillingness to fear the Lord &
a desire to listen to false teachers (2:6, 11)

Key Themes: God wants wrongs to be rebuked

At the heart of Micah's rebuke is their hearts:

“you . . . hate the good and love the evil” (3:2)

Key Themes: God wants wrongs to be rebuked

If a man should go about and utter wind and lies, saying, 'I will preach to you of wine and strong drink,' he would be the preacher for this people!"

Micah 2:11

³ For behold, the Lord is coming out of his place, and will come down and tread upon the high places of the earth. ⁴ And the mountains will melt under him, and the valleys will split open, like wax before the fire, like waters poured down a steep place. ⁵ All this is for the transgression of Jacob and for the sins of the house of Israel...

⁶ Therefore I will make Samaria a heap in the open country, a place for planting vineyards, and I will pour down her stones into the valley and uncover her foundations.

Micah 1:3-6

Key Themes: God wants his people to be restored

⁶In that day, declares the Lord. I will assemble the lame and gather those who have been driven away and those whom I have afflicted; ⁷and the lame I will make the remnant, and those who were cast off, a strong nation; and the Lord will reign over them in Mount Zion from this time forth and forevermore. ⁸And you, O tower of the flock, hill of the daughter of Zion, to you shall it come, the former dominion shall come, kingship for the daughter of Jerusalem.

Micah 4:6-8

Key Themes: God wants his people to be restored

Micah 5:1-5

“from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel.....And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth. And he shall be their peace.”

Key Themes: God wants his character to be known

- God wants his character to be known through the acknowledgment of his supremacy.

It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and it shall be lifted up above the hills; and peoples shall flow to it, and many nations shall come, and say: “Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his way and that we may walk in his paths.”

Micah 4:1-3

Key Themes: God wants his character to be known

- God wants his character known through the remembrance of his righteousness.

Key Themes: God wants his character to be known

- God wants his character known through the demonstration of his mercy.

“Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression for the remnant of his inheritance? He does not retain his anger forever, because he delights in steadfast love.”

Micah 7:18-20

What does it mean to be part of the remnant?

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

Micah 6:8

Jonah



Jonah's Context

- Jonah's ministry was in the early to mid 8th Century B.C. during the reign of Jeroboam II of Israel. (2 Kings 14:25)
- Jonah was called to preach to Israel's enemy, the Assyrians.

Jonah's Message

God is sovereign over all and his desire is to save people from every nation for his glory.

Key Themes in Jonah

God's Mercy and Compassion is Profound

Jonah Chapter 1

“Then the men feared the Lord exceedingly, and they offered a sacrifice to the Lord and made vows.”

Jonah 1:16

Key Themes in Jonah

God's Mercy and Compassion is Profound

Jonah Chapter 1

God shows mercy to the sailors and saves them physically and spiritually.

Key Themes in Jonah

God's Mercy and Compassion is Profound

- God shows mercy to Jonah and saves him from drowning.

Jonah Chapter 2

I am driven away from your sight; yet I shall again look upon
your holy temple. V.4

“with the voice of thanksgiving i will sacrifice to you; what I
have vowed I will pay. Salvation belongs to the Lord!,” v.9

Jonah Chapter 3

“ the people of Nineveh believed God. They called for a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of them to the least of them.”

v. 5

“call out mightily to God” and “turn from his evil way and from the violence that is in his hands.” “Who knows?,” he says, “God may turn and relent and turn from his fierce anger, so that we may not perish.” v.6

Jonah Chapter 4

But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he was angry.
²And he prayed to the Lord and said, “O Lord, is not this what I said when I was yet in my country? That is why I made haste to flee to Tarshish; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from disaster. ³Therefore now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.”

“for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.”

Exodus 34:6

Key Themes in Jonah

God is Sovereign Over All Things

God is Sovereign Over All Things

⁹But God said to Jonah, “Do you do well to be angry for the plant?” And he said, “Yes, I do well to be angry, angry enough to die.” ¹⁰And the Lord said, “You pity the plant, for which you did not labor, nor did you make it grow, which came into being in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹And should not I pity Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than 120,000 persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also much cattle?”

Key Themes in Jonah

God is Zealous for the Salvation of all Peoples

God is Zealous for the Salvation of all Peoples

- There is no nation, ethnicity, group or individual beyond God's salvation.
 - Christians should care about the nations the way God does.
 - Making disciples should be one of christian's most primary goals in life.

Key Themes in Jonah

Jesus is the Perfect Prophet, the Better Jonah

Jesus is the Perfect Prophet, the Better Jonah

Then some of the scribes and Pharisees answered him, saying, “Teacher, we wish to see a sign from you.” But [Jesus] he answered them, “An evil and adulterous generation seeks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. The men of Nineveh will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for they repented at the preaching of Jonah, and behold, ***something greater than Jonah is here.***

Matthew 12:38-41

To Do

Watch the Bible Project Overviews of Nahum + Zephaniah

Memorize Nahum 1:7 & Zephaniah 3:17

Discussion

A key theme in both books is that God's salvation is for all peoples not just the Jews. *Where else in the Old Testament do we see the idea? Where is it in the New Testament?*

What does it mean to truly repent?

How should these two books—both Micah and Jonah—change the way we think about missions globally and evangelism here in St. Rose?