

Micah 5-6

The Shepherd King Brings Deliverance and Justice

Introduction: Can you know grace and mercy without justice?

1. God's Rebuke & Chastisement of His people has been harsh – but there are glimmers of hope, grace, and mercy
 - a. **Micah 2:12-13** – The Shepherd King will Rescue!
 - b. **Micah 4:6-8** – The Shepherd King will Gather!
 - c. **Micah 5:2, 4-5a** – The Shepherd King will Come!
2. We do not know what hope, grace, and mercy is without understanding their opposite – Justice
3. God's people experience His grace and mercy when God displays His justice – Justice *highlights* grace and mercy
4. Justice and Grace display the Heights of God's Glory!
5. Grace, Mercy and Justice go hand in hand!

The Main Idea: Our Shepherd King is benevolent and just. He is a great deliverer and He is a great judge. His justice is fair and deserved, and in His redemption He extends grace and mercy to His chosen people. By God's perfect justice, He magnifies His love, grace, and mercy in salvation of His people – and He thereby receives all the glory.

God's Accusation of His People for their Sin (Micah 6:9-12)

1. God creates everything for a purpose, even the wicked (**Proverbs 16:4**)
2. Wickedness was rampant in Judah: Idolatry (**6:9-12**)
 - a. Hardness of Heart & Avarice/Greed
 - b. Violence & Deceit
3. The people had turned their backs on the Lord

God's Adjudicators & Courtroom Setting (Micah 6:1-8)

1. The Jury: *Mountains, Hills, & Foundations of the Earth*
 - a. Point: God selects those things to be a witness that have been around a long time and are stable
2. The Lawsuit: God Enters the Witness Stand
 - a. He provides Evidence for His Mercy and Grace
 - i. Moses & Egypt – Delivered from Slavery
 - ii. Balaam & Balak – Delivered from Destruction
 - iii. Shittim – Delivered from Idolatry
 - iv. Shittim to Gilgal – Joshua into the Promised Land
 - b. Salvation was by God's Mercy and Grace
 - i. Justice is Rightly Deserved
 - ii. Loving Mercy and Grace is Provided
3. The Emptiness/Worthlessness of Mere Outward Religion

- a. Religious Motions: Ritual and Ceremony, Sacrifice without a Heart for God is not Pleasing to God
 - b. God takes Pleasure in His People being Like Him, and being With Him – Just & Kind, Right & Honest
 - c. Be Consciously Christlike: You've been shown Grace through Christ the Lord, therefore show Grace
 - d. Be Consciously With God: Think of His Ways, Think of Him during the Day, Pray to Him without Ceasing
4. God's Definition of True Religion – **Micah 6:8**
 - a. *Hesed* – Hebrew for Covenant Love; Unconditional Grace
 - b. *Mishpat* – Hebrew for God's Justice
 - c. Justice is the action of love for the Lord and one another, motivated by covenantal grace & compassion
 - d. The Gospel of Christ displays both Justice and Grace!
 - e. True Religion is Only Experienced/Fulfilled IN Christ!
 5. The People Denied God's Love and His Law

God Appoints Judgment Upon His People (Micah 6:13-16; 5:5b-9)

1. The Rod of Chastisement Strikes for the Sins of the People
 - a. Hunger, Dissatisfied work, Discontentment, Exile
 - b. The people followed the ways of evil kings, Omri & Ahaz
2. A Just and Loving God deals with Sin!
 - a. No rest in God's Love & Mercy until you realize you deserve God's justice and wrath
 - b. No understanding of Grace and Mercy unless you understand the guilt you bear concerning sin
 - c. God's Justice Magnifies God's Mercy and Grace
 - d. God's Justice Purges; Cleans, Washes, Sanctifies
3. The Sanctifying Power & Grace of Exile – Purify, not Mortify
 - a. The People of God Scattered among the Nations
 - b. The Lord Banished His Remnant, but did not Crush Them
 - c. The Description of the Small Remnant: A Victorious Lion
 - d. The Church of Christ is in Exile, being Sanctified – looks weak, fragile, jars of clay with a powerful Gospel message
 - e. Sanctification is Painful, yet Powerful (**2 Cor 4:7-11**)

Our Shepherd King's Assault Against Our Sin (Micah 5:10-15)

1. God works to Cut Out Everything that Hinders Us from loving Him & walking humbly with Him
 - a. Faith in Him Alone, His Grace Alone is Sufficient
 - b. His Word Alone is Authoritative, His Glory Alone is to be Lifted High; God uproots all the idols of the heart
 - c. We could not do it – Jesus Christ Alone had to die for sins
2. God's Justice demonstrated on Christ displayed the depths of His Mercy toward His Blessed Remnant, Glorifying His Name (**Romans 9:17, 22-24**)