1 The word of the LORD that came to Micah of Moresheth in the days of Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, which he saw concerning Samaria and Jerusalem.

2 Hear, you peoples, all of you, listen, O earth, and all that is in it. the sovereign LORD will testify against you, the Lord from his holy temple.

3 Look, the LORD is coming out of his place, and will come down and tread on the high places of the earth.

4 The mountains will melt under him, and the valleys will split open; they will melt like wax before a fire, like waters that are poured down a steep place.

5 All this is a result of the transgression of Jacob, and for the sins of the house of Israel. What is the transgression of Jacob? Is it not Samaria? What is the high place of Judah? Is it not Jerusalem?

6 Therefore I will make Samaria a heap of ruins in the field, a place for planting vineyards. I will pour down her stones into the valley, and I will expose her foundations.

7 All her graven images will be beaten to pieces; all her pagan treasures will be burned with fire, and all her idols I will lay waste. For she gathered them as the hire of a prostitute, and to the prostitute's wages they will return.

8 For this I will lament and wail; I will walk around barefoot and naked; I will howl like the jackals, and a mourn like an owl.

9 For her wounds are incurable; it has come even to Judah. It has reached to the gate of my people, even to Jerusalem.

10 Tell it not in Gath, do not weep at all,
at Beth Leaphrah [House of Dust] roll in the dust.

11 Pass into exile, O inhabitants of Shaphir [beautiful],
in nakedness and shame.
The inhabitants of Zaanan dare not come out of their city;
Beth Ezel wails and will remove its support from you.

12 For the inhabitants of Maroth wait anxiously for good,
because disaster has come down from the LORD
to the gate of Jerusalem.

13 Harness the chariot to the steeds, O inhabitants of Lachish;
you were the first place of sin to the daughter of Zion,
for the transgressions of Israel were found in you.

14 Therefore you will give farewell gifts to Moresheth-gath.
The houses of Achzib [Deception] will be a deceitful thing
to the kings of Israel.

15 I will again bring to you, O inhabitants of Mareshah,
a conqueror who will possess you;
the glory of Israel will flee to Adullam.

16 Shave your heads bald,
and cut off your hair for the children of your delight;
enlarge your baldness as the eagle,
for they are taken from you into exile.
DASV: Micah 2

1 Woe to those who devise iniquity, who plot evil on their beds. When the morning dawns, they do it, because it is in the power of their hand.

2 They covet fields, then seize them, and houses, and take them. They cheat a person out of his house, even taking a person's family inheritance.

3 Therefore this is what the LORD says: "Look, I am planning a disaster against this family, from which you will not be able to remove your necks. You will no longer walk in arrogance, for it will be a time of trouble.

4 In that day they will take up a taunt against you, and lament with a mournful lamentation, saying, 'We are utterly ruined! He changes the portion of my people. How does he remove it from me! He allots our fields to traitors.'"

5 Therefore you will have no one to mark out the boundaries by lot in the assembly of the LORD.

6 "Do not preach," they preach. "They should not prophesy about such things; disgrace will not overtake us."

7 Should it be said, O house of Jacob, "Is the Spirit of the LORD exhausted? Are these his doings?"

"Do not my words benefit him who walks uprightly? But recently my people rise up like an enemy; strip the robe off those who peacefully pass by, like those returning from war. You evict the women of my people from their pleasant houses; from their young children you take away my glory forever. Get up, and leave; for this is not your resting place, because of uncleanness that destroys, with a terrible destruction. If a person were walking around uttering blustery lies, saying,
'I will prophesy to you of wine and of strong drink,' he will be the perfect prophet for this people.

12 I will surely gather all of you, O Jacob; I will surely gather the remnant of Israel; I will put them together as the sheep in the midst of a pasture; it will be noisy because there will be so many people.

13 The leader who breaks out will go up before them, they will break out and pass on through the gate, and leave. Their king will pass on before them, and the LORD will be at their head."
Then I said,
"Listen, you heads of Jacob,
and rulers of the house of Israel,
is it not your duty to know justice?

But you hate the good,
and love evil;
you who tear the skin off my people,
and their flesh from off their bones;
who also eat the flesh of my people,
flay their skin off of them,
break their bones
and chop them into pieces,
like flesh for the pot,
and meat for the kettle.

Then they will cry to the LORD,
but he will not answer them;
he will hide his face from them at that time
because of the evil they have done.

This is what the LORD says:
"The prophets who lead my people astray,
who cry 'Peace' whenever someone feeds their teeth,
if someone does not feed their mouths,
they declare war against him.

Therefore night will fall on you,
but you will have no vision;
it will be dark for you,
with no revelations;
the sun will go down on the prophets,
and the day will be black over them.

The seers will be disgraced
and the diviners shamed;
they will all cover their lips
for there will be no answer from God."

But as for me, I am filled with power,
with the Spirit of the LORD,
with justice and strength,
to declare to Jacob his rebellion,
and to Israel his sin.

Hear this, you heads of the house of Jacob,
and rulers of the house of Israel,
who abhor justice,
and pervert everything that is straight.

10 They build up Zion with blood,
and Jerusalem with injustice.

11 Her leaders judge for a bribe;
her priests teach for hire,
and her prophets divine for money.
Yet they lean on the LORD, and say,
"Is not the LORD among us?
No disaster will come on us."

12 Therefore, because of you, Zion will be plowed like a field;
Jerusalem will become a heap of ruins,
and the Temple Mount like a hill overgrown with brush.
But in the last days the mountain of the LORD's house will be established as the chief of the mountains, and it will be lifted above the hills, and peoples will flow to it.

Many nations will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, and to the house of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways, and we will walk in his paths." For the law will go forth out of Zion, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

He will judge between many peoples, and will settle disputes of strong nations far away. They will beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not lift up sword against nation, nor will they learn war anymore.

But each person will sit under his own vine and under his fig tree, and no one will make them afraid, for the mouth of LORD of hosts has promised it.

For all the peoples walk everyone in the name of their god; but we will walk in the name of the LORD our God forever and ever.

"In that day," says the LORD, "I will assemble those who are lame, and I will gather those who were driven away, those whom I afflicted.

I will make the lame a remnant, and those who were cast off a strong nation. The LORD will reign over them in Mount Zion from now and forever."

As for you, O guard tower of the flock, the hill of the daughter of Zion, to you it will come, the former dominion will come, the kingdom of the daughter of Jerusalem.

Now why do you cry out so loud? Is there no king among you? Is your sage ruler perished? Is that why pangs have taken hold of you
like a woman in labor?

10 Writhe in pain and groan, O daughter of Zion,
    like a woman in labor;
    for now you must leave the city,
    and live in the open field,
    and will go to Babylon.

There you will be rescued;
    there the LORD will redeem you
    from the hand of your enemies.

11 Now many nations are assembled against you.
    They say, "Let her be defiled,
    and let our eye gloat over Zion."

12 But they do not know the thoughts of the LORD,
    nor do they understand his plan;
    for he has gathered them as the sheaves to the threshing floor.

13 "Arise and thresh, O daughter of Zion;
    for I will make your horns iron,
    and I will make your hooves bronze.
    So you will beat into pieces many peoples."

    You will devote their stolen gain to the LORD,
    and their wealth to the Lord of the whole earth.
DASV: Micah 5

1 Now muster your troops, O daughter of troops; they have laid a siege against us; they will strike the ruler of Israel with a rod on the cheek.

2 But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are little among the clans of Judah, out of you will come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days.

3 So he will give them up, until the time she who is in labor has given birth. Then the rest of his brothers will return to the children of Israel.

4 He will stand and will feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they will be secure, for at that time he will be great to the ends of the earth.

5 And this one will be our peace.

If the Assyrians should come into our land and attempt to tread down our fortresses, then we will marshal seven shepherds against him, yes, eight commanders.

6 They will rule the land of Assyria with the sword, and the land of Nimrod with a drawn sword. He will deliver us from the Assyrians, when he comes into our land, and when he tramples within our border.

7 Then the remnant of Jacob will be in the midst of many peoples like dew from the LORD, like showers on the grass, which no one can hold back, or delay until humans are ready.

8 The remnant of Jacob will be among the nations, in the midst of many peoples, like a lion among the animals of the forest, like a young lion among the flocks of sheep, who as it goes through, pounces and rips in pieces, and there is no one to rescue.

9 Let your hand be lifted up against your adversaries,
and let all your enemies be cut off.

10 "In that day," says the LORD,
    "I will cut off your horses from your midst,
    and will destroy your chariots.
11 I will cut off the cities of your land,
    and will throw down all your strongholds.
12 I will cut off sorcery from your hand,
    and there will be no more fortune-tellers.
13 I will cut off your carved idols
    and your sacred pillars from your midst;
    you will no longer worship the work of your hands.
14 I will uproot your Asherah poles from your midst;
    I will destroy your cities.
15 I will execute vengeance in anger and wrath
    upon the nations that have disobeyed."
DASV: Micah 6

1 Listen to what the LORD says:
   "Get up, plead your case before the mountains,
   and let the hills hear your voice.

2 Hear, O mountains, the LORD's indictment,
   and you enduring foundations of the earth.
   For the LORD has a controversy with his people,
   and he will bring a charge against Israel.

3 O my people, what have I done to you?
   How have I wearied you?
   Answer me.

4 For I brought you up out of the land of Egypt,
   redeemed you out of the house of bondage;
   I sent Moses, Aaron, and Miriam before you.

5 O my people, remember now what Balak king of Moab plotted,
   and what Balaam the son of Beor answered him.
   Remember what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,
   that you may know the righteous acts of the LORD.''

6 With what shall I come before the LORD,
   and bow myself before God on high?
   Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,
   with year-old calves?

7 Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,
   or with ten thousand rivers of olive oil?
   Shall I give him my firstborn for my transgression,
   the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?

8 He has showed you, O man, what is good.
   What does the LORD require of you?
   To do justice,
   to love faithfulness,
   and to walk humbly with your God.

9 The voice of the LORD cries to the city.
   It is wisdom to fear your name:
   "Listen, to the rod and the one who has appointed it.

10 Can I overlook the treasures of wickedness
    in the house of the wicked,
    and the dishonest weights used in trading is accursed?

11 Can I acquit the person with rigged scales,
    and with a bag of dishonest weights?
12 For the rich of your city are full of violence,
and its inhabitants tell lies,
and their tongues speak deceit from their mouths.
13 Therefore I will strike you with a serious wound;
I will make you desolate because of your sins.
14 You will eat, but not be satisfied;
hunger will be in your midst.
What you store away, will not be saved;
what you do manage to save,
I will give over to the sword.
15 You will sow,
but not reap;
you will tread the olives,
but not anoint yourself with olive oil;
you will tread grapes,
but not drink the wine.
16 For you keep the statutes of King Omri,
and follow all the practices of the house of Ahab,
and you walk according to their principles.
Therefore I will make you an utter ruin,
and your inhabitants an object of mockery,
and the nations will ridicule you."
Woe is me!
For I am as one after the summer fruit has been gathered,
after the grapes have been harvested;
when there is no cluster left to eat,
no early fig that I crave.

The faithful have perished from the land,
and there is no one upright left.
They all set an ambush for bloodshed;
every one hunts his brother with a net.

Their hands are skilled at doing evil;
the officials and judge ask for a bribe.
The prominent ones make their demands,
thus they weave their plots together.

The best of them is like a brier;
the most upright is worse than a hedge of thorns.
The day of your watchmen, even your punishment, is come;
now their confusion has arrived.

Do not trust a neighbor;
do not put confidence in a friend.
Guard the doors of your mouth
even from her who lies in your arms.

For the son disrespects his father,
the daughter rises up against her mother,
the daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law,
one's enemies are the members of their own household.

But as for me, I will look to the LORD;
I will wait for the God of my salvation.
My God will hear me.

Do not gloat over me, O my enemy.
When I fall,
I will arise;
when I sit in darkness,
the LORD will be my light.

I must bear the LORD's anger,
because I have sinned against him,
until he pleads my cause,
and executes judgment for me.
He will bring me out into the light,
and I will see his righteousness.

Then my enemy will see it,
and shame will cover her who said to me,
"Where is the LORD your God?"
    My eyes will see her demise.
    Now she will be trampled like mud in the streets.

11 It's a day for building your walls!
    In that day your boundary will be expanded.

12 In that day people will come to you
    from Assyria and the cities of Egypt,
    and from Egypt even to the Euphrates River,
    and from sea to sea,
    and from mountain to mountain.

13 Yet the land will be desolate because of its inhabitants,
    because of the fruit of their deeds.

14 Feed your people with your rod,
    the flock of your inheritance,
    which live alone in the forest
    in the midst of Mount Carmel.
    Let them feed in Bashan and Gilead,
    as in the days of old.

15 "As in the days when you came out of the land of Egypt,
    I will show them marvelous things."

16 The nations will see and be ashamed of all their might;
    they will lay their hand over their mouths;
    their ears will be deaf.

17 They will lick the dust like a serpent,
    like things that crawl on the ground.
    They will come trembling out of their fortresses;
    they will come with fear to the LORD our God,
    and will be afraid of you.

18 Who is a God like you, that pardons iniquity,
    and passes over the transgression
    of the remnant of his possession?
    He does not remain angry forever,
    because he delights in loyal love.

19 He will again have compassion upon us;
    he will tread our iniquities under foot.
    You will cast all their sins into the depths of the sea.

20 You will show faithfulness to Jacob,
    and loyal love to Abraham,
    which you have sworn to our fathers from the days of old.