

## Micah: Life According to God's Purposes

January-May 2013  
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A Church Community with a Heart for the World

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### Locating Micah in the Biblical Drama

1800	Abraham		
1300	Moses		
1000	David	United Kingdom of Israel	
922		Kingdom Divides: Judah in South; Israel in North	
910	Asa	A good king in Jerusalem/south	
885			Omri Moves northern capital to Samaria
874			Elijah, and then Elisha
792	Uzziah	A good king	Hosea, Amos (to c750)
		Isaiah (c740 to c690)	
752		Micah (c750 to c700)	Pekah Evil king of Samaria
750	Jotham	A good, but weak, king	
735	Ahaz	An evil king	
732			Hoshea Evil king of Samaria
723			Samaria falls to the Assyrians
715	Hezekiah	A good king	
597		Jerusalem falls to Babylonians	
586		Jerusalem destroyed	

## Outline of Micah

1:1 Introduction/Superscription

1:2-2:13 "Hear.."

Judgments on Israel & Judah, followed by promise of renewal for Jacob

3:1-5:15 "Hear.."

Three-fold judgments against the then present unjust leaders;

Followed by promises of a new and just leader to restore Zion among the nations

6:1-7:20 "Hear.."

Judgment against God's people followed by promises of a restored covenant

## Introductory Comments

1. The history includes three kings in Judah: Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah; the fall of the northern kingdom, known then as Samaria, in 723BC to the Assyrians; and the fall of Jerusalem to the Babylonians 150 years later. See 2 Kings 15:32-20:21.
2. The prophets Isaiah, Hosea and Jonah overlapped Micah. Micah's impact was remembered more than 100 years later during Jeremiah's time. See Jeremiah 26:18.
3. Because much of Micah's prophecy is recorded in poetry, we will need to pay attention to details of wordplays, metaphors, and similes.
4. Each section begins with indictments complete with evidence and a judgment, followed by promises of God's future redemption and grace.
5. The judgments are spoken against Jerusalem, Judah and Samaria, e.g. the southern and northern kingdoms, and will be executed by Assyrian and Babylon, the enemies of God's kingdom from the East. Yet, God will accomplish his purposes and fulfill his promises.
6. There are three levels of interpretation to be considered: the historical context, the fulfillments in Jesus' incarnation, and the fulfillments to come at Jesus' future return.