



# English Standard Version

# Understanding the Anger of God

A STUDY OF MICAH, NAHUM, AND HABAKKUK

#### PRECEPT UPON PRECEPT

English Standard Version

# KINGS AND PROPHETS SERIES Course 9 UNDERSTANDING THE ANGER OF GOD

A STUDY OF MICAH, NAHUM, AND HABAKKUK

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## HELPFUL STUDY TOOLS

#### HELPFUL STUDY TOOLS

ARTHUR, KAY; ARTHUR, DAVID; DE LACY, PETE

How to Study Your Bible

Eugene, Oregon: Harvest House Publishers, 1994/2010

#### The New Inductive Study Bible—English Standard Version

Eugene, Oregon: Harvest House Publishers, 2013

**Hebrew Word Study Tools** 

#### RECOMMENDED COMMENTARIES

GAEBELEIN, FRANK E., ED.

The Expositor's Bible Commentary, Volume 7

Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan Publishers, 1988

WALVOORD, JOHN F., ZUCK, ROY B., EDS.

The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures

Wheaton, Illinois: Victor Books, 1983-c1985

#### RECOMMENDED SOFTWARE

#### **Logos Bible Software**

Powerful search engines and up to 4,000 electronic Bible study resources (commentaries, lexicons, Bible dictionaries etc.) make it fast and easy to do simple and complex searches of multiple sources, then pull materials together for orderly presentation—excellent for word and topical studies based on English or original Hebrew and Greek. Available at <a href="https://www.logos.com">www.logos.com</a>.





Before You Begin

#### BEFORE YOU BEGIN WE WANT YOU TO KNOW ...

Welcome to our study of Micah, Nahum and Habakkuk—books probably not among your favorites and yet you've chosen to study them. We commend you for this!

One of the greatest benefits of studying the Old Testament inductively is coming to know and understand God in a way you can never know Him otherwise. Studying the Prophets, Beloved, is one way you can get this unique understanding.

When we listen to the Prophets, we catch God's heart, sense His passion, experience His holiness, and come to understand His fidelity to His character and to the words which go forth from His mouth. This is something you'll never experience fully if you study the New Testament alone. In the Old Testament we uniquely meet God's holiness... and stand in awe!

The prophets Micah, Nahum, and Habakkuk speak of God's holy indignation and wrath. Nahum speaks of God's burning anger, an emotion few want to attribute to God. Anger seems incongruous with love—if God is love, how can He be angry? And if He's angry, how can He express it without contradicting His love?

These valid questions can't be resolved without studying the *whole* counsel of God. Therefore we commend you for choosing to study the ninth of our ten-course study in the Kings and Prophets Series, *Understanding the Anger of God*. Precept designed its Kings and Prophets Series to give you a full picture of the events in Israel's history leading up to the Exile.

While we want you to have the full picture of these times, we also want you to be able to study the writings of the Prophets independently from their historical counterparts. This is why there are ten separate courses. None of them demand an overwhelming commitment, which should encourage newcomers to join you without hesitation.

That brings me to a word of exhortation, Beloved. In these last days we need to be about our Father's business recruiting others to study God's Word for themselves so they won't be "carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes" (Ephesians 4:13-14). We, the Church, need to grow up, but this won't happen apart from diligent study on the part of every true child of God (1 Corinthians 3:1-2; Hebrews 5:14). To ignore the Word of God is to ignore God, which is the height of pride. The Bible is *the Word* of the Creator of the heavens and the earth.

The content of each book of the Bible is critical to our lives; otherwise, God would not have included it in His eternal Word.





Before You Begin

You're doing what you ought to be doing and we're proud of you for disciplining yourself for the purpose of godliness, for adding to your faith, knowledge—the knowledge of the one and only true God, His ways, His history, His commandments, His ordinances and precepts for life. It's our prayer that you will see how critically relevant Micah, Nahum, and Habakkuk are to our times and to your life so that you'll confidently understand the righteous anger of God, order your life accordingly, and help others to know truth and respect Him.

How we look forward to your stories about how God uses these courses to teach you more of Who He is, to conform you more into His Son's image, and to prepare you to be the vessel of righteousness He desires to use for the furtherance of His kingdom. And how we would love to see you face-to-face at one of our training workshops, study courses, tours, or conferences!

I am so proud of you, and humbled to help write these studies for you, Beloved of God,

Kay Arthur for all the Precept Staff





Information for First-timers

#### IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR FIRST-TIMERS

Welcome to Precept Upon Precept<sup>®</sup> Inductive Bible studies. We're excited that you'll be studying with us! Inductive Bible study draws you into personal interaction with God through His Word so that your beliefs are based on a prayerful observation and understanding of the Scriptures—truth that will transform your life. Studying this way is summed up in the words of the psalmist: "for you have taught me" (Psalm 119:102). May the Lord bless you richly as you delve into the treasures of His Word.

The following will be helpful to you as you begin your studies:

#### **OBSERVING THE TEXT**

In the lessons that follow, you'll be asked to mark key words or phrases on a particular passage using Observation Worksheets.

- Key words or phrases unlock your understanding of the text. Marking them distinctively with colors or symbols helps you quickly locate the word or phrase, see how it's used and how often.
- It's advantageous to keep markings simple; colors and color combinations are easier and less cluttering.
- You'll find suggestions on the back cover of your Precept book; however, colors and symbols are your choice.
- When you have several words or phrases to mark, it's helpful to read the chapter more than once, marking a couple of words each time.
- It's also helpful to make a bookmark (e.g., an index card) and list all the key words, marking them the way you want to mark them in the text.

#### FILLING IN THE AT A GLANCE CHART

As you finish observing a chapter, you'll be asked to record its theme (main subject) on an **At a Glance** chart specifically designed for the book you're studying. This chart provides space to list each chapter's theme and places for recording other pertinent information on the book. When completed, this chart provides a synopsis of the book at a glance.

We have three sources that will show you how to do the above and more (all available at www.precept.org or by calling 800-763-8280):

*How to Study Your Bible* by Kay Arthur David Arthur, and Pete DeLacy: Chapter 2, "Getting the Big Picture."

*The New Inductive Study Bible* (NISB). See "How to Use the Inductive Study Approach" and "A System for Marking Key Words . . . Throughout Your Bible."

Discover the Bible for Yourself by Kay Arthur, "Observation."





Information for First-timers

#### WORD STUDIES

You'll find out how to do word studies by reading the chapter, "It's All Greek to Me," in *How to Study Your Bible*.

There are many helpful computer programs. We highly recommend Logos Bible Software's wide range of products.

We're so thankful you've joined us. You're about to join hundreds of thousands in an exciting adventure that will help you discover truth for yourself in a way you've never done before. Your life will be transformed and strengthened through the Word of God.

However, we want you to remember that it takes time and practice to make these study skills "second nature." And it does not come without spiritual warfare. The only offensive weapon the child of God has is the sword of the Spirit, the Word of God. You need to sharpen this sword and not let anyone or anything discourage you. Precept is not difficult; it simply takes time and discipline, but that's what discipleship is about!

#### **QUESTIONS**

If you have any questions, call your Precept Leader for help. We are sure he/she will help you or connect you with another student who can. We also want to urge you to take our training workshops. They will teach you basic inductive study skills and give you an opportunity to practice them. There are also workshops to help prepare you to lead Precept should God so direct. You can find out more about the training workshops by going online to www.precept.org.

Blessings, Beloved. Welcome to the Precept family.

Remember, you too can say with the psalmist, "I do not turn aside from your rules, for you have taught me."



PRECEPT UPON PRECEPT®

Precept P.O. Box 182218 Chattanooga, TN 37422 Understanding the Anger of God Lesson 1, Micah Overview

# LESSON ONE Micah Overview

THIS LESSON The following located in the Appendix: INCORPORATES Observation Worksheets of Micah

"Micah at a Glance" chart

"Cities of Micah and Habakkuk" map

In the midst of darkness there is always light, because God is always God.

In the midst of despair there is always hope, because God is the God of hope.

In the midst of corruption there is always the Word of the Lord, the message of truth, because God is not silent.

Who is like Jehovah?



Although Micah, whose name means "Who is like Jehovah," is the longest of the three books we will study in this course, it is still relatively short, just seven chapters. But they are chapters rich in passion, filled with rich and comforting promises, precepts, and prophecies which we pray will capture your heart and nourish your mind so that you will walk circumspectly in these last days . . . giving the Lord the respect and honor due His Holy name.

Because of the nature of Micah, we believe it will be advantageous to start with an overview of the book. Micah is a book that must be studied patiently—you cannot be in a hurry. Its prophecies are very rich, but they are not grasped easily. So walk patiently and prayerfully with us, Beloved, as we uncover God's precepts for life.

Remember, God wants you to understand this book. Micah is important or God would not have included it in His Holy Book. Now since the words you are about to study are God's words, may we urge you to begin your study each day asking the Father to open the eyes of your understanding so that you will see wonderful truths from His Word. Psalm 119:173 is a good prayer to begin with: "Let your hand be ready to help me, for I have chosen your precepts."



#### Understanding the Anger of God Lesson 1, Micah Overview

- 1. Read Micah watching for and recording the following things:
  - a. any clues to the time of writing, who it was delivered to, and why it was delivered.

b. anything that describes the times—culture, morals, spiritual interests and practices, etc.

- c. the repeated admonition *hear*. Color-code it a distinctive way (perhaps with a green ear 2) to readily find it in the text. Do **not** mark synonyms like *listen*.
- 2. Now to put all you've observed from Micah into a broad historical timeline, look at the chart, "The Rulers and Prophets of Micah's Time," located at the end of this lesson. It's taken from *The New Inductive Study Bible (NISB)*.



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#### Understanding the Anger of God Lesson 1, Micah Overview

Read Hosea 1:1-2; Isaiah 1:1; and Micah 1:1 to compare the timing of the prophecies of Isaiah, Hosea, and Micah. Record when each was written.

3. Did you see anything in Micah applicable to our lives today? Write some initial thoughts. We'll see more as we progress.

You're off to a good start, Beloved. Within these next three weeks you'll gain a good understanding of Micah if you patiently move through the text with us precept upon precept.





Lesson 1, Micah Overview

## DAY TWO

- 1. Let's focus on what you observed yesterday. From the exhortations to "hear," how many distinct messages does Micah seem to be delivering? This will help you understand this book. We could tell you, but we want you to see how you can find the answer yourself. This is what inductive study is all about—reasoning through the Word of God, discovering truth for yourself through careful, accurate observation, interpretation, and application.
  - a. Look at each place where you marked "hear." List the "hears" below and next to each write **who** is to hear.

b. Do any of the "hears" seem to be part of the same message—simply a means of calling the same people to attention?

Are you being patient? Hang in there...you're maturing by exercising your senses as Hebrews 5:14 says.

- c. What "hears" seem to start a new message? Put a star or check by these on the list you made in "a."
- d. Does there seem to be a pattern in the messages to hear?
- e. Is there a similarity in the way the messages are laid out?
- f. Do they begin and end in similar ways?





Lesson 1, Micah Overview

2. Now taking what you observed, how many messages do you believe Micah delivered? List them. Include where they begin and where they end—chapter and verse. Writing this out will be good for you.

Good job, Beloved! We are on our way. We will now study these message by message. "But," you say, "what if I don't have it right?" Don't worry, you probably do, but we have you covered. One more little exercise and we'll call it a day.

- 3. As you saw on Day One, Micah 1:1 gives the reader the setting of the word of the Lord that comes through Micah. This first verse is important (crucial to keep in mind as you study this book) so let's review what it says.
  - a. Write when the word came to Micah.
  - b. Who is the subject of Micah?
- 4. In light of what you just saw, read your Observation Worksheets of Micah 1 and 2 and color-code references to *Samaria* in one color and references to *Jerusalem* in another. DO NOT MARK SYNONYMS OR PRONOUNS AT THIS POINT. WE'LL DO THEM LATER. Reading aloud will help you remember what Micah is about; you'll hear it in your mind.

Now list what you learned from marking "Samaria" and "Jerusalem." There's not much, but what there is will give you a big picture. We'll fill in more important details later as we study the messages one by one.





Lesson 1, Micah Overview

Samaria	Jerusalem

# DAY Three

You may not believe it, Beloved, but you accomplished a lot in the last two days as you familiarized yourself with Micah. By now you have observed that there are three messages in Micah and they concern Samaria and Jerusalem. (See, we told you we would confirm the number of messages!) The first message is covered in chapters 1 and 2. This will be the focus for the remainder of our study time this week.

- 1. Read Micah 1 aloud to prime the pump. Mark every pronoun for *Samaria* with the same color you marked *Samaria*. Add to your list everything you learned from marking Samaria.
- 2. Now read Micah 1 again. This time mark synonyms and pronouns that refer to *Jerusalem*. Add to your list what you learn from marking these references.
- 3. Micah 1:13 is the first reference to the daughter of Zion. Look up the following verses and note what you learn about *Zion* from them.
  - a. 2 Samuel 5:7 (This is the first mention of Zion in the Word of God.)

b. 2 Kings 19:20-31



#### Understanding the Anger of God Lesson 1, Micah Overview

c. Psalm 9:11-14

- d. What city is synonymous with Zion? Mark Zion accordingly.
- 4. Read Micah 1 again—third time in one day, but this time:
  - a. mark references to *God*. You can do this any way you want, but it's good to choose a color to represent God.
  - b. watch for indications that Micah is speaking. You may want to note these in the margin of your Observation Worksheet.
- 5. Moses, the great leader of God's people, cried out to God that he wanted to be shown His ways (Exodus 33). What do you learn about God and His ways from Micah 1?

6. As we bring this day to a close, let's do it by taking several things you learned about God and turning them into prayer. What have you learned about God and His ways that you can weave into the fabric of your life to be clothed in His righteousness, His holiness? You may want to write your prayer to God.

It's good, isn't it, Beloved, to be still and remember He is the Lord and there is no other.





Lesson 1, Micah Overview

## DAY Four

- 1. Today we want to observe Micah's first message as a whole. As you observe chapters 1 and 2, mark words pertinent to the message—words God used because He doesn't want you to miss His point. It's helpful to list these key words on a card (mark them as you do in the text), then use it as a bookmark. We suggest you mark:
  - a. sin, evil, iniquity, uncleanness, wickedness
  - b. disaster
  - c. destruction (destroy)
  - d. woe (Whenever you find woe in the Word of God, mark it in a distinctive way. There are important warnings in God's woes.)
  - e. remnant (Consider marking it this way remnant and color it the color you use for Israel.)
  - f. references to time with a green circle. Understanding the "when's" of events is critical in interpretation.
  - g. geographical locations—Consider double underlining in green. Then see if you can locate these places on the "Cities of Micah and Habakkuk" map in the Appendix.
- 2. Now read your Observation Worksheets on Micah 1 and 2, and using a pencil, divide these chapters into paragraphs according to their themes.
  - a. Write down what's happening in each paragraph.

- b. Record the main theme of Micah 1 and 2 on the Observation Worksheets and on the "Micah at a Glance" chart in the Appendix.
- 3. Who does Micah address his first message to, and what does he want them to know according to verses 3 and 4?



#### Understanding the Anger of God Lesson 1, Micah Overview

4. Do you think this message has any significance to people in other times? If so, what?

5. How does this first call to "hear" end? Who does it pertain to? What will happen, and to whom?

6. What do you learn about Micah in chapter 1? What must he do and why?

7. There's a play on words in the names of the places mentioned in Micah 1:10-15. Check commentaries or word study tools to see the meaning of these locations. Record your notes below or on the Observation Worksheet.

- 8. One of the key words you marked was "disaster." Read Micah 1:12.
  - a. How far did the disaster reach?
  - b. Look at the "Cities of Micah and Habakkuk" map and note the border line between Samaria and Jerusalem.
  - c. Now let's look at the historical significance of Micah 1:12—disaster coming to the gates of Jerusalem. When did this happen? Assyria captured Samaria in 722 B.C. In 701 B.C., Assyria (Sennacherib) attacked Judah, moving toward Jerusalem. Hezekiah was king of Judah then. You can read about this in 2 Kings 18–19 if you're not familiar with what happened.





Lesson 1, Micah Overview

- 9. We're going to close today by reading Micah 1:13.
  - a. Who was the beginning of sin to Jerusalem (the daughter of Zion)?

Parenthetically, the city of Lachish is in the southwest of Israel. We pass the Tel (ruins) of Lachish on our Petra extension during our annual study trips to Israel. Lachish, a major city in the Old Testament, was conquered by Joshua (Joshua 10). Sennacherib the Assyrian king conquered it in 701 B.C. and from there threatened Jerusalem.

- b. Sin has a beginning. Read James 1:13-15. What leads to sin?
- c. Temptation is enticement to sin. We have to be careful where we go, what we expose ourselves to, and who we hang out with. Read 1 Corinthians 15:33. What does it say about the company we keep?
- d. Applying this, take time to ask God to search and reveal your heart. Ask yourself if there's any "beginning of sin" in your life. Act on what God shows you, Beloved. Remember, He is coming from His place and His reward is with Him to give to all according to their deeds. Your deeds show who you really are!

Well, Beloved, we'll leave you with this warning—don't let sin creep up on you through the company you keep. Tomorrow we will finish studying the first message of Micah and then you can look at commentaries to make sure you don't miss anything. We appreciate the gifted men and women God has raised up to write these scholarly works, but it's vital that we learn the text of Scripture for ourselves so we can measure everything else we read against the plumb line of truth—the whole counsel of God's Word.

DAY FIVE

1. Read Micah 2, noting paragraph divisions (verses 1-5 and verses 6-13) and your analysis of them. This will be good review.



Lesson 1, Micah Overview

2.	What	do	you	learn	from	marking	references	to	"sin"	(wick	tedness,	evil,
	unclea	nne	ss) aı	nd spe	cific s	ins? Who	is sinning?	W	hat are	they	doing?	What
	will ha	appe	en to 1	them?	Who v	will do it?	Write your	ans	wers.			

3. Read 2:6-11 and mark references to *preaching*. Analyze what you learn from the preachers and record it below.

4. What do you think about the latter part of 2:7: "Do not my words do good to him who walks uprightly"? How can you apply this verse to your life? How could it affect your choices? What could it keep you from?

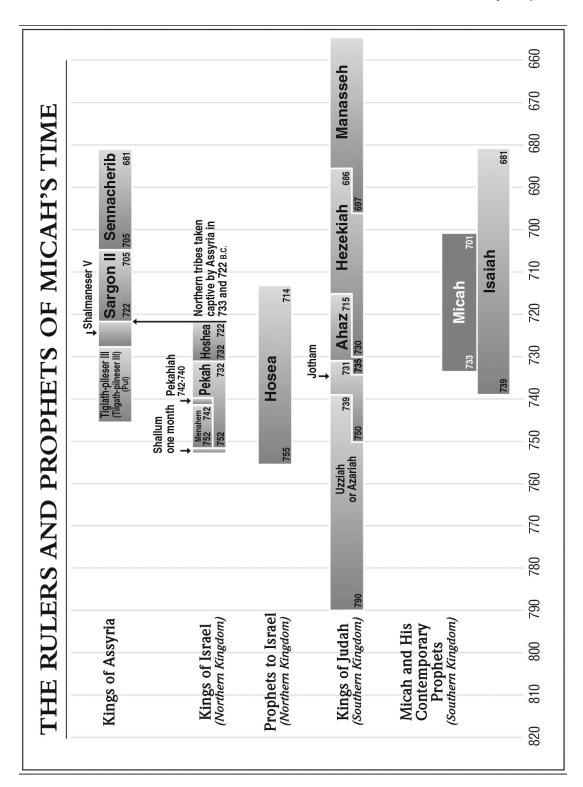


# Understanding the Anger of God Lesson 1, Micah Overview

	w does what you marked about "God" in this second chapter hit you? Warr ? Comfort you? Be specific.
	w, Beloved, you have studied faithfully and well. See what commentaries and then call it a very good week's worth of study.
We rejo	pice over the privilege of studying God's Word with you, faithful one.



# Understanding the Anger of God Lesson 1, The Rulers and Prophets of Micah's Time







# Understanding the Anger of God Lesson 1, Micah Overview





Micah 1

# MICAH 1 Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme
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.
2 Hear, you peoples, all of you;
pay attention, O earth, and all that is in it,
and let the Lord GOD be a witness against you,
the Lord from his holy temple.
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.
What is the transgression of Jacob?
Is it not Samaria?
And what is the high place of Judah?
Is it not Jerusalem?
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.
7 All her carved images shall be beaten to pieces,

all her wages shall be burned with fire,

and all her idols I will lay waste,



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# Understanding the Anger of God

Micah 1

for from the fee of a prostitute she gathered them, and to the fee of a prostitute they shall return.

8 For this I will lament and wail;

I will go stripped and naked;

I will make lamentation like the jackals,

and mourning like the ostriches.

9 For her wound is incurable,

and it has come to Judah;

it has reached to the gate of my people,

to Jerusalem.

Tell it not in Gath;

weep not at all;

in Beth-le-aphrah

roll yourselves in the dust.

11 Pass on your way,

inhabitants of Shaphir,

in nakedness and shame;

the inhabitants of Zaanan

do not come out;

the lamentation of Beth-ezel

shall take away from you its standing place.

For the inhabitants of Maroth

wait anxiously for good,

because disaster has come down from the LORD

to the gate of Jerusalem.

Harness the steeds to the chariots,

inhabitants of Lachish;

it was the beginning of sin

to the daughter of Zion,

for in you were found

the transgressions of Israel.



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# Understanding the Anger of God

Micah 1

14 Therefore you shall give parting gifts
to Moresheth-gath;
the houses of Achzib shall be a deceitful thing
to the kings of Israel.

I will again bring a conqueror to you, inhabitants of Mareshah; the glory of Israel shall come to Adullam.

Make yourselves bald and cut off your hair, for the children of your delight; make yourselves as bald as the eagle, for they shall go from you into exile.





# MICAH 2 **Observation Worksheet**

Chapter	Theme
WO	E to those who devise wickedness
	and work evil on their beds!
	When the morning dawns, they perform it,
	because it is in the power of their hand.
2	They covet fields and seize them,
	and houses, and take them away;
	they oppress a man and his house,
	a man and his inheritance.
3	Therefore thus says the LORD:
	behold, against this family I am devising disaster,
	from which you cannot remove your necks,
	and you shall not walk haughtily,
	for it will be a time of disaster.
4	In that day they shall take up a taunt song against you
	and moan bitterly,
	and say, "We are utterly ruined;
	he changes the portion of my people;
	how he removes it from me!
	To an apostate he allots our fields."
5	Therefore you will have none to cast the line by lot
	in the assembly of the LORD.
6 '	'Do not preach"—thus they preach—
	"one should not preach of such things;

disgrace will not overtake us."



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# Understanding the Anger of God

Micah 2

7 Should this be said, O house of Jacob?

Has the LORD grown impatient?

Are these his deeds?

Do not my words do good

to him who walks uprightly?

8 But lately my people have risen up as an enemy;

you strip the rich robe from those who pass by trustingly

with no thought of war.

9 The women of my people you drive out

from their delightful houses;

from their young children you take away

my splendor forever.

10 Arise and go,

for this is no place to rest,

because of uncleanness that destroys

with a grievous destruction.

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!

12 I will surely assemble all of you, O Jacob;

I will gather the remnant of Israel;

I will set them together

like sheep in a fold,

like a flock in its pasture,

a noisy multitude of men.

He who opens the breach goes up before them;

they break through and pass the gate,

going out by it.

Their king passes on before them,

the LORD at their head.





Micah 3

# MICAH 3 Observation Worksheet

AN	ID I said:
	Hear, you heads of Jacob
	and rulers of the house of Israel!
	Is it not for you to know justice?—
2	you who hate the good and love the evil,
	who tear the skin from off my people
	and their flesh from off their bones,
3	who eat the flesh of my people,
	and flay their skin from off them,
	and break their bones in pieces
	and chop them up like meat in a pot,
	like flesh in a cauldron.
4	Then they will cry to the LORD,
	but he will not answer them;
	he will hide his face from them at that time,
	because they have made their deeds evil.
5	Thus says the LORD concerning the prophets
	who lead my people astray,
	who cry "Peace"
	when they have something to eat,
	but declare war against him
	who puts nothing into their mouths.
6	Therefore it shall be night to you, without vision
	and darkness to you, without divination.

The sun shall go down on the prophets, and the day shall be black over them;

Chapter Theme



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# Understanding the Anger of God

Micah 3

- 7 the seers shall be disgraced, and the diviners put to shame; they shall all cover their lips, for there is no answer from God.
- 8 But as for me, I am filled with power, with the Spirit of the LORD, and with justice and might, to declare to Jacob his transgression and to Israel his sin.
- 9 Hear this, you heads of the house of Jacob and rulers of the house of Israel, who detest justice and make crooked all that is straight,
- who build Zion with blood and Jerusalem with iniquity.
- Its heads give judgment for a bribe;
  its priests teach for a price;
  its prophets practice divination for money;
  yet they lean on the LORD and say,
  "Is not the LORD in the midst of us?
  No disaster shall come upon us."
- 12 Therefore because of you

  Zion shall be plowed as a field;

  Jerusalem shall become a heap of ruins,

  and the mountain of the house a wooded height.





Micah 4

# MICAH 4 Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme 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, 2 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 ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. 3 He shall judge between many peoples, and shall decide for strong nations far away; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore; 4 but they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree, and no one shall make them afraid. for the mouth of the LORD of hosts has spoken. 5 For all the peoples walk each in the name of its god, but we will walk in the name of the LORD our God forever and ever.



# PRECEPT UPON PRECEPT®

# Understanding the Anger of God

Micah 4

- In that day, declares the LORD,

  I will assemble the lame

  and gather those who have been driven away

  and those whom I have afflicted;
- and 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.
- 8 And 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.
- Now why do you cry aloud?Is there no king in you?Has your counselor perished,that pain seized you like a woman in labor?
- 10 Writhe and groan, O daughter of Zion, like a woman in labor, for now you shall go out from the city and dwell in the open country; you shall go to Babylon.

  There you shall be rescued; there the LORD will redeem you from the hand of your enemies.
- Now many nations
  are assembled against you,
  saying, "Let her be defiled,
  and let our eyes gaze upon Zion."



# PRECEPT UPON PRECEPT®

# Understanding the Anger of God

Micah 4

But they do not know

the thoughts of the LORD;

they do not understand his plan,

that he has gathered them as sheaves to the threshing floor.

13 Arise and thresh,

O daughter of Zion,

for I will make your horn iron,

and I will make your hoofs bronze;

you shall beat in pieces many peoples;

and shall devote their gain to the LORD,

their wealth to the Lord of the whole earth.





## Understanding the Anger of God Micah 5

#### MICAH 5 Observation Worksheet

Chapte	r Theme
NO	W muster your troops, O daughter of troops;
	siege is laid against us;
	with a rod they strike the judge of Israel
	on the cheek.
2	But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah,
	who are too little to be among the clans of Judah,
	from you shall come forth for me
	one who is to be ruler in Israel,
	whose coming forth is from of old,
	from ancient days.
3	Therefore he shall give them up until the time
	when she who is in labor has given birth;
	then the rest of his brothers shall return
	to the people of Israel.
4	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.
5	And he shall be their peace.
	When the Assyrian comes into our land
	and treads in our palaces,
	then we will raise against him seven shepherds
	and eight princes of men;
6	they shall shepherd the land of Assyria with the sword,
	and the land of Nimrod at its entrances;
	and he shall deliver us from the Assyrian



### Understanding the Anger of God

when he comes into our land and treads within our border.

- 7 Then the remnant of Jacob shall be in the midst of many peoples like dew from the LORD, like showers on the grass, which delay not for a man nor wait for the children of man.
- 8 And the remnant of Jacob shall be among the nations, in the midst of many peoples, like a lion among the beasts of the forest, like a young lion among the flocks of sheep, which, when it goes through, treads down and tears in pieces, and there is none to deliver.
- 9 Your hand shall be lifted up over your adversaries, and all your enemies shall be cut off.
- 10 And in that day, declares the LORD, I will cut off your horses from among you and will destroy your chariots;
- 11 and I will cut off the cities of your land and throw down all your strongholds;
- 12 and I will cut off sorceries from your hand, and you shall have no more tellers of fortunes;
- 13 and I will cut off your carved images and your pillars from among you, and you shall bow down no more to the work of your hands;
- 14 and I will root out your Asherah images from among you and destroy your cities.
- 15 And in anger and wrath I will execute vengeance on the nations that did not obey.





#### Understanding the Anger of God

Micah 6

## MICAH 6 Observation Worksheet

Chapter Theme	
-	

#### HEAR what the LORD says:

Arise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice.

- 2 Hear, you mountains, the indictment of the LORD, and you enduring foundations of the earth, for the LORD has an indictment against his people, and he will contend with Israel.
- 3 "O my people, what have I done to you? How have I wearied you? Answer me!
- 4 "For I brought you up from the land of Egypt and redeemed you from the house of slavery, and I sent before you Moses,

  Aaron, and Miriam.
- 5 "O my people, remember what Balak king of Moab devised, and what Balaam the son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the righteous acts of the LORD."
- 6 "With what shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before God on high?
  Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old?
- "Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil?
  Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"



#### Precept UPON Precept®

#### Understanding the Anger of God

8 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?

9 The voice of the LORD cries to the city—
and it is sound wisdom to fear your name:
"Hear of the rod and of him who appointed it!

"Can I forget any longer the treasures of wickedness in the house of the wicked, and the scant measure that is accursed?

"Shall I acquit the man with wicked scales and with a bag of deceitful weights?

12 "Your rich men are full of violence; your inhabitants speak lies, and their tongue is deceitful in their mouth.

13 "Therefore I strike you with a grievous blow, making you desolate because of your sins.

"You shall eat, but not be satisfied, and there shall be hunger within you; you shall put away, but not preserve, and what you preserve I will give to the sword.

15 "You shall sow, but not reap; you shall tread olives, but not anoint yourselves with oil; you shall tread grapes, but not drink wine.

"For you have kept the statutes of Omri, and all the works of the house of Ahab; and you have walked in their counsels, that I may make you a desolation, and your inhabitants a hissing; so you shall bear the scorn of my people."





## Understanding the Anger of God Micah 7

#### MICAH 7 **Observation Worksheet**

Chapte	r Theme
WC	E is me! For I have become
	as when the summer fruit has been gathered,
	as when the grapes have been gleaned:
	there is no cluster to eat,
	no first-ripe fig that my soul desires.
2	The godly has perished from the earth,
	and there is no one upright among mankind;
	they all lie in wait for blood,
	and each hunts the other with a net.
3	Their hands are on what is evil, to do it well;
	the prince and the judge ask for a bribe,
	and the great man utters the evil desire of his soul;
	thus they weave it together.
4	The best of them is like a brier,
	the most upright of them a thorn hedge.
	The day of your watchmen, of your punishment, has come;
	now their confusion is at hand.
5	Put no trust in a neighbor;
	have no confidence in a friend;
	guard the doors of your mouth
	from her who lies in your arms;
6	for the son treats the father with contempt,
	the daughter rises up against her mother,
	the daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law;
	a man's enemies are the men of his own house.



#### PRECEPT UPON PRECEPT®

#### Understanding the Anger of God

Micah 7

But as for me, I will look to the LORD;
I will wait for the God of my salvation;
my God will hear me.

8 Rejoice not over me, O my enemy; when I fall, I shall rise;

when I sit in darkness,

the LORD will be a light to me.

9 I will bear the indignation of the LORD because I have sinned against him, until he pleads my cause and executes judgment for me.

He will bring me out to the light;

I shall look upon his vindication.

Then my enemy will see, and shame will cover her who said to me,

"Where is the LORD your God?"

My eyes will look upon her; now she will be trampled down like the mire of the streets.

11 A day for the building of your walls!

In that day the boundary shall be far extended.

In that day they will come to you,
from Assyria and the cities of Egypt,
and from Egypt to the River,
from sea to sea and from mountain to mountain.

But the earth will be desolate because of its inhabitants, for the fruit of their deeds.



# PRECEPT UPON PRECEPT®

#### Understanding the Anger of God

Micah 7

- Shepherd your people with your staff,
  the flock of your inheritance,
  who dwell alone in a forest
  in the midst of a garden land;
  let them graze in Bashan and Gilead
  as in the days of old.
- As in the days when you came out of the land of Egypt, I will show them marvelous things.
- The nations shall see and be ashamed of all their might; they shall lay their hands on their mouths; their ears shall be deaf;
- they shall lick the dust like a serpent,
  like the crawling things of the earth;
  they shall come trembling out of their strongholds;
  they shall turn in dread to the LORD our God,
  and they shall be in fear of you.
- 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.
- He will again have compassion on us;he will tread our iniquities underfoot.You will cast all our sinsinto the depths of the sea.
- 20 You will show faithfulness to Jacob and steadfast love to Abraham, as you have sworn to our fathers from the days of old.





## Understanding the Anger of God Micah at a Glance

#### MICAH AT A GLANCE

#### **Book Theme:**

Segment Divisions	Chapter Themes
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#### Understanding the Anger of God

Cities of Micah and Habakkuk

#### Cities of Micah and Habakkuk

