

Micah 2:1-5

MAY 4, 2020



The Blessing of God's Judgment



1. No one and nothing is unimportant.
2. There is Someone who can actually make a completely true judgment.
3. Through judgment, God restores order.
4. It absolves of the responsibility.
5. It offers an incentive for holy living.
6. It encourages us to watch and pray.
7. It is the way we understand God's mercy.

Land in the Bible

1. A gift: received with thanksgiving.
2. A responsibility: to be stewarded wisely.
3. Part of being human: to be respected.
4. Reconfigured and restored: waiting.



Micah 2:1-5 repeated/key words

- ▶ Planning (hashab)
- ▶ Field (sadeh)
- ▶ Inheritance (nahalah)
- ▶ Evil (ra), disaster (ra'ah)



Micah 2:1

ESV	NLT	Literal Hebrew
<p>Woe to those who devise wickedness and work evil on their beds!</p> <p>When the morning dawns, they perform it, because it is in the power of their hand.</p>	<p>What sorrow awaits you who lie awake at night, thinking up evil plans. You rise at dawn and hurry to carry them out, simply because you have the power to do so.</p>	<p>Woe! Plotters of injustice and planners of evil upon their beds. At break of day they carry it out, For it is in the power of their hand</p>

Micah 2:2

ESV	NLT	Literal Hebrew
<p>They covet fields and seize them, and houses, and take them away; they oppress a man and his house, a man and his inheritance.</p>	<p>When you want a piece of land, you find a way to seize it. When you want someone's house, you take it by fraud and violence. You cheat a man of his property, stealing his family's inheritance.</p>	<p>They covet fields and seize them, And they take houses; You exploit a man and his house, A man and his inheritance.</p>

Micah 2:3

ESV	NLT	Literal Hebrew
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.	But this is what the LORD says: “I will reward your evil with evil; you won’t be able to pull your neck out of the noose. You will no longer walk around proudly, for it will be a terrible time.”	Therefore, thus says the LORD: Behold, (I am) planning disaster upon this clan, From which you will not remove your necks And you will not walk proudly For it is a time of disaster.

Micah 2:4

ESV	NLT	Literal Hebrew
<p>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."</p>	<p>In that day your enemies will make fun of you by singing this song of despair about you: "We are finished, completely ruined! God has confiscated our land, taking it from us. He has given our fields to those who betrayed us."</p>	<p>On that day, they will take up against you a mocking song And lament a lamentation; They will say, "We are completely destroyed." The inheritance of my people has changed, How (they) removed what is mine. To the faithless he allots our fields.</p>

Micah 2:5

ESV	NLT	Literal Hebrew
<p>Therefore you will have none to cast the line by lot in the assembly of the LORD.</p>	<p>Others will set your boundaries then, and the LORD's people will have no say in how the land is divided.</p>	<p>Therefore you will not have Anyone to cast the lot In the assembly of the LORD.</p>

Small group discussion

1. Why do you think that this failure of “land” was the first sin that Micah addressed?
2. Do you see any similarities between the land-grabbing of ancient Israel and our current situation in Hong Kong?
3. In his classic *The Two Cities*, Augustine wrote, “Two cities have been formed by two loves; the earthly by the love of self, even to the contempt of God; the heavenly by the love of God, even to the contempt of self.” How does this apply to the Micah text and to our own lives?