***Studying the Southern Kingdom Prophets”—Micah 4, the Coming Kingdom***

**The first three chapters of Micah center on sins and consequences of those sins. After the hard and stern tone of the first three chapters, Chapter 4 not turns to the Millennial Kingdom, the “last days.” Unfortunately for many modern churches, a doctrine of placing the Millennial Kingdom in the category of “allegory” has taken center stage; most believe that it is not a “literal kingdom” coming to earth, a figurative demonstration. Micah describes it in detail, much like Isaiah does. Chapter 4 begins in sharp contrast to the closing verse of Chapter 3. In fact, chapters 3-5 begin with “hear,” followed by indictment and threat of punishment, but flowing into words of hope. HOPE DOMINATES chapters 4-5. THE BEAUTIFUL IMAGERY IN VERSES 1-5 WILL REMIND YOU OF THE MASTER WRITER, ISAIAH, IN HIS FIRST FOUR VERSES OF ISAIAH 2.**

 **4:1-3,** **“Now it shall come to pass in the latter days *That* the mountain shall be established on the top of the mountains, And shall be exalted above the hills; And peoples shall flow to it. 2Many nations shall come and say, “Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; He will teach us His ways, and we shall walk in His paths.” For out of Zion the law shall go forth, And the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.3He shall judge between many peoples, And rebuke strong nations afar off; 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.”**

**Micah 4:1, KJV, “Now it shall come to pass in the latter days *That* the mountain of the Lord’s house Shall be established on the top of the mountains, And shall be exalted above the hills; And peoples shall flow to it.”**

1. **Discuss the parallel between Micah 4:1-3 and Isaiah 2:1-3.** Is repeated in **Isaiah 2:1-3.**
	1. **Who quoted who?** **Isaiah or Micah?** **PLEASE NOTE: THE DISTINCT DIFFERENCE IS THAT ISAIAH OMITS MICAH’S LAST STATEMENT, “NEITHER SHALL THEY LEARN WAR ANYMORE.”**
2. **Micah’s use of the word, “Now,” or “But,” KJV, implies that this section is moving on from the last section of Chapter 3.** **Review the temple’s destruction by Nebuchadnezzar in 586 B.C. and Titus the Roman in 60 A.D.**
	1. **Refer to Micah 3:12.**
3. **Where else in the Bible do we see a description of the Millennial Kingdom?** .
	1. **Review Isaiah 2:2-4 and Revelation 20:1-4.**
4. **Examine Micah’s “The Mountain shall be established on top of the mountains,” verse 1** or KJV, **Micah 4:1, KJV, “Now it shall come to pass in the latter days *That* the mountain of the Lord’s house Shall be established on the top of the mountains, And shall be exalted above the hills; And peoples shall flow to it.”**
	1. **Review –This “mountain” is actually the “mountain” profiled in Nebuchadnezzar’s famous dream in** **Daniel 2:34-35.**
		1. **Compare with Daniel 2:41-44.**
		2. **Discuss the use of “mountain as an idiom” in other parts of the Bible.**
			1. **Refer to “mountain as a government” in Psalm 118:22.**
			2. **See Matthew 21:42.**
			3. **See also Acts 4:11.**
			4. **Review I Peter 2:7-8.**
5. **What physical changes in the region will happen in the Millennium? Use Zechariah 14:9-10 and the last nine chapters of Ezekiel as reference.**
6. **Talk about how disputes will be resolved in the Millennium? Access Psalm 2:9, Revelation 2:27 and 19:15.**
	1. **Why is the “new temple” not opened on Sundays? Refer to Ezekiel 46:1 and Isaiah 66:23.**
	2. **Is there peace in the Millennium? See Micah 4:3 and Isaiah 2:4. NOTE: ISAIAH 2:4 IS INSCRIBED ON OUTSIDE OF UN BUILDING IN N.Y.C.**
7. **Discuss the “unconditional covenants” in the Bible.**
	1. **The Abrahamic Covenant, Genesis 12:1-3.**
		1. **How is this challenged by the world?**
	2. **The Land Covenant, Genesis 15:18-21.**
		1. **How is this challenged by Islam?**
	3. **The Davidic Covenant, 2 Samuel 7:12-16.**
		1. **How is this challenged by the Church?**
		2. **Refer to Luke 1:31-33.**
		3. **See also Isaiah 9:6-7.**
		4. **Examine Acts 1:6-7, JESUS DOES NOT DENY, BUT AFFIRMS!**
		5. **Review Acts 15:15-18, council of Jerusalem.**
		6. **Compare with Amos 9:11-12.**
		7. **What is the “Tabernacle of David?”**
			1. **See 2 Samuel 6:17**
			2. **The Ark of the Testimony, Exodus.25:22**
			3. **The Ark of the Covenant of the Lord, Numbers10:33**
			4. **The Ark of the Lord God, 1 Kings 2:26**
			5. **The Ark of the Lord, the Lord of All the Earth, Joshua 3:13**
			6. **The Ark of God, 1 Samuel 3:3**
			7. **The Holy Ark, 2 Chronicles 35:3**
			8. **The Ark of Thy Strength, Psa.132:8**
			9. **The Ark of the Covenant of God, Judg.20:27**
			10. **The Ark of the Covenant, Josh.3:6**
			11. **The Ark of the Lord, Josh.4:11**
			12. **The Ark of God the God of Israel, 1 Sam.5:7**
			13. **The Ark of Shittim Wood, Exod.25:10**
	4. **The Everlasting Covenant, Jeremiahs 31:31.**
		1. **How is this challenged by the unbeliever?**
8. **Verse 3’s “Neither shall they learn war anymore,” is provocative. Examine.**
9. **Verse 4 is not found in the parallel Isaiah passage. Why?**
10. **Examine its thought of “peace,” using Zechariah 3:10.**
11. **Review Franklin Roosevelt’s famous January 6, 1941 speech which highlights Micah’s “four freedoms,” as outlined in Micah 4:1-5.**
	1. **Freedom from *ignorance* (He will teach us His ways)—vs. 2**
	2. **Freedom from *war* (neither shall they learn war anymore)—vs. 3**
	3. **Freedom from *want* (everyone shall sit under his vine and under his fig tree)—vs. 4**
	4. **Freedom from *fear* (no one shall make them afraid)—vs. 4**
12. **What is the vine and fig tree in verse 4?**
	1. **See I Kings 4:25** and **2 Kings 18:31.**
	2. **Use Exodus 23:11, Leviticus 19:10, 25:3-4 and Deuteronomy 20:6.**
		1. **Nation of Israel—Isaiah 5:1.**
		2. **Jeremiah 2:21, Hosea 10:1 and Psalm 80:8.**
		3. **The fig tree was referenced by Jesus Himself in Matthew 21:19-21, 24:32, Luke 13:6-7 and Revelation 6:13.**
	3. **Refer to Jotham explaining the parables of the trees. Discuss his implications. Use Judges 9:7-15.**
		1. **The Olive Tree—Valuable oil--Israel**
		2. **The Fig Tree—Sweet fruit—Political Israel**
		3. **The Vine—Wine—Spiritual Israel**
		4. **Brambles—no fruit, too low for shad, only good as fuel for a fire—the world or Satan**

**\*\*VERSES 6-7 ARE ADDRESSED TO THE PEOPLE IN EXILE.**

1. **Discuss verse 6 and its implied dispersion of Israel throughout all the nations. Must a re-gathering occur throughout the entire world before the Messianic Kingdom can begin?**
	1. **Compare this verse with the image of “the scattered flock” in Micah 2:12-13.**
		1. **See also illusions to “The Great Shepherd” in Psalm 23:1-4, 100:3, Isaiah 40: 10-11 and John 10:1-5.**
	2. **Where else in scripture is the remnant mentioned? Use Isaiah 9:6-7, Daniel 7:14, 27, Luke 1:33 and Revelation 11:15.**
		1. **What about the remnant that remained faithful in Elijah’s day? See I Kings 19:10, 18.**
2. **Verse 8, Micah focuses on two specific places. Elaborate.**
	1. **“The Tower of the flock”—Genesis 35:21.**
	2. **“Stronghold of the daughter of Zion”—Mt. Zion, the place where David ruled in 2 Chronicles 27:3 and 33:14**.
3. **Verse 8 is an emphatic promise from God Himself. Does it seem almost too good to be true to the Jews who will have gone through the Great Tribulation?**
4. **Remember other Biblical promises to “other” exiles. See Isaiah 35:3-7.**
	1. **Jeremiah 31:8 and Ezekiel 34:13-16.**
5. **Verse 9 takes a turn from the glory of the Millennium to the dark future in their very near future….the Babylonian captivity. Discuss.**
	1. **See also Jeremiah 52:9,** Lamentations **4:20** and **Exodus 12:13.**
6. **Review Micah’s use of the common idiom of “childbirth pains” in his prophetical writing about end times.** **Search Matthew 24:8 and I Thessalonians 5:3.**

***\*\*VERSE 10—BABYLON IS MENTIONED!!***

1. **Others warned Judah about their upcoming Babylonian captivity**. **Compare to** **Isaiah 39:3-8**, **43:14, 44:28**, 45:1**-4 and 48:20.**
2. **Verse 11 seems to be pointing to earth’s final battle, the Battle of Armageddon. Comment.**
	1. **Reference Zechariah 13:8-9, where 2/3 of Israel is destroyed.**
3. **Re-examine this: “Things turn violent in verse 13.”**
	1. **Justify this “war scene” with the last phrase of Verse 13, “the Lord of the whole earth.”**
	2. **Why is this “holy war” sanctioned by God Himself?**
	3. **The Armageddon Campaign will culminate in Bozrah. See Isaiah 63: 1-5.**
4. **“Sheaves to the threshing floor,” verse 12 refers to what?**
	1. **See Isaiah 41:15-16** and **Jeremiah 51:33.**
	2. **In Micah’s near future, he might have been referring to Sennacherib’s defeat by the Angel of the Lord in 2 Kings 18-19, 2 Chronicles 32, and Isaiah 36-37.**
5. **What is “make your horn iron” pointing to?**
	1. **Review Isaiah 60:1-9.**

**\*\*The Hebrew text includes Micah 5:1 in the last part of chapter 4.**

**Micah 5:1, “Now gather yourself in troops, O daughter of troops; He has laid siege against us; they will strike the judge of Israel with a rod on the cheek.”**

1. **Describe how 5:1 seems to be alluding, Micah’s near future, to the shameful treatment of King Zedekiah in Jeremiah 39:7 and 2 Kings 25:7.**
	1. **Discuss also how this verse could be pointing out the humiliation of Jesus when they plucked out His beard in Isaiah 50:6, Matthew 26:67-68, and 27:30.**
	2. **This degradation of the King will be contrasted in one of the greatest prophetic verses in the Bible. See Micah 5:2.**
2. **Summarize Micah 4.**
3. **Does its message apply to modern day earth? Give details.**

**And, here are the promises…**

 **I Peter 2:6, “Therefore it is also contained in the Scripture, “Behold, I lay in Zion a chief cornerstone, elect, precious, and he who believes on Him will by no means be put to shame.”**

**Matthew 21:42, “**[**Rejection Of Christ**](http://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Rejection-Of-Christ/type/kj2000)[**Reading The Scriptures**](http://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Reading-The-Scriptures/type/kj2000)[**God, The Rock**](http://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/God%2C-The-Rock/type/kj2000)[**Prophecies Concerning Christ**](http://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Prophecies-Concerning-Christ/type/kj2000)[**Masons**](http://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Masons/type/kj2000)[**Spiritual Foundations**](http://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Spiritual-Foundations/type/kj2000)[**Occupations**](http://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Occupations/type/kj2000)

**Jesus said unto them, Did you never read in the scriptures, the**

**Stone which the builders rejected, the same has become the head of the corner: this is the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes?”**

**Daniel 2:35, “**[**Light As Chaff**](http://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Light-As-Chaff/type/kj2000)[**Wine In Millennial Kingdom**](http://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Wine-In-Millennial-Kingdom/type/kj2000)[**Filling Places**](http://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Filling-Places/type/kj2000)

[**Threshing Floor**](http://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Threshing-Floor/type/kj2000)[**Summer**](http://bible.knowing-jesus.com/topics/Summer/type/kj2000)

**Then the iron, the clay, the bronze, the silver, and the gold were crushed**

**together, and became like the chaff of the summer threshing floors; and the wind carried them away, so that no place was found for them: and the stone that struck the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth.”**

**Ezekiel 34:13-16, “13And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them to their own land; I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, in the valleys and in all the inhabited places of the country. 14I will feed them in good pasture, and their fold shall be on the high mountains of Israel. There they shall lie down in a good fold and feed in rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. 15I will feed My flock, and I will make them lie down,” says the Lord God. 16“I will seek what was lost and bring back what was driven away, bind up the broken and strengthen what was sick; but I will destroy the fat and the strong, and feed them in judgment.”**



