

OVERVIEW OF BOOK OF MICAH – WHO IS A GOD LIKE YAHWEH?

INTRODUCTION

If you've ever used **Google Maps**, you know how comforting it is to watch that little blue dot move in the right direction. But you also know how quickly things can fall apart when the GPS loses signal or you make a wrong turn. You're driving confidently, thinking you're headed toward your destination... and then suddenly you receive the alert message: "*Recalculating.*"

I once was taking my oldest son to a Capitals game for the first time at the new downtown arena in Chinatown (so this was a long time ago). I printed out the Google map instructions and we took off for the game. It was a dark, rainy night and I was unfamiliar with the area. The directions led us to a dead end in a very dangerous part of the city. Someone had hacked the Google directions and planted false data. We were not happy campers ... plus we missed part of the first period.

That experience mirrors what was happening in **Micah's** day. Israel and Judah believed they were moving in the right direction. They still worshiped. They still offered sacrifices. They still spoke about the Lord. But spiritually, morally, and socially... their internal GPS was broken. They were headed the wrong direction -- toward destruction while insisting everything was fine.

Into this confusion steps **Micah**, a small-town prophet with a big-time message. Micah is like the prophet who arrives with a divine "**Recalculating!**" alert—because **God loves His people too much to let them continue down a road that ends in collapse**. Through Micah, God exposes corruption in high places -- condemning the prophets, priests and rulers who were only interested in personal gain. He calls out injustice in everyday life, and reminds His people that religious rituals mean nothing without righteousness, mercy, and humility.

But Micah doesn't just correct the route—he **reveals a destination**. In the midst of warnings, he gives us some of the most beautiful promises in Scripture:

- A coming **Ruler from Bethlehem**,
- A future **Kingdom of Peace**,
- And a God who is **unlike any other** – Who is Holy, Righteous and Forgiving

So today, as we walk through the book of Micah in this quick overview, think of it as a recalibration of our spiritual compass. Micah teaches us what God values, how He confronts the brokenness of His people, and how astonishing His mercy truly is.

Because long before GPS existed, Micah was showing God's people—and still shows us today—how to get back on the right path.

Overview:

Micah was from Moresheth-Gath, in southwest Judah.



He prophesied [735-710 BC] during the reigns of kings Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah of Judah. He predicted the Assyrian and Babylonian invasions that would cause the fall of both Samaria (capital of the northern kingdom of Israel -- 722 BC) and Jerusalem (capital of the southern kingdom of Judah -- 586 BC). He showed how the sins of idolatry, rebellion against the God of the covenant, corruption and exploitation of the vulnerable would lead to God's inescapable and painful judgment. The form of the oracles delivered by Micah was that of a **lawsuit** where Micah is the prosecutor and the surrounding mountains are the silent judges. The faithless rulers and false prophets in Jerusalem would be judged for perverting justice. Yet God graciously includes the promise of the **birth of the coming Messiah** — a ruler for Israel “*whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting,*” who will come out of Bethlehem. Micah adds the assurance that God will forgive and restore His people as He keeps His covenant promise to Abraham. **Who is a God like Yahweh – Holy, Righteous and Forgiving?**

Big Idea:

PRESENT JUDGMENT / FUTURE DELIVERANCE — **WHO IS A GOD LIKE YAHWEH?**

DESPITE PERVASIVE COVENANT DISLOYALTY (WHICH BRINGS NECESSARY JUDGMENT), YAHWEH STANDS ALONE AS A GOD OF FORGIVENESS AND LOYAL LOVE WHO WILL YET DELIVER HIS PEOPLE AND PROVIDE THE SHEPHERD-KING TO REIGN IN RIGHTEOUSNESS AND PEACE

Key Verse: Micah 7:18

“Who is a God like You, who pardons iniquity and passes over the rebellious act of the remnant of His possession?”

And what does God require of His people? **Micah 6:8**

“He has told you, O man, what is good; And what does the LORD require of you But to do justice, to love kindness, And to walk humbly with your God?”

Structure:

3 ORACLES OF PROMISED JUDGMENT AND FUTURE DELIVERANCE

Each introduced by a call to attention: “*Hear*” – 1:2; 3:1; 6:1

(;1) INTRODUCTION: THE BURDEN OF THE PROPHET

I. (1:2 – 2:13) ORACLE #1 — WHO IS A HOLY GOD LIKE YAHWEH – AWESOME IN JUDGMENT

PROMISED JUDGMENT

FUTURE DELIVERANCE

II. (3:1 – 5:15) ORACLE #2 — WHO IS A RIGHTEOUS GOD LIKE YOU – DEMANDING AND IMPLEMENTING JUSTICE?

III. (6:1 – 7:20) ORACLE #3 — WHO IS A FORGIVING GOD LIKE YOU – COMPASSIONATE IN LOYAL LOVE?

Introduction to the book – 1:1

“The word of the LORD which came to Micah of Moresheth in the days of Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, which he saw concerning Samaria and Jerusalem.”



Historical Setting:

The 2 super powers were Assyria and Egypt – Babylon would rise to power later
Plus you had the coastal Philistine cities constantly posing a threat

- Period of continual chaos – who would be your friend vs your enemy
- What type of alliances should you make

Moral and Spiritual setting – idolatry widespread – even practiced human sacrifice
Priests and prophets out for hire; judges took bribes; rich took advantage of poor
Ritual worship – forms with no reality – like book of James – faith without works is dead

CHAPTER 1 – SIN IS A CRYING SHAME WHO IS A HOLY GOD LIKE YOU -- AWESOME IN JUDGMENT? THE SOVEREIGN LORD JUDGES IDOLATRY

I. (:2) LISTEN WITH COMPLETE ATTENTION TO THE VERBAL JUDGMENT OF THE LORD

A. We Should Listen Because God is the Universal Judge

*“Hear, O peoples, all of you;
Listen, O earth and all it contains,”*

B. We Should Listen Because God is Sovereign and Omniscient

“And let the Lord God be a witness against you,”

His Judgment is Accurate and Certain; there can be no argument; there can be no escape

C. We Should Listen Because God is Holy

“The Lord from His holy temple.”

There is a great gulf between our dwelling place on earth in sin and the habitation of God in His holy temple -- He is the one deserving of all worship and service.
God's Judgment is Just & Righteous -- based on His Holiness

II. (:3-4) LOOK IN COMPLETE AWE AT THE PHYSICAL JUDGMENT OF THE LORD -- Catastrophic Coming Judgment

*“For behold, the Lord is coming forth from His place.
He will come down and tread on the high places of the earth.
The mountains will melt under Him,
And the valleys will be split,
Like wax before the fire,
Like water poured down a steep place.”*

III. (:5-7) LEARN FROM THE JUDGMENT OF THE SOVEREIGN LORD

A. (:5) Learn the Lesson for God’s Judgment

Why does a loving God have to judge and destroy

*“All this is for the rebellion of Jacob
And for the sins of the house of Israel.
What is the rebellion of Jacob?
Is it not Samaria?
What is the high place of Judah?
Is it not Jerusalem?”*

B. (:6-7) Learn the Extent of God’s Judgment

How bad will it be?

1. (:6a) City in Ruins
2. (:6b) Foundations Laid Bare
3. (:7a) Pride Smashed
4. (:7b) Shame Exposed

IV. (:8-16) LAMENT BECAUSE OF THE JUDGMENT OF THE SOVEREIGN LORD --

THE CORRESPONDING SHAME AND CAUSE FOR MOURNING SPREADS ACROSS THE ENTIRE LAND

Main Applications:

Sin always provokes divine judgment; no nation or individual is exempt
Christians are called to mourn over the sin of their communities (**1:8-9**)
The holiness of God demands self-examination and repentance

**CHAPTER 2 – MERCY TRIUMPHS OVER JUDGMENT --
WHO IS A HOLY GOD LIKE YOU – AWESOME IN JUDGMENT?
THE SOVEREIGN GOD JUDGES RIGHTEOUSLY AND WILL ULTIMATELY
BRING RESTORATION AS THE SHEPHERD-KING**

I. (2:1-5) EXPLOITATION BY THE RICH WILL BE JUDGED – TAKING THE LAND AWAY FROM THE LAND GRABBERS

A. (:1-2) Targeting Evil Doers for Judgment

1. (:1) Evil Doers Assume They Are In Control

*“Woe to those who scheme iniquity.
Who work out evil on their beds!
When morning comes, they do it,
For it is in the power of their hands.”*

2. (:2) Evil Doers Rob the Defenseless

*“They covet fields and then seize them,
And houses, and take them away.
They rob a man and his house, A man and his inheritance.”*

B. (:3-5) Turning the Tables on the Land Grabbers

II. (2:6-11) EXPLANATION OF ISRAEL’S REPROACH: UNCLEANNES BRINGS DESTRUCTION

III. (2:12-13) EXPECTATION OF THE REGATHERING OF ISRAEL AND THE REIGN OF THE MESSIAH – THE SHEPHERD-KING

A. (:12) Regathering of Israel

*“I will surely assemble all of you, Jacob,
I will surely gather the remnant of Israel.
I will put them together like sheep in the fold;
Like a flock in the midst of its pasture
They will be noisy with men.”*

B. (:13) Reign of the Messiah – the Shepherd-King

*“The breaker goes up before them;
They break out, pass through the gate and go out by it.
So their king goes on before them,
And the Lord at their head.”*

Main Applications:

God condemns exploitation and greed; especially when the strong take advantage of the weak

True believers must pursue justice and generosity, not personal gain

Yet even in failure, there is hope: *“I will surely gather all of you, O Jacob.” (2:12)*

CHAPTER 3 – DEVASTATION OF JERUSALEM

WHO IS A HOLY GOD LIKE YOU – AWESOME IN JUDGMENT?

THE LORD WILL TURN HIS BACK ON HIS EVIL HOLY CITY WITH ITS EVIL RULERS AND FALSE PROPHETS

I. (:1-4) CONDEMNATION OF EVIL RULERS – THE LORD WILL HIDE HIS FACE AND NOT ANSWER

A. (:1) Paramount Should be Justice

*“And I said, ‘Hear now, heads of Jacob and rulers of the house of Israel.
Is it not for you to know justice?’”*

B. (:2-3) Perverting the Distinction between Good and Evil

*“You who hate good and love evil,
Who tear off their skin from them and their flesh from their bones,
Who eat the flesh of my people, Strip off their skin from them,
Break their bones and chop them up as for the pot and as meat in a kettle.”*

C. (:4) Pleading for the Favor of the Lord but Receiving His Condemnation

*“Then they will cry out to the Lord, But He will not answer them.
Instead, He will hide His face from them at that time
Because they have practiced evil deeds.”*

II. (:5-8) CONDEMNATION OF FALSE PROPHETS – THE LORD WILL DARKEN THEIR VISION AND NOT ANSWER

What distinguishes a faithful prophet of the Lord (who shepherds people according to the truth) from a false prophet (who leads God’s people astray)?

A. (:5) Motivated by Truth Rather Than Personal Gain

B. (:6) Enlightened by the Lord vs. Darkened in Their Vision

C. (:7) Commended by Their Intimacy with God vs. Ashamed of Their Estrangement

D. (:8) Empowered to Proclaim the Unpopular Word of Judgment

1. Preaching in Power

“On the other hand I am filled with power – “

2. Filled with the Spirit

“With the Spirit of the Lord – “

3. Courageously Pleasing the Righteous God Rather Than Capitulating to Sinful Men

*“And with justice and courage
To make known to Jacob his rebellious act, even to Israel his sin.”*

III. (:9-12) JUDGMENT WILL BE EXECUTED UPON JERUSALEM – THE LORD WILL DESTROY JERUSALEM

A. (:9-11) Summary Condemnation

1. (:9A) Pay Attention

*“Now hear this, heads of the house of Jacob
And rulers of the house of Israel”*

The fish stinks from the head down

2. (:9B) Perverters of Justice
*“Who abhor justice
And twist everything that is straight,”*
3. (:10) Exploiters of the Innocent
*“Who build Zion with bloodshed
And Jerusalem with violent injustice.”*
4. (:11A) Money-Driven Leaders
 - a. Dishonest Rulers
“Her leaders pronounce judgment for a bribe”
 - b. Covetous Priests
“Her priests instruct for a price”
 - c. Greedy Prophets
“And her prophets divine for money”
5. (:11B) False Security and False Expectations
 - a. False Security
*“Yet they lean on the Lord saying,
‘Is not the Lord in our midst?’”*
 - b. False Expectations
“Calamity will not come upon us.”

B. (:12) Devastation of Jerusalem
*“Therefore, on account of you
Zion will be plowed as a field,
Jerusalem will become a heap of ruins,
And the mountain of the temple will become high places of a forest.”*

Main Applications:

Leadership – whether political, spiritual, or familial – brings responsibility before God
When leaders abandon righteousness, people suffer
Integrity and justice must define Christian influence, echoing Jesus, the true Shepherd

CHAPTER 4 – ULTIMATE DOMINION OF THE MESSIANIC KINGDOM FROM JERUSALEM

WHO IS A RIGHTEOUS GOD LIKE YOU – IMPLEMENTING JUSTICE? AFTER PULVERIZING HER ENEMIES, JERUSALEM WILL REIGN SUPREME IN THE END TIMES AND ADMINISTER JUSTICE

I. (:1-8) JUSTICE WILL CHARACTERIZE THE DOMINION OF THE MESSIANIC KINGDOM IN THE END TIMES

A. (:1-5) The Solid Foundation of Justice Will Be a Messianic Kingdom Driven By
the Word of God

1. (:1-2) Word of God Proclaimed From Jerusalem
 - a. (:1) Establishment of Supremacy of Jerusalem as a Magnet

*“And it will come about in the last days
That the mountain of the house of the Lord
Will be established as the chief of the mountains.
It will be raised above the hills,
And the peoples will stream to it.”*
 - b. (:2) Eagerness of the Nations to Be Taught the Word of God

*“Many nations will come and say,
‘Come and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord
And to the house of the God of Jacob,
That He may teach us about His ways
And that we may walk in His paths.’
For from Zion will go forth the law,
Even the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.”*
2. (:3a) Justice Administered From Jerusalem

*“And He will judge between many peoples
And render decisions for mighty, distant nations.”*
3. (:3b-4) Peace and Security Enjoyed by All Nations
 - a. (:3b) Abandonment of Any Military Agenda

*“Then they will hammer their swords into plowshares
And their spears into pruning hooks;
Nation will not lift up sword against nation,
And never again will they train for war.”*
 - b. (:4) Assurance of Peace and Security

*“Each of them will sit under his vine and under his fig tree,
With no one to make them afraid,
For the mouth of the Lord of hosts has spoken.”*
4. (:5) People Committed to Following the Lord

*“Though all the peoples walk each in the name of his god,
As for us, we will walk in the name of the Lord our God forever and
ever.”*

B. (:6-7) The Merciful Implementation of Justice Will Provide Security for the Weak and Disadvantaged

C. (:8) The Ultimate Dominion of Justice Will Flow From its Messianic Throne in Jerusalem

*“As for you, tower of the flock, Hill of the daughter of Zion,
To you it will come – Even the former dominion will come,
The kingdom of the daughter of Jerusalem.”*

II. (:9-13) PRESENT SUFFERING PREPARES THE DAUGHTER OF ZION

FOR FUTURE REDEMPTION AND THE PULVERIZING OF HER ENEMIES

Main Applications:

God promises ultimate peace through His Kingdom

Trust in God's redemptive plan even when current circumstances are dark

The believer's hope isn't in politics or human reform, but in Christ's reign

CHAPTER 5 – FOUR PROMISES FULFILLED BY THE COMING MESSIAH DELIVERANCE ACCORDING TO YOUR PROVIDENTIAL TIMETABLE? THE GOD OF PEACE WILL PURIFY HIS PEOPLE, SHEPHERD HIS FLOCK AND EXECUTE VENGEANCE

I. (:1-3) PROMISE OF DELAYED DELIVERANCE THROUGH GOD'S APPOINTED RULER (WHO HAS BEEN ACTIVELY WORKING FROM ETERNITY PAST)

A. (:1) Leadership Crisis in Context of Warfare

B. (:2) Messianic Deliverer Promised

1. Humble, Surprising Origins

*“But as for you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,
Too little to be among the clans of Judah”*

2. Divinely Appointed Ruler

“From you One will go forth from Me to be ruler in Israel”

3. Eternal, Incomprehensible Origins

*“His goings forth are from long ago,
From the days of eternity.”*

C. (:3) Deliverance Delayed Until the Regathering of the Nation Under the Messiah

1. Temporary Suffering – Birth Pangs

*“Therefore He will give them up until the time
When she who is in labor has borne a child.”*

2. Timely Regathering and Deliverance

*“Then the remainder of His brethren
Will return to the sons of Israel.”*

II. (:4-6) PROMISE OF PROTECTION BY THE MAJESTIC REIGN OF THE SHEPHERDING MESSIAH WHO IS OUR PEACE

III. (:7-9) PROMISE OF PERVASIVE VICTORY TO THE REMNANT OF JACOB – BRINGING BLESSING TO THE RIGHTEOUS AND DESTRUCTION TO THE WICKED

A. (:7) Analogy #1 – Refreshing Like the Morning Dew – to the Righteous

B. (:8-9) Analogy #2 – Destructive Like the Predatory Lion – to the Wicked

IV. (:10-15) PROMISE OF **PURIFICATION OF GOD’S RESTORED PEOPLE UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF THE MESSIAH**

Main Applications:

God’s purposes often work through humble beginnings and unlikely people

Trust the sovereignty of God in promises fulfilled in Christ

The Messiah’s reign brings security and peace to all who belong to Him

CHAPTER 6 – COURTROOM DRAMA

WHO IS A GOD TO BE FEARED LIKE YOU – RIGHTEOUS IN JUDGMENT? THE LORD BRINGS INDICTMENT AGAINST HIS PEOPLE FOR UNJUSTIFIED PERSISTENCE IN WICKEDNESS AND EXPLOITATION AND VIOLENCE

I. (:1-5) ISRAEL’S OFFENSE IS PARTICULARLY EGREGIOUS IN LIGHT OF THE LORD’S LOYAL LOVE

Definition of *egregious*: “conspicuously bad”

A. (:1a) Call to Attention

“Hear now what the Lord is saying”

B. (:1b) Offer Your Defense

*“Arise, plead your case before the mountains,
And let the hills hear your voice.”*

C. (:2) Court Room Antagonists – The Lord Bringing Indictment Against Israel

*“Listen, you mountains, to the indictment of the Lord,
And you enduring foundations of the earth,
Because the Lord has a case against His people;
Even with Israel He will dispute.”*

D. (:3) No Excuse of Provocation

*“My people, what have I done to you,
And how have I wearied you? Answer Me.”*

E. (:4-5) Demonstration of Loyal Love

1. (:4a) In Redeeming His People from Egypt
2. (:4b) In Providing Faithful Leaders
3. (:5a) In Consistently Blessing His People
4. (:5b) In Bringing Them Into the Promised Land

5. (:5c) Summary: In All His Righteous Deeds

“In order that you might know the righteous acts of the Lord.”

II. (:6-8) RELIGIOUS RITUAL AND EMPTY SACRIFICE CANNOT COMPENSATE FOR FAILURE TO OBSERVE GOD’S CLEAR REQUIREMENTS

A. (:6-7) Ritual and Sacrifice Cannot Atone for Sin

*“With what shall I come to the Lord And bow myself before the God on high?
Shall I come to Him with burnt offerings, With yearling calves?
Shall I present my firstborn for my rebellious acts,
The fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”*

B. (:8) God’s Clear Requirements

1. Not Hidden but Revealed

“He has told you, O man, what is good;”

2. Not Complicated but Straightforward

“And what does the Lord require of you”

a. Justice in Defending the Helpless (vs. Exploitation)

“But to do justice”

b. Kindness in Word and Deed (vs. Meanness)

“to love kindness”

c. Humility in Serving God (vs. Pride)

“And to walk humbly with your God.”

III. (:9-16) THE LORD’S INDICTMENT SPELLS OUT THE SPECIFIC CRIMES AND CORRESPONDING PUNISHMENTS

A. (:9) Authoritative Voice of the Supreme and Sovereign Judge

*“The voice of the Lord will call to the city –
And it is sound wisdom to fear Your name:
‘Hear, O tribe. Who has appointed its time?’”*

B. (:10-12) Specific Crimes

1. (:10-11) Wickedness Demonstrated in Cheating and Defrauding

*“Is there yet a man in the wicked house,
Along with treasures of wickedness
And a short measure that is cursed?
Can I justify wicked scales
And a bag of deceptive weights?”*

2. (:12) Wickedness Demonstrated in Violence and Deceit

*“For the rich men of the city are full of violence,
Her residents speak lies,
And their tongue is deceitful in their mouth.”*

C. (:13-15) Corresponding Punishments

1. (:13) Physical Suffering
*“So also I will make you sick, striking you down,
Desolating you because of your sins.”*
2. (:14a) Frustration and Emptiness
*“You will eat, but you will not be satisfied,
And your vileness will be in your midst.”*
3. (:14b) Plundering of Inheritance
*“You will try to remove for safekeeping,
But you will not preserve anything,
And what you do preserve I will give to the sword.”*
4. (:15) Suspension of Harvest Law
*“You will sow but you will not reap.
You will tread the olive but will not anoint yourself with oil;
And the grapes, but you will not drink wine.”*

D. (:16) Apostate Society

1. (:16a) Sinful Practices
*“The statutes of Omri
And all the works of the house of Ahab are observed;
And in their devices you walk.”*
2. (:16b) Shameful Judgment
*“Therefore I will give you up for destruction
And your inhabitants for derision,
And you will bear the reproach of My people.”*

Main Applications:

God desires obedience rooted in relationship, not ritual performance
True religion expresses itself in justice, mercy, and humility before God
Repentance restores fellowship with God

CHAPTER 7 – THREE PERSPECTIVES OF THE PROPHET – REALISM COUPLED WITH HOPE

WHO IS A FORGIVING GOD LIKE YOU – COMPASSIONATE IN LOYAL LOVE?

DESPITE THE PRESENT SPIRITUAL BANKRUPTCY, THE PROPHET EXPRESSES CONFIDENCE IN GOD’S FUTURE BESTOWAL OF FORGIVENESS, RESTORATION AND BLESSING

I. (:1-6) PERSPECTIVE #1: THE PROPHET LOOKS AT HIS NATION – BANKRUPT OF GODLINESS

A. (:1-2a) No Godly Person Can Be Found- Endangered Species Has Become Extinct

1. (:1) No Godly Fruit on the Vine

*“Woe is me! For I am like the fruit pickers, like the grape gatherers.
There is not a cluster of grapes to eat,
Or a first-ripe fig which I crave.”*

2. (:2a) Total Extinction of the Godly

*“The godly person has perished from the land,
And there is no upright person among men.”*

B. (:2b-4) Universal Corruption and Exploitation

C. (:5-6) No One Can Be Trusted

1. (:5a) No Loyalty From Friends or Neighbors

*“Do not trust in a neighbor;
Do not have confidence in a friend.”*

2. (:5b-6) No Loyalty From Family

*“From her who lies in your bosom Guard your lips.
For son treats father contemptuously,
Daughter rises up against her mother,
Daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law;
A man’s enemies are the men of his own household.”*

**II. (:7-10) PERSPECTIVE #2 -- THE PROPHET LOOKS AT HIMSELF –
CONFIDENT ANTICIPATION OF DELIVERANCE AND VINDICATION**

A. (:7-8) Confident Expectation of Deliverance

1. (:7) Assured of Coming Deliverance – God is my Salvation

*“But as for me, I will watch expectantly for the Lord;
I will wait for the God of my salvation.
My God will hear me.”*

2. (:8) Assured of Ultimate Victory – the Lord is My Light

*“Do not rejoice over me, O my enemy.
Though I fall I will rise;
Though I dwell in darkness, the Lord is a light for me.”*

B. (:9-10) Confident Expectation of Vindication

**III. (:11-20) PERSPECTIVE #3 -- THE PROPHET LOOKS AT HIS GOD –
HEART OF COMPASSION AND LOYAL LOVE TO BESTOW
FORGIVENESS, RESTORATION AND BLESSING**

A. (:11-13) Messianic Kingdom Expansion and Domination

1. (:11) Kingdom Expansion – The Reign of the Messiah Takes Hold

*“It will be a day for building your walls.
On that day will your boundary be extended.”*

2. (:12) Kingdom Sovereignty – Nations Will Come to Bow Down

*“It will be a day when they will come to you
From Assyria and the cities of Egypt,
From Egypt even to the Euphrates,
Even from sea to sea and mountain to mountain.”*

3. (:13) Kingdom Domination – Resistance Will Mean Destruction

*“And the earth will become desolate because of her inhabitants,
On account of the fruit of their deeds.”*

B. (:14-17) Messianic Shepherding

1. (:14) Challenge to Shepherd – Protect, Prosper, Feed the Flock

*“Shepherd Your people with Your scepter, The flock of Your possession
Which dwells by itself in the woodland, In the midst of a fruitful field.
Let them feed in Bashan and Gilead As in the days of old.”*

2. (:15) Commitment to Shepherd – Impressive Deliverance and Provision

*“As in the days when you came out from the land of Egypt,
I will show you miracles.”*

3. (:16-17) Cringing Response of the Nations – Trembling in the Fear of God

C. (:18-20) WHO IS A GOD LIKE YAHWEH? – Climax of the Book

1. (:18-19) Excelling in Forgiveness and Loyal Love (chiastic structure)

a. (:18a) Excelling in Forgiveness

*“Who is a God like You, who pardons iniquity
And passes over the rebellious act of the remnant of His
possession?”*

b. (:18b) Excelling in Loyal Love

*“He does not retain His anger forever,
Because He delights in unchanging love.”*

c. (:19a) Excelling in Compassion

“He will again have compassion on us;”

d. (:19b) Excelling in Forgiveness

*“He will tread our iniquities under foot.
Yes, You will cast all their sins Into the depths of the sea.”*

2. (:20) Blessing His People with Truth and Unchanging Love

*“You will give truth to Jacob
And unchanging love to Abraham,
Which you swore to our forefathers From the days of old.”*

Main Applications:

Even in judgment, God delights to show mercy

Trust that no sin is beyond His power to forgive

Walk in humble gratitude for God’s covenant love and faithfulness