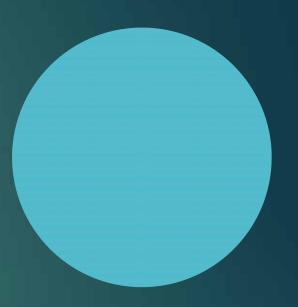


Introduction to Micah

- The man
- His times
- His message



Micah: the man

From the border town (Judah and Philistia) of Moresheth





Micah: the man

- From the border town (Judah and Philistia) of Moresheth
- A productive farming area (was Micah a farmer?)
- Effective ministry that went well beyond his life

Micah of Moresheth prophesied in the days of Hezekiah king of Judah, and said to all the people of Judah: 'Thus says the Lord of hosts, " 'Zion shall be plowed as a field; Jerusalem shall become a heap of ruins, and the mountain of the house a wooded height.' Did Hezekiah king of Judah and all Judah put him to death? Did he not fear the Lord and entreat the favor of the Lord, and did not the Lord relent of the disaster that he had pronounced against them? But we are about to bring great disaster upon ourselves.

Jeremiah 26:18-19

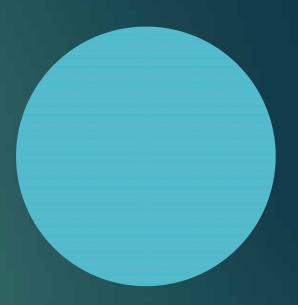


Who is like the LORD?

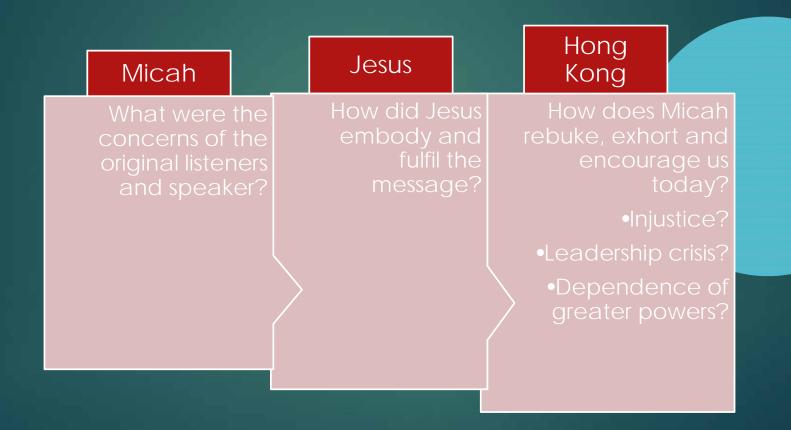
1:1; 7:18

God is revealed as...

- Judge
- Communicator
- Shepherd
- Lover

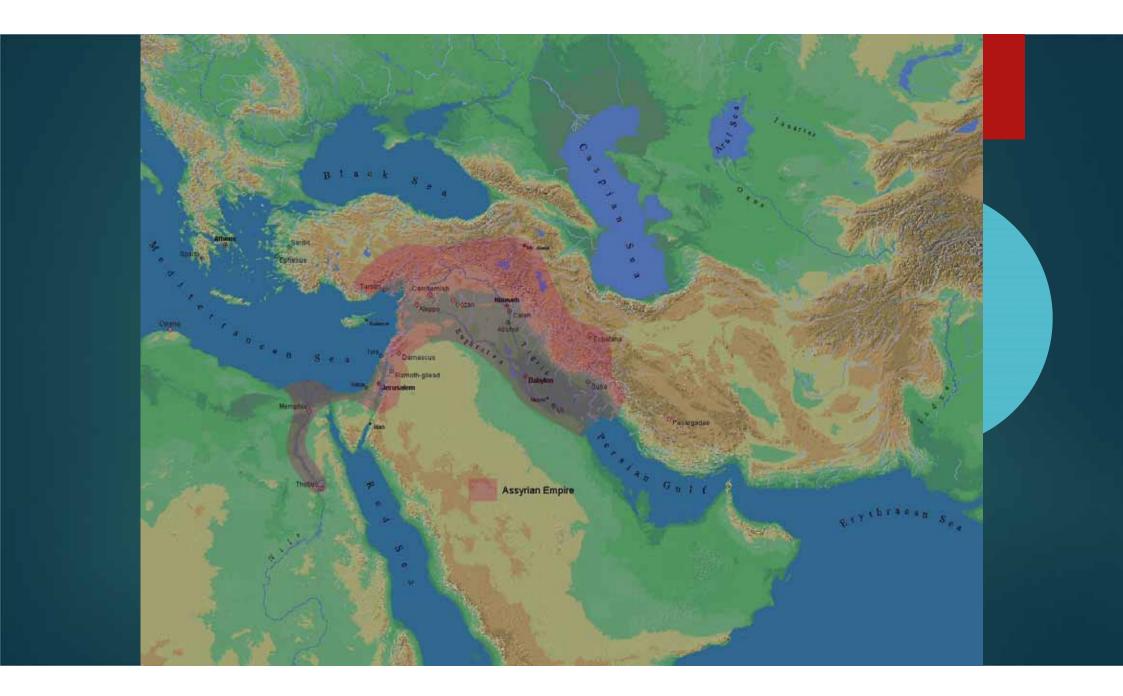


Micah: horizons of the text



Micah: his times (1:1)

- During the reign of Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah
 - Jotham 2 Kings 15:32-38
 - Ahaz 2 Kings 16
 - ► Hezekiah 2 Kings 17 😁 🕞
- Political turmoil



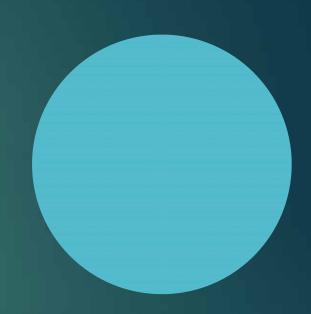


Micah: his message

| "Hear!" | Judgment | Salvation |
|------------------------|------------|------------|
| The First Cycle 1-2 | 1:2 – 2:11 | 2:12-13 |
| The Second Cycle 3-5 | 3:1-12 | 4:1 – 5:15 |
| The Third Cycle 6-7 | 6:1 – 7:7 | 7:8-20 |

Micah 1:2-7

- 2 Calling the court to order (rib)
- ▶ 3-4 The Judge appears!
- ▶ 5 The accused
- ▶ 6-7 The verdict



Two circles of judgment



- God hates: injustice and idolatry, and the two go hand in hand. (Our gods shape us into their own image, Psalm 115:8)
- God loves: hesed
- God refuses to give up on his people!
- God is committed to restoration, NOT to destruction.

Small group questions

- 1. What has been your experience in reading the Old Testament prophets? Why do you think the church has tended to pay little heed to them?
- 2. What images/words/ideas most stand out to you in 1:2-7?
- 3. How do you feel about God's judgment? Should we think of it in mostly negative or positive terms?