

Micah 3:5-12

MAY 11, 2020




Micah 3: three messages

- ❑ First message (3:1-4): to the heads/rulers
- ❑ Second message (3:5-8): to the prophets
- ❑ Third message (3:9-12): to the heads/rulers

Prophet, priest and king



- ▶ Prophets: spoke to people from God
 - ▶ Kings/rulers: reflected to people the reign of God
 - ▶ Priests: mediated between the people and God
- 

Three condemned groups

- ▶ Prophets (3:5-8)
- ▶ Rulers (3:9-12)
- ▶ Priests (3:11b)



The corrupted prophets (3:5-8)





1. Corrupt in their message: leading people away from covenant faithfulness
- 




The corrupted prophets (3:5-8)



1. Corrupt in their *message*: leading people away from covenant faithfulness
 2. Corrupt in their *motives*: preaching to live rather than living to preach
- 




3:5b literally: "...the ones who bite with their teeth and cry 'peace' ..."

- "bite" – imagery of a snake (Satan is the first false prophet)
 - The prophets' profit: with no profits they would not be prophets
- 

The corrupted prophets (3:5-8)



1. Corrupt in their message: leading people away from covenant faithfulness
 2. Corrupt in their motives: preaching to live rather than living to preach
 3. Corrupt in their methods: giving a message when they had none to give
- 


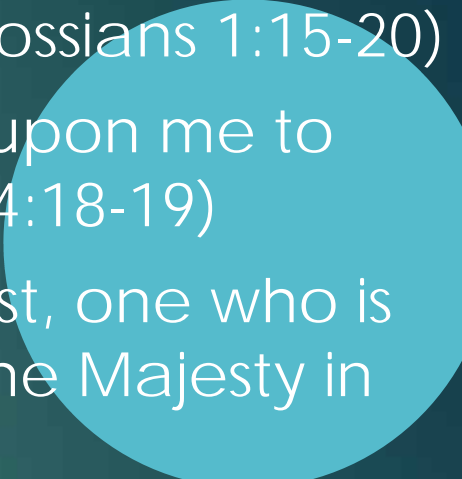
Micah the true prophet (3:8)

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.



Word against the rulers (3:9-12)

- ▶ Continuing from 3:1-4
- ▶ Focused on Jerusalem (house of Jacob, house of Israel, Zion/Jerusalem)
- ▶ “Detest justice” – mishpat
- ▶ Prophets, priests and rulers all complicit
- ▶ Presumption of God’s presence without necessary repentance
- ▶ Judgment (3:12): future?

- 
- 
- ▶ **Jesus the Ruler:** “head over all things” (Colossians 1:15-20)
 - ▶ **Jesus the Prophet:** “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me to proclaim good news to the poor...” (Luke 4:18-19)
 - ▶ **Jesus the Priest:** “we have such a high priest, one who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven...” (Hebrews 8:1)

Micah: horizons of the text

