

## Micah

<sup>1</sup> A word of YHWH that has been to Micah the Morashite in the days of Jotham, Ahaz, Hezekiah, kings of Judah, that he has seen concerning Samaria and Jerusalem:

<sup>2</sup> Hear, O peoples, all of them! Attend, O earth, and its fullness, || And Lord YHWH is against you for a witness, || The Lord from His holy temple.

<sup>3</sup> For behold, YHWH is going out from His place, || And He has come down, || And has trodden on high places of earth.

<sup>4</sup> The mountains have been melted under Him, || And the valleys split themselves, || As wax from the presence of fire, || As waters cast down by a slope.

<sup>5</sup> For the transgression of Jacob [is] all this, || And for the sins of the house of Israel. What [is] the transgression of Jacob? Is it not Samaria? And what the high places of Judah? Is it not Jerusalem?

<sup>6</sup> “And I have set Samaria for a heap of the field, || For plantations of a vineyard, || And poured out into a valley her stones, || And her foundations I uncover.

<sup>7</sup> And all her carved images are beaten down, || And all her wages are burned with fire, || And all her idols I make a desolation, || For from the wage of a harlot she gathered, and to the wage of a harlot they return.”

<sup>8</sup> For this I lament and howl, || I go spoiled and naked, || I make a lamentation like dragons, || And a mourning like daughters of an ostrich.

<sup>9</sup> For mortal [are] her wounds, || For it has come to Judah, || It has come to a gate of My people—to Jerusalem.

<sup>10</sup> In Gath do not tell—in Acco do not weep, || In Beth-Aphrah, roll yourself in dust.

<sup>11</sup> Pass over for you, O inhabitant of Shaphir, || Naked one of shame. The inhabitant of Zaanān has not gone out, || The lamentation of Beth-Ezel takes from you its standing.

<sup>12</sup> For the inhabitant of Maroth has stayed for good, || For calamity has come down from YHWH to the gate of Jerusalem.

<sup>13</sup> Bind the chariot to a swift beast, O inhabitant of Lachish, || The beginning of sin [is] she to the daughter of Zion, || For in you have been found the transgressions of Israel.

<sup>14</sup> Therefore you give presents to Moresheth-Gath, || The houses of Achzib become a lying thing to the kings of Israel.

<sup>15</sup> Yet I bring the possessor to you, O inhabitant of Mareshah, || The glory of Israel comes to Adullam.

<sup>16</sup> Make bald and shave, for your delightful sons, || Enlarge your baldness as an eagle, || For they have removed from you!

## 2

<sup>1</sup> Woe [to] those devising iniquity, || And working evil on their beds, || In the morning light they do it, || For their hand is—to God.

<sup>2</sup> And they have desired fields, || And they have taken violently, || And houses, and they have taken away, || And have oppressed a man and his house, || Even a man and his inheritance.

<sup>3</sup> Therefore, thus said YHWH: “Behold, I am devising against this family calamity, || From which you do not remove your necks, || Nor walk loftily, for it [is] a time of evil.

<sup>4</sup> In that day [one] takes up for you an allegory, || And he has wailed a wailing of woe, || He has said, We have been utterly spoiled, || The portion of my people He changes, || How He moves toward me! To the backslider our fields He apportions.

<sup>5</sup> Therefore, you have no caster of a line by lot || In the assembly of YHWH.

<sup>6</sup> You do not prophesy—they prophesy, || They do not prophesy to these, || It does not remove shame.

<sup>7</sup> [Those] named the house of Jacob: Has the Spirit of YHWH been shortened? Are these His doings? Do My words not benefit the people that are walking uprightly?

<sup>8</sup> And recently My people raise up as an enemy, || You strip off the honorable ornament from the outer garment, || From the confident passers by, || You who are turning back from war.

<sup>9</sup> The women of My people you cast out from its delightful house, || From its sucklings you take away My honor for all time.

<sup>10</sup> Rise and go, for this [is] not the rest, || Because of uncleanness it corrupts, || And

corruption is powerful.

<sup>11</sup> If one is going [with] the wind, || And [with] falsehood has lied: I prophesy to you of wine, and of strong drink, || He has been the prophet of this people!

<sup>12</sup> I surely gather you, O Jacob, all of you, || I surely bring together the remnant of Israel, || Together I set it as the flock of Bozrah, || As a drove in the midst of its pasture, || It makes a noise because of man.

<sup>13</sup> The breaker has gone up before them, || They have broken through, || Indeed, they pass through the gate, || Indeed, they go out through it, || And their king passes on before them, || And YHWH at their head!"

### 3

<sup>1</sup> And I say, "Now hear, O heads of Jacob, || And you judges of the house of Israel, || Is it not for you to know the judgment?

<sup>2</sup> You who are hating good, and loving evil, || Taking violently their skin from off them, || And their flesh from off their bones,

<sup>3</sup> And who have eaten the flesh of My people, || And their skin from off them have stripped, || And their bones they have broken, || And they have spread [them] out as in a pot, || And as flesh in the midst of a cauldron."

<sup>4</sup> Then they cry to YHWH, || And He does not answer them, || And hides His face from them at that time, || As they have made evil their doings.

<sup>5</sup> Thus said YHWH concerning the prophets || Who are causing My people to err, || Who

are biting with their teeth, || And have cried  
“Peace,” || And he who does not give to their  
mouth, || They have sanctified against him war:

<sup>6</sup> “Therefore you have a night without vision,  
|| And you have darkness without divination, ||  
And the sun has gone in on the prophets, || And  
the day has been black over them.

<sup>7</sup> And the seers have been ashamed, || And  
the diviners have been confounded, || And all  
of them have covered their lip, || For there is no  
answer, O God.”

<sup>8</sup> And yet I have been full of power by the Spirit  
of YHWH, || And of judgment, and of might, ||  
To declare to Jacob his transgression, || And to  
Israel his sin.

<sup>9</sup> Now hear this, O heads of the house of Jacob,  
|| And you judges of the house of Israel, ||  
Who are making judgment abominable, || And  
pervert all uprightness.

<sup>10</sup> Building up Zion with blood, || And  
Jerusalem with iniquity.

<sup>11</sup> Her heads judge for a bribe, || And her  
priests teach for hire, || And her prophets divine  
for silver, || And on YHWH they lean, saying, ||  
“Is not YHWH in our midst? Evil does not come  
in on us.”

<sup>12</sup> Therefore, for your sake, Zion is plowed  
a field, and Jerusalem is heaps, || And the  
mountain of the house [is] for high places of a  
forest!

## 4

<sup>1</sup> And it has come to pass, || In the latter end of

the days, || The mountain of the house of YHWH  
|| Is established above the top of the mountains,  
|| And it has been lifted up above the hills, ||  
And flowed to it have peoples.

<sup>2</sup> And gone have many nations and said, ||  
“Come and we go up to the mountain of YHWH,  
|| And to the house of the God of Jacob, || And  
He teaches us of His ways, || And we walk in  
His paths,” || For a law goes forth from Zion, ||  
And a word of YHWH from Jerusalem.

<sup>3</sup> And He has judged between many peoples,  
|| And given a decision to mighty nations far off,  
|| They have beaten their swords to plowshares,  
|| And their spears to pruning-hooks, || Nation  
does not lift up sword to nation, || Nor do they  
learn war anymore.

<sup>4</sup> And they have sat each under his vine, || And  
under his fig tree, || And there is none troubling,  
|| For the mouth of YHWH of Hosts has spoken.

<sup>5</sup> For all the peoples walk, || Each in the name  
of its god—and we, || We walk in the Name of  
our God YHWH, || For all time and forever.

<sup>6</sup> “In that day,” a declaration of YHWH, || “I  
gather the halting one, || And the driven away  
one I bring together, || And she whom I have  
afflicted.

<sup>7</sup> And I have set the halting for a remnant,  
|| And the far-off for a mighty nation, || And  
YHWH has reigned over them in Mount Zion, ||  
From now on, and for all time.

<sup>8</sup> And you, O Tower of Eder, || Fort of the  
daughter of Zion, to you it comes, || Indeed, the  
former rule has come in, || The kingdom to the

daughter of Jerusalem.”

<sup>9</sup> Now why do you shout aloud? Is there no king in you? Has your counselor perished, || That pain as of a travailing woman has taken hold of you?

<sup>10</sup> Be pained, and bring forth, O daughter of Zion, || As a travailing woman, || For now you go forth from the city, || And you have dwelt in the field, || And you have gone to Babylon, || There you are delivered, || There YHWH redeems you from the hand of your enemies.

<sup>11</sup> And now, many nations have gathered against you, who are saying: “Let her be defiled, and our eyes look on Zion.”

<sup>12</sup> They have not known the thoughts of YHWH, || Nor have they understood His counsel, || For He has gathered them as a sheaf [into] a threshing-floor.

<sup>13</sup> Arise, and thresh, O daughter of Zion, || For I make your horn iron, || And I make your hooves bronze, || And you have beaten small many peoples, || And I have devoted to YHWH their gain, || And their wealth to the Lord of the whole earth!

## 5

<sup>1</sup> Now gather yourself together, O daughter of troops, || He has laid a siege against us, || They strike [the] judge of Israel on the cheek with a rod.

<sup>2</sup> “And you, Beth-Lehem Ephratah, || Little to be among the chiefs of Judah! From you He comes forth to Me—to be ruler in Israel, || And

His comings forth [are] of old, || From the days of antiquity.”

<sup>3</sup> Therefore He gives them up until the time she who brings forth has brought forth, || And the remnant of His brothers return to the sons of Israel.

<sup>4</sup> And He has stood and delighted in the strength of YHWH, || In the excellence of the Name of His God YHWH, || And they have remained, || For now He is great to the ends of the earth.

<sup>5</sup> And this [One] has been peace. Asshur, when he comes into our land, || And when he treads in our palaces, || We have raised against him seven shepherds, || And eight anointed of man.

<sup>6</sup> And they have afflicted the land of Asshur with the sword, || And the land of Nimrod at its openings, || And He has delivered from Asshur when he comes into our land, || And when he treads in our borders.

<sup>7</sup> And the remnant of Jacob has been in the midst of many peoples, || As dew from YHWH—as showers on the herb, || That does not wait for man, nor stays for the sons of men.

<sup>8</sup> Indeed, the remnant of Jacob has been among nations, || In the midst of many peoples, || As a lion among beasts of a forest, || As a young lion among ranks of a flock, || Which if it has passed through, || Has both trodden down and has torn, || And there is no deliverer.

<sup>9</sup> High is your hand above your adversaries, || And all your enemies are cut off.

<sup>10</sup> “And it has come to pass in that day,” ||



A declaration of YHWH, || “I have cut off your horses from your midst, || And I have destroyed your chariots,

<sup>11</sup> And I have cut off the cities of your land, || And I have thrown down all your fortresses,

<sup>12</sup> And have cut off sorcerers out of your hand, || And observers of clouds—you have none.

<sup>13</sup> And I have cut off your carved images, || And your standing-pillars out of your midst, || And you do not bow yourself anymore || To the work of your hands.

<sup>14</sup> And I have plucked up your Asherim out of your midst, || And I have destroyed your enemies.

<sup>15</sup> And I have done vengeance in anger and in fury, || With the nations who have not listened!”

## 6

<sup>1</sup> Now hear that which YHWH is saying: “Rise—strive with the mountains, || And cause the hills to hear your voice.

<sup>2</sup> Hear, O mountains, the strife of YHWH, || You strong ones—foundations of earth! For a strife [is] to YHWH, with His people, || And with Israel He reasons.

<sup>3</sup> O My people, what have I done to you? And how have I wearied you? Testify against Me.

<sup>4</sup> For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, || And I have ransomed you from the house of servants, || And I send Moses, Aaron, and Miriam before you.

<sup>5</sup> O My people, please remember || What Balak king of Moab counseled, || What Balaam son of

Beor answered him || (From Shittim to Gilgal),  
|| In order to know the righteous acts of YHWH.”

<sup>6</sup> With what do I come before YHWH? Do I bow to God Most High? Do I come before Him with burnt-offerings? With calves—sons of a year?

<sup>7</sup> Is YHWH pleased with thousands of rams? With myriads of streams of oil? Do I give my firstborn [for] my transgression? The fruit of my body [for] the sin of my soul?

<sup>8</sup> He has declared to you, O man, what [is] good; Indeed, what is YHWH requiring of you,  
|| Except—to do judgment, and love kindness,  
|| And to walk lowly with your God?

<sup>9</sup> A voice of YHWH calls to the city, || And wisdom fears Your Name, || “Hear the rod, and Him who appointed it.

<sup>10</sup> Are there yet [in] the house of the wicked || Treasures of wickedness, || And the abhorred meager ephah?

<sup>11</sup> Do I reckon [it] pure with balances of wickedness? And with a bag of deceitful stones?

<sup>12</sup> Whose rich ones have been full of violence,  
|| And its inhabitants have spoken falsehood, ||  
And their tongue [is] deceitful in their mouth.

<sup>13</sup> And I also, I have begun to strike you, || To make desolate, because of your sins.

<sup>14</sup> You eat, and you are not satisfied, || And your pit [is] in your midst, || And you remove, and do not deliver, || And that which you deliver, I give to a sword.

<sup>15</sup> You sow, and you do not reap, || You tread the olive, || And you do not pour out oil, || And new wine—and you do not drink wine.

<sup>16</sup> And the statutes of Omri are kept habitually,  
|| And all the work of the house of Ahab, ||  
And you walk in their counsels, || For My giving  
you for a desolation, || And its inhabitants for  
a hissing, || And you bear the reproach of My  
people!”

## 7

<sup>1</sup> My woe [is] to me, || For I have been as  
gatherings of summer-fruit, || As gleanings of  
harvest, || There is no cluster to eat, || The first-  
ripe fruit has my soul desired.

<sup>2</sup> The kind have perished out of the land, ||  
And upright among men—there are none, || All  
of them lie in wait for blood, || They each hunt  
his brother [with] a net.

<sup>3</sup> On the evil [are] both hands to do [it] well,  
|| The prince is asking—also the judge—for  
repayment, || And the great—he is speaking the  
mischief of his soul, || And they wrap it up.

<sup>4</sup> Their best one [is] as a brier, || The upright  
one—than a thorn-hedge, || The day of your  
watchmen—Your visitation—has come. Now is  
their perplexity.

<sup>5</sup> Do not believe in a friend, || Do not trust in  
a leader, || From her who is lying in your bosom  
keep the openings of your mouth.

<sup>6</sup> For a son is dishonoring a father, || A  
daughter has stood against her mother, || A  
daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law, ||  
The enemies of each [are] the men of his house.

<sup>7</sup> And I—in YHWH I watch, || I wait for the  
God of my salvation, || My God hears me.

<sup>8</sup> You do not rejoice over me, O my enemy, ||  
When I have fallen, I have risen, || When I sit  
in darkness YHWH is a light to me.

<sup>9</sup> I bear the indignation of YHWH, || For I  
have sinned against Him, || Until He pleads my  
cause, || And has executed my judgment, || He  
brings me forth to the light, || I look on His  
righteousness.

<sup>10</sup> And my enemy sees, || And shame covers  
her, || Who says to me, "Where [is] your God  
YHWH?" My eyes look on her, || Now she is for  
a treading-place, || As mire of the out-places.

<sup>11</sup> The day to build your walls! That day—  
removed is the limit.

<sup>12</sup> That day—even to you it comes in, || From  
Asshur and the cities of the fortress, || And from  
the fortress even to the river, || And from sea to  
sea, and mountain to mountain.

<sup>13</sup> And the land has been for a desolation, ||  
Because of its inhabitants, || Because of the fruit  
of their doings.

<sup>14</sup> Rule Your people with Your rod, || The  
flock of Your inheritance, || Dwelling alone [in]  
a forest in the midst of Carmel, || They enjoy  
Bashan and Gilead as in days of old.

<sup>15</sup> "According to the days of your coming forth  
out of the land of Egypt, || I show it wonderful  
things."

<sup>16</sup> Nations see, and they are ashamed of all  
their might, || They lay a hand on the mouth,  
their ears are deaf.

<sup>17</sup> They lick dust as a serpent, as fearful things  
of earth, || They tremble from their enclosures,

|| They are afraid of our God YHWH, || Indeed, they are afraid of You.

<sup>18</sup> Who [is] a God like You? Taking away iniquity, || And passing by the transgression of the remnant of His inheritance, || He has not retained His anger forever, || Because He delights [in] kindness.

<sup>19</sup> He turns back, He pities us, || He subdues our iniquities, || And You cast all their sins into the depths of the sea.

<sup>20</sup> You give truth to Jacob, kindness to Abraham, || That You have sworn to our fathers, from the days of antiquity!

## **Literal Standard Version**

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