Scripture Text of the Followers of IESO

The Book of MIKA

## **OUTLINE OF CONTENTS**

Coming Judgment on Isrhael and Judah.

Coming judgment on Isrhael.

Introduction to the prophecy of Mika.

## Chapter 1

1. The word of IEUE that came to Mika the Morasthite in the days of lotham, Ahaz, and Ezekia, kings of Judah, which he saw concerning Samaria and Jerusalem.

IEUE comes to judge Isrhael and Judah.

- 2. Hear, all you people; hearken, O earth, and all that therein is: and let the Master Aleim be witness against you, the Master from His holy temple.
- 3. For, behold, IEUE cometh forth out of his place, and will come down, and tread upon the high places of the earth.
- 4. And the mountains shall be molten under him, and the valleys shall be cleft, as wax before the fire, and as the waters that are poured down a steep place.
- 5. For the transgression of lakob is all this, and for the sins of the house of Isrhael. What is the transgression of lakob? is it not Samaria? and what are the high places of Judah? are they not lerusalem?

Samaria left desolate in judgment.

- 6. Therefore I will make Samaria as an heap of the field, and as plantings of a vineyard: and I will pour down the stones thereof into the valley, and I will discover the foundations thereof.
- 7. And all the graven images thereof shall be beaten to pieces, and all the hires thereof shall be burned with the fire, and all the idols thereof will I lay desolate: for she gathered it of the hire of an harlot, and they shall return to the hire of an harlot.

Coming judgment on Judah.

- 8. Therefore I will wail and howl, I will go stripped and naked: I will make a wailing like the dragons, and mourning as the owls.
- 9. For her wound is incurable; for it is come unto Judah; he is come unto the gate of my people, even to Jerusalem.

The shame of Judah' judgment is evident among the nations.

- 10. Declare you it not at Gath, weep ye not at all: in the house of Aphrah roll thyself in the dust.
- 11. Pass you away, thou inhabitant of Saphir, having thy shame naked: the inhabitant of Zaanan came not forth in the mourning of Bethezel; he shall receive of you his standing.
- 12. For the inhabitant of Maroth waited carefully for good: but evil came down from IEUE unto the gate of Jerusalem.
- 13. O thou inhabitant of Lachish, bind the chariot to the swift beast: she is the beginning of the sin to the daughter of Zion: for the transgressions of Isrhael were found in thee.
- 14. Therefore shall thou give presents to Moreshethgath: the houses of Achzib shall be a lie to the kings of Isrhael.
- 15. Yet will I bring an heir unto thee, O inhabitant of Mareshah: he shall come unto Adullam the glory of Isrhael.
- 16. Make thee bald, and poll thee for thy delicate children; enlarge thy baldness as the eagle; for they are gone into captivity from thee.

Aleim's Sinful People

The sins of covetousness and pride.

Covetousness among Aleim's people.

Chapter 2

- 1. Woe to them that devise iniquity, and work evil upon their beds! when the morning is light, they practise it, because it is in the power of their hand.
- 2. And they covet fields, and take them by violence; and houses, and take them away: so they oppress a man and his house, even a man and his heritage.

Aleim's proud people brought low.

- 3. Therefore thus saith IEUE; Behold, against this family do I devise an evil, from which you shall not remove your necks; neither shall you go haughtily: for this time is evil.
- 4. In that day shall one take up a parable against you, and lament with a doleful lamentation, and say, We be utterly spoiled: he hath changed the portion of my people: how hath he removed it from me! turning away he hath divided our fields.
- 5. Therefore thou shall have none that shall cast a cord by lot in the congregation of IEUE.

Though they sin against His Word, Aleim promises restoration to His people.

Aleim's people reject the word of His prophets.

- 6. Prophesy you not, say they to them that prophesy: they shall not prophesy to them, that they shall not take shame.
- 7. O thou that art named the house of lakob, is the spirit of IEUE straitened? are these His doings? do not My words do good to him that walketh uprightly?
- 8. Even of late My people is risen up as an enemy: you pull off the robe with the garment from them that pass by securely as men averse from war.
- 9. The women of my people have you cast out from their pleasant houses; from their children have you taken away my glory forever.

Aleim's people embrace false prophets.

- 10. Arise you, and depart; for this is not your rest: because it is polluted, it shall destroy you, even with a sore destruction.
- 11. If a man walking in the spirit and falsehood do lie, saying, I will prophesy unto thee of wine and of strong drink; he shall even be the prophet of this people.

A promise of restoration.

- 12. I will surely assemble, O lakob, all of thee; I will surely gather the remnant of Isrhael; I will put them together as the sheep of Bozrah, as the flock in the midst of their fold: they shall make great noise by reason of the multitude of men.
- 13. The breaker is come up before them: they have broken up, and have passed through the gate, and are gone out by it: and their king shall pass before them, and IEUE on the head of them.

Against Princes and Prophets.

Aleim against the princes of His people.

The violence of leaders against Aleim's people.

Chapter 3.

- 1. And I said, Hear, I pray you, O heads of lakob, and you princes of the house of Isrhael; Is it not for you to know judgment?
- 2. Who hate the good, and love the evil; who pluck off their skin from off them, and their flesh from off their bones;
- 3. Who also eat the flesh of my people, and flay their skin from off them; and they break their bones, and chop them in pieces, as for the pot, and as flesh within the caldron.

Aleim's judgment of silence against corrupt leaders.

4. Then shall they cry unto IEUE, but He will not hear them: He will even hide His face from them at that time, as they have behaved themselves ill in their doings.

Aleim against the false prophets to His people.

The sin and promised judgment of false prophets.

- 5. Thus saith IEUE concerning the prophets that make My people err, that bite with their teeth, and cry, Peace; and he that putteth not into their mouths, they even prepare war against Him.
- 6. Therefore night shall be unto you, that you shall not have a vision; and it shall be dark unto you, that you shall not divine; and the sun shall go down over the prophets, and the day shall be dark over them.
- 7. Then shall the seers be ashamed, and the diviners confounded: yea, they shall all cover their lips; for there is no answer of Aleim.

Mika' confidence as a true prophet of Aleim.

8. But truly I am full of power by the spirit of IEUE, and of judgment, and of might, to declare unto lakob his transgression, and to Isrhael his sin.

Unrepentant Jerusalem will share Samaria' fate of destruction.

- 9. Hear this, I pray you, you heads of the house of lakob, and princes of the house of Isrhael, that abhor judgment, and pervert all equity.
- 10. They build up Zion with blood, and Jerusalem with iniquity.

- 11. The heads thereof judge for reward, and the priests thereof teach for hire, and the prophets thereof divine for money: yet will they lean upon IEUE, and say, Is not IEUE among us? none evil can come upon us.
- 12. Therefore shall Zion for your sake be plowed as a field, and Jerusalem shall become heaps, and the mountain of the house as the high places of the forest.

The Ruler Reigns of restored Zion.

The character of restored Zion.

Zion is the centre of a renewed earth.

Chapter 4.

- 1. But in the last days it shall come to pass, that the mountain of the house of IEUE shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it.
- 2. And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of IEUE, and to the house of the Aleim of Iakob; and He will teach us of His ways, and we will walk in His paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of IEUE from Jerusalem.
- 3. And He shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

The blessed people of restored Zion.

- 4. But they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree; and none shall make them afraid: for the mouth of IEUE of hosts hath spoken it.
- 5. For all people will walk everyone in the name of his god, and we will walk in the name of IEUE our Aleim forever and ever.

The gathering of restored Zion.

- 6. In that day, saith IEUE, will I assemble her that halteth, and I will gather her that is driven out, and her that I have afflicted;
- 7. And I will make her that halted a remnant, and her that was cast far off a strong nation: and IEUE shall reign over them in mount Zion from henceforth, even forever.
- 8. And thou, O tower of the flock, the strong hold of the daughter of Zion, unto thee shall it come, even the first dominion; the kingdom shall come to the daughter of Jerusalem.

The birth of restored Zion.

The pain before Zion' restoration.

9. Now why dost thou cry out aloud? is there no king in thee? is thy counsellor perished? for pangs have taken thee as a woman in travail.

10. Be in pain, and labour to bring forth, O daughter of Zion, like a woman in travail: for now shall thou go forth out of the city, and thou shall dwell in the field, and thou shall go even to Babylon; there shall thou be delivered; there IEUE shall redeem thee from the hand of thine enemies.

The strength of restored Zion among the nations.

- 11. Now also many nations are gathered against thee, that say, Let her be defiled, and let our eye look upon Zion.
- 12. But they know not the thoughts of IEUE, neither understand they His counsel: for He shall gather them as the sheaves into the floor.
- 13. Arise and thresh, O daughter of Zion: for I will make thine horn iron, and I will make thy hoofs brass: and thou shall beat in pieces many people: and I will consecrate their gain unto IEUE, and their substance unto the Master of the whole earth.

A Ruler from Bethlehem.

The birth and the work of the Ruler from Bethlehem.

From the lowly and humble in Isrhael comes a Ruler.

Chapter 5.

- 1. Now gather thyself in troops, O daughter of troops: He hath laid siege against us: they shall smite the judge of Isrhael with a rod upon the cheek.
- 2.But thou, Bethlehem Ephratah, though thou be little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of thee shall He come forth unto Me that is to be ruler in Isrhael; whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.

The Ruler serves His flock.

- 3. Therefore will He give them up, until the time that she which travaileth hath brought forth: then the remnant of His brethren shall return unto the children of Isrhael.
- 4. And He shall stand and feed in the strength of IEUE, in the majesty of the name of IEUE His Aleim; and they shall abide: for now shall he be great unto the ends of the earth.

The Ruler delivers lakob from Assyria.

- 5. And this man shall be the peace, when the Assyrian shall come into our land: and when he shall tread in our palaces, then shall we raise against him seven shepherds, and eight principal men.
- 6. And they shall waste the land of Assyria with the sword, and the land of Nimrod in the entrances thereof: thus shall He deliver us from the Assyrian, when he cometh into our land, and when he treadeth within our borders.

The triumph of the remnant of lakob.

The remnant is large and triumphant.

- 7. And the remnant of lakob shall be in the midst of many people as a dew from IEUE, as the showers upon the grass, that tarrieth not for man, nor waiteth for the sons of men.
- 8. And the remnant of lakob shall be among the Nations in the midst of many people as a lion among the beasts of the forest, as a young lion among the flocks of sheep: who, if he go through, both treadeth down, and teareth in pieces, and none can deliver.
- 9. Thine hand shall be lifted up upon thine adversaries, and all thine enemies shall be cut off.

IEUE is exalted among the remnant.

- 10. And it shall come to pass in that day, saith IEUE, that I will cut off thy horses out of the midst of thee, and I will destroy thy chariots:
- 11. And I will cut off the cities of thy land, and throw down all thy strong holds:
- 12. And I will cut off witchcrafts out of thine hand; and thou shall have no more soothsayers:
- 13. Thy graven images also will I cut off, and thy standing images out of the midst of thee; and thou shall no more worship the work of thine hands.
- 14. And I will pluck up thy groves out of the midst of thee: so will I destroy thy cities.
- 15. And I will execute vengeance in anger and fury upon the heathen, such as they have not heard.

In the Court of IEUE.

IEUE' complaint against His people.

In court with IEUE.

Chapter 6.

- 1. Hear you now what IEUE saith; Arise, contend thou before the mountains, and let the hills hear thy voice.
- 2. Hear you, O mountains, IEUE'S controversy, and your strong foundations of the earth: for IEUE hath a controversy with His people, and He will plead with Isrhael.

IEUE' complaint against His people.

- 3. O My people, what have I done unto thee? and wherein have I wearied thee? testify against Me.
- 4. For I brought thee up out of the land of Egypt, and redeemed thee out of the house of servants; and I sent before thee MoUse, Aarhon, and Mirhiam.
- 5. O My people, remember now what Balak king of Moab consulted, and what Balaam the son of Beorh answered him from Shittim unto Gilgal; that you may know the righteousness of IEUE.

The answer of His people: "What can I do?".

- 6. Wherewith shall I come before IEUE, and bow myself before the high Aleim? shall I come before Him with burnt offerings, with calves of a year old?
- 7. Will IEUE be pleased with thousands of rams, or with ten thousands of rivers of oil? shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?

The reply of IEUE: "He has shown you".

8. He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth IEUE require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy Aleim?

The voice of IEUE cries out in the City.

Aleim sees the injustice and deceit of Isrhael.

- 9. IEUE'S voice crieth unto the city, and the man of wisdom shall see thy name: hear you the rod, and who hath appointed it.
- 10. Are there yet the treasures of wickedness in the house of the wicked, and the scant measure that is abominable?

- 11. Shall I count them pure with the wicked balances, and with the bag of deceitful weights?
- 12. For the rich men thereof are full of violence, and the inhabitants thereof have spoken lies, and their tongue is deceitful in their mouth.

Aleim's judgment on greedy and wicked Isrhael.

- 13. Therefore also will I make thee sick in smiting thee, in making thee desolate because of thy sins.
- 14. Thou shall eat, but not be satisfied; and thy casting down shall be in the midst of thee; and thou shall take hold, but shalt not deliver; and that which thou deliverest will I give up to the sword.
- 15. Thou shall sow, but thou shall not reap; thou shall tread the olives, but thou shall not anoint thee with oil; and sweet wine, but shall not drink wine.
- 16. For the statutes of Omri are kept, and all the works of the house of Ahab, and you walk in their counsels; that I should make thee a desolation, and the inhabitants thereof an hissing: therefore you shall bear the reproach of My people.

Isrhael' confession and comfort.

Aleim's people humbly confess their sin.

An honest confession of their sinful state.

## Chapter 7.

- 1. Woe is me! for I am as when they have gathered the summer fruits, as the grape gleanings of the vintage: there is no cluster to eat: my soul desired the firstripe fruit.
- 2. The good man is perished out of the earth: and there is none upright among men: they all lie in wait for blood; they hunt every man his brother with a net.
- 3. That they may do evil with both hands earnestly, the prince asketh, and the judge asketh for a reward; and the great man, he uttereth his mischievous desire: so they wrap it up.
- 4. The best of them is as a brier: the most upright is sharper than a thorn hedge: the day of thy watchmen and thy visitation cometh; now shall be their perplexity.

Crumbling relationships among Aleim's people.

- 5. Trust you not in a friend, put you not confidence in a guide: keep the doors of thy mouth from her that lieth in thy bosom.
- 6. For the son dishonoureth the father, the daughter riseth up against her mother, the daughter in law against her mother in law; a man's enemies are the men of his own house.
- 7. Therefore I will look unto IEUE; I will wait for the Aleim of my salvation: my Aleim will hear me.

The humble state of Aleim's people.

- 8. Rejoice not against Me, O mine enemy: when I fall, I shall arise; when I sit in darkness, IEUE shall be a light unto me.
- 9. I will bear the indignation of IEUE, because I have sinned against Him, until He plead my cause, and execute judgment for me: He will bring me forth to the light, and I shall behold His righteousness.
- 10. Then she that is mine enemy shall see it, and shame shall cover her which said unto me, Where is IEUE thy Aleim? mine eyes shall behold her: now shall she be trodden down as the mire of the streets.

Aleim's comfort and pardon to His people.

The restored city of the people of Aleim.

11. In the day that thy walls are to be built, in that day shall the decree be far removed.

- 12. In that day also he shall come even to thee from Assyria, and from the fortified cities, and from the fortress even to the river, and from sea to sea, and from mountain to mountain.
- 13. Notwithstanding the land shall be desolate because of them that dwell therein, for the fruit of their doings.

Aleim cares for His people as in days of old.

- 14. Feed thy people with thy rod, the flock of thine heritage, which dwell solitarily in the wood, in the midst of Carmel: let them feed in Bashan and Gilead, as in the days of old.
- 15. According to the days of thy coming out of the land of Egypt will I shew unto him marvellous things.

The nations are brought low before restored Isrhael.

- 16. The nations shall see and be confounded at all their might: they shall lay their hand upon their mouth, their ears shall be deaf.
- 17. They shall lick the dust like a serpent, they shall move out of their holes like worms of the earth: they shall be afraid of IEUE our Aleim, and shall fear because of thee.

The glorious mercy and pardon of Aleim.

- 18. Who is a Aleim like unto thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of His heritage? He retaineth not His anger forever, because He delighteth in mercy.
- 19. He will turn again, He will have compassion upon us; He will subdue our iniquities; and thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea.
- 20. Thou wilt perform the truth to lakob, and the mercy to Abrhaam, which thou hast sworn unto our fathers from the days of old.