

October 11th Sunday 2015

Text: Micah 4: 1-5

Topic: In the Last Days

The end of chapter 3 and the start of chapter 4 are very different. In the last verse of chapter 3, the writer describes very sad, terrible things. In the first verses of chapter 4, there is a wonderful happiness. Every Jewish family wanted to achieve what Micah described in 4:4; a pleasant home with a productive garden in a peaceful land (see 1 Kings 4:25; Isa 36:16). But even more than peace and economic stability was the blessing of knowing the Lord and obeying Him (4:5). This verse doesn't refer to the future, because during the Kingdom Age all the nations will worship Yahweh. It was an affirmation of faith on the part of the true believers, the remnant in the land: "The other nations may now be serving their own gods, which are false gods; but we will walk in the name of Yahweh, the true God, and obey Him alone." Other people get their strength from their religions. They do things 'in the name of their gods'. But we will walk and live in the name of the LORD, our God.' We will continue this walk (this way to live) always, for all time. We do not give attention to other gods. We do not obey them. God has promised a New Jerusalem. The nations must serve the one real God and they must obey him. When that happens, the promise will become true. The one real God is the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. That state of affairs will be permanent. It will continue always, for all time. Will you be part of this promise?

Lesson: The old Jerusalem suffered bad things because of wicked leaders. But there will be a New Jerusalem where Messiah will rule over it. Will you be there?

Prayer: Draw me nearer to yourself oh God and help me to know you better, Amen.

October 12th Monday 2015

Text: Micah 4:6-7

Topic: A Promised Return

'At that time' refers to 'the last days' the day of the Lord which may be today or tomorrow. The LORD declares' means that God has said it and will not change his mind. He has promised that He will gather His people, those that are weak and lame. These weak people who realized their sins and asked for forgiveness are those that will become the remnant. He remembers the people that he caused to scatter into Babylon, some were wounded, while others were killed, but now He has promised to bring them back and will make them into a strong nation. He that caused them to go into exile is responsible to bring them back again. Messiah will rule over them, and Jerusalem will become the glorious capital city for His kingdom. Though some evil people are killing Christians today and burning our Churches and properties, yet remnants will survive and God will make them into a strong nation. Though He allowed them to carry out their evil mission for a reason best known to Him(God), "the day of the Lord" is coming. He will show mercy and compassion to His people and He will gather them back to their fatherland. God may be against us because of our sins, but He is also a loving God, whenever we realize our sins and turn back to Him, He forgives us. Now he is ready to bring back the remnants. Can you make yourself available to be part of these God's people? Though you were weak and lame in spirit, today is your day to stand strong by

the power of the Holy Spirit that enables people to stand strong. Cheer up! God has promised to make you strong.

Lesson: The Ruled will become the Rulers.

Prayer: You deserve our praise, worship and thanksgiving O Lord, for who you are and what you have made us to be.

October 13th Tuesday 2015

Text: Micah 4:8

Topic: A Promised Kingdom

This announcement is attached primarily to vv. 6 and 7. As the remnant of Israel gathered together out of the dispersion will become a strong nation, so shall the reign of the daughter of Zion be also restored. Micah conveyed this promise of the coming kingdom that the nation would be united and the people returned to their land, the whole world will come to Jerusalem to learn of God and His ways. Jerusalem would become the world's most important city, the temple would be rebuilt, and the true worship of Yahweh would be restored (see Ezek 40-48), and that in those days God Himself will rule. Instead of the Gentile nations fighting the Jews, they would "stream" to Jerusalem to worship God and hear His Word. There would be peace among the nations because they would obey God's truth, submit to the Messiah's rule, and destroy their instruments of war. Jesus, the Messiah, is the great Shepherd of the sheep. Nobody can steal the sheep out of his hand (his care) (John 10:28). He promises to be with his people always. He will be with them until time has ended (Matthew 28:20). Therefore, we can look forward to a nation of faithful worshippers of the one only living and true God where righteousness, penitence, godliness, purity, and devotion are obtained.

Lesson: We have a promise of the glories of the spiritual Jerusalem, the gospel-church, which is; the tower of the flock, that one fold in which all the sheep of Christ are protected under one Shepherd.

Prayer: Thank you dear Lord for being there for us.

October 14th Wednesday 2015

Text: Micah 4:9-10

Topic: Promised deliverance

Israel would be rescued and redeemed by the covenant God, who cares for her. The Exile, besides punishing the nation, was used to purge her and to encourage the people to more godly living. Captivity also was necessary because God had said that He would cast them out of the land if they did not obey Him. In a sense the Exile was a test of God's integrity. Had the leaders listened to the Prophet Jeremiah and peacefully surrendered to the Babylonians, they would have saved the city and the temple, but they resisted God's will, and their city and temple were ruined. However, Jeremiah promised that the exile would last only seventy years, and then the remnant could return and rebuild the city and the temple. Only the remnant will remain after enemies defeat Jerusalem's people. God orders them to feel the pain. The pain is like when a woman is having her baby. These pains show to the remnant that they must leave Jerusalem city. They must camp in the open field. They must go to Babylon. The word 'Babylon' also refers to the worst level of spiritual darkness. In other words, it will feel as if God has left his people. But in fact, God still has a plan for them. He will be present with his loyal

remnant, even in Babylon. He will surely be with his Church even during dark hours as we are experiencing today. But God has promised deliverance to his Church no matter how long the 'pains' may be, the loyal remnants will be rescued.

Lesson: God may allow the Church to pass through persecution and suffer many things in the hands of the enemies but his promised remnant will be delivered.

Prayer: God, increase our faith in you through Jesus Christ our Lord.

October 15th Thursday 2015

Text: Micah 4:11-13

Topic: A Promised Conquest

Many nations (vv. 11 a, 13) will unite against Jerusalem to try to conquer it. They will long to defile it by destroying it. But they will be ignorant of God's plans (thoughts) to defeat them. Micah did not say when this would occur. Perhaps it was in Micah's day, for Israel certainly has had many enemies. If v. 11 refers to Micah's time, then verses 12-13 seem to point ahead to a future time when other nations, gathered against Jerusalem, will be defeated. The Daughter of Zion, that is, the people of Jerusalem will thresh those nations, and the LORD will fight on Israel's behalf against them. Though Israel may look weak and defenseless, but the Lord will make their soldiers strong and sharp like threshing instruments to "harvest" the nations. God will give them "horns" (a symbol of power) and "hoofs" so that they will have both power and speed as they attack their enemies. God's plan has continued to become true as time goes on and the Church will continue to prevail against all evils. With God all things are possible.

Lesson: Man in ignorance fights against God's purpose and, in fighting against God's purpose, brings ruin on himself.

Prayer: God, deliver me from a life of hopelessness, in Jesus' name, Amen.

October 16th Friday 2015

Text: Micah 5: 1

Topic: We are soldiers of the Cross

Micah did not identify the ruler of Israel except to say that he would be struck on the cheek with a rod. (To strike someone on the cheek here means to humiliate him.) Some suggest this ruler was Christ, because Christ was struck on the head (Matt 27:30) and face. However, several factors show that the ruler is probably Judah's king Zedekiah. Christ was not smitten by troops of an enemy nation while Jerusalem was besieged. However, Nebuchadnezzar did capture Zedekiah and torture him. Now Micah looks ahead to the Babylonian siege of Jerusalem. So many soldiers are encamped around Jerusalem that Micah calls her "the city [daughter] of troops." When King Zedekiah and his officers see that their situation is hopeless, they try to escape, but the Babylonians catch up with them and capture them. Of course, they humiliate the king by striking him with a rod across his face. Then they kill his sons, put out his eyes, blind him, and take him to Babylon. As Jerusalem was a military city containing a great body of soldiers within her walls, so is the Church on earth, it is military. The life of all true men here is that of a battle; all are soldiers, bound to be valiant for the truth. They are commanded to fight the good fight, to war the good warfare. The warfare is spiritual, righteous, indispensable, and personal. No one can fight the battle by proxy. You have to fight this battle not with Ak 47 but with the spirit of God and surely victory will be ours.

Lesson: Israel finds themselves in this mess because they refused to obey God.

Prayer: Help me Lord never to surrender to the devil.

October 17th Saturday 2015

Text: Micah 5:2

Topic: A Promised King

In this prophecy, Micah reveals a number of important facts about the Messiah. To begin with, He is eternal God, for His "goings out are from old... from days of eternity" Jesus stepped out of eternity into human history, sent by the Father to die for the sins of the world (1 John 4:14). But He is also truly a man, for He is born as a human child. We have here the miracle of the Incarnation (John 1:14). You would think that the very Son of God would come to a great city like Athens or Jerusalem, but He chose to be born in a humble stable (or cave) in Bethlehem. But the day would come when He would be glorified and take His throne in heaven; and one day, He shall return to be Ruler over His people. This King will reign to the ends of the earth and will bring peace to all nations. Today, of course, Christ gives peace to all who will come to Him by faith (Matt 11:28-30; Rom 5:1). He is the God who always will be there. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and for always (Hebrews 13:8). This is to say that the Church has a king who was, who is, and will continue to be on the throne. His kingdom has no boundary and his authority is supreme.

Lesson: Obedience to our King is the way to reach up to the higher mystery of His timeless generation (John 7:17).

Prayer: Lord, thank you for the gift of life.