

Micah - Who is like the Lord?

Who expects real Change in our Lives

Micah 6

What does God really want from us?

Down through history man has given many answers
Total silence, starvation, even human sacrifice.
God's answer is simpler to explain and harder to live!

Review Micah - Who is a God like you?

1-3 who calls sin, sin and tells the consequences
4-5 who offers hope to the hopeless - hope of rest and peace to come
in a glorious Kingdom - brought about by a glorious King - Christ

Third major Prophecy **1:2, 3:1** and now **6:1** begin with **"Hear Now"**

I. God's Case against us **1-5**

A. What has God done against us?

2. To weary us
3. The answer is nothing - absolutely nothing.

B. All that God has done for us

1. Delivered us
(Israel from Egypt - us from bondage of sin)
2. Ransomed us - paid the price of redemption - Christ
3. Gave us leadership
(Moses for Israel - the Holy Spirit for us)
4. Delivered us from the curse
(Israel from Balaam - us from Satan)
5. Teaches us His faithfulness
(Israel in the wilderness and Promised Land - us in His provision of the Holy Spirit and the church)

II. God's Requirement of us **6-8**

A. What He does not require

1. Not just sacrifices alone

I Samuel 15:22 But Samuel replied, "What is more pleasing to the LORD: your burnt offerings and sacrifices or your obedience to his voice? Listen! Obedience is better than sacrifice, and submission is better than offering the fat of rams.

- a. Not extravagant sacrifices
- 1,000s of Rams, 10,000 rivers of oil
- b. Not Extreme sacrifice
- sacrificing our own children

Jeremiah 32:35 God said They have built pagan shrines to Baal in the valley of Ben-Hinnom, and there they sacrifice their sons and daughters to Molech. I have never commanded such a horrible deed; it never even crossed my mind to command such a thing. What an incredible evil, causing Judah to sin so greatly!

B. He only requires what is good

1. Known to us because He gives us an inner sense.
Jesus is the light for all John 1:9
2. It is always good - God's plan, power and presence

C. God does require a real change

1. It is known to all to be good and required
Jesus is the Light that enlightens every man **John 1:9**
We know what is right and wrong
2. It is clearly stated
 - a. Do Justice - outward
Live up to the truth you know
No hidden meaning - do what is right
Let your light shine before men **Matthew 5:16**
More than legalistic obedience **Matthew 5:20**
6 times "You have heard - but I say **Matthew 5**
Heart obedience to the truth about hatred,
lust, marriage, truth, mercy and love

b. Love Mercy - inward

Treat others the way you desire to be treated

This begins with the heart.

God is a God of compassion and mercy

Romans 12:9-10⁹ Don't just pretend to love others. Really love them. Hate what is wrong. Hold tightly to what is good.¹⁰ Love each other with genuine affection, and take delight in honoring each other.

Begin at home

c. Walk Humbly with your God - upwards

Walk in submission to God and His heart and His ways

The first parts are impossible without this.

Walk = live - it means a personal relationship

Going in the same direction, same goals

Christ provided what we need - **John 14:15-20**

Pride is disgusting to God - it destroys our relationship

III. God's Choice for us

9-16

A. Serve the Lord

1. In Fear - or reverence
2. For time is about over

B. Suffer the consequences

1. Deception, false scales, lying tongues, violence, desolation
A dog eat dog society with all striving to outdo the others
2. No real satisfaction
 - Eat but not full (garbage or worthless food)
 - Save only to have it stolen
 - Sow but no harvest
 - Harvest but still have want
 - Worship that leads to destruction and reproach

The things of this world do not satisfy

The religions of this world leave us empty, longing for truth

**God went before and He only expects from us
that which He has already done**

He did what was right - just - even if it cost His only Son

**He loves mercy and kindness and reaches out to us when we
are still in sin**

**Christ humbled Himself to become a man that we might
become the children of God**

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