

Micah 6:8

“It’s Not Complicated”

I. Israel’s sinful condition

- A. 1:1-9 – sin was rampant in the capital cities of Samaria & Jerusalem, to the point Micah felt all hope was lost – v.8-9 (Is. 1:5-6).
- B. 2:1-2, 6-11 – abuse of power & authority; false prophets, rejection of truth & a bent towards lies – Is. 30:8-11.
- C. 3:1-12 –Addressing corrupt leadership & God’s silence as a result sin.
- D. 4:1-5:5 – Israel’s future hope (7:18-19).

II. 6:1-7 – God’s case with Israel.

- A. V. 6-7 – They were bargaining with God; asking what they could do to make things right; to get rid of their sin – 1 Sam. 15:22-23; Hosea 6:6; Eccl. 12:13; John 6:28-29.

III. God’s standard of living

A. V.8a – “*He has shown (**Deut. 10:12**) you, o man, what is good; and what does the LORD require (seek) of you...*”

- 1) *Man doesn’t have trouble identifying or understanding God’s standards, but submitting & surrendering to them – **Deut. 30:11-20**; Is. 53:6.*
- 2) *“**The standard is the standard**” = God’s standards of living are permanent – Phil. 3:12-14; 1 Pet. 1:16.*

B. What did God show them that was good? What did He **require** of them? What was God seeking from His people?

1) Do justly (justice) = what’s right/righteous

- a) Not complicated, but difficult. **Why?**

- i) Our *commitment* to doing what is right is contingent on other people doing right – Rom. 12:18; Matt. 5:43-48.
- ii) Our *definition* of what is right is based on man's standard rather than God's – Prov. 12:15; 14:12; 1 Pet. 1:16.
- iii) Our *nature* is not drawn to what is right – Is. 53:6; Jer. 17:9; Mark 7:21-23; **Rom. 3:20-28; 7:15-19.**

2) Love **mercy** = lovingkindness = strong, steadfast, loyal love.

- a) Everyone loves God's attributes of mercy, love & forgiveness when we sin, but we don't love the concept of giving the same to others when they sin, esp. against us – John 13:34; 15:12; Eph. 4:32; Col. 3:12-13.
- b) *We won't truly love mercy, until we completely understand the love that granted us mercy* – 2 Cor. 5:21; **Eph. 2:1-9.**

3) Walk humbly with God.

- a) Walk = a daily pattern, routine or lifestyle.
 - i) We tend to walk with God during the extreme, tragic or desperate situations in life, but not on a consistent basis.
 - 1) *The testimony of extreme situations is what receives all the attention, but it's the Christian who lives the life of Christ, **every** day, **every** hour, in **every** circumstance that is most inspiring* – Ps. 34:1; **Deut. 5:33; 8:6; 10:12.**
 - 2) *We look for that one, monumental accomplishment in our Christian walk to identify us rather than living out our faith **every** day & being identified with Christ.*
 - ii) Walk; don't run – walking with someone entails staying close to them & walking stride for stride with them. When we run or lag behind we, get lost – **Gen. 6:8-9; 17:1; Deut. 5:33; 8:6; 10:12; Is. 2:5; 30:21; Jer. 7:23;**

Amos 3:3; Rom. 6:4; 13:13; Gal. 5:16; Eph. 4:1; 5:2,8;
Col. 2:6; 1 Thess. 4:1; 1 John 1:6-7; 2:6.

1) ***“Those who walk with God always reach their destination.” – Henry Ford***

b) **Humbly (Heb.) = to humiliate; a sense of insignificance or inferiority; low in rank, importance or status; to destroy the independence, power or will.**

i) Christians convince themselves that walking with God consists of them dictating the pace & the course, but a proper, Biblical walk means submitting to Him & His standards at all times, not just when it's agreeable, comfortable or convenient – Prov. 3:5-7.

c) **With God** – the more in stride we walk with the Father, the more we'll find ourselves out of stride with the world.

i) *“If I walk with the world, I can't walk with God.”* – D.L.Moody

ii) **1 John 1:6-7; Rom. 8:5-8; Matt. 6:24; Gal. 1:10**