



Series: The Minor Prophets

Lesson: 28. Micah, pt. 3 – The Weight of Leadership

Passage: Micah 3

- **Bad _____ Leadership (vv1-4)**
 - The leaders should 'know _____.'
 - *Mishpat* –
 - This was the primary responsibility of the leaders of the people.

*Deut. 16:18 – You shall appoint for yourself judges and officers in all your towns which the Lord your God is giving you, according to your tribes, and they shall judge the people with righteous **judgment**.*

*Amos 5:15 – Hate evil, love good,
And establish **justice** in the gate!
Perhaps the Lord God of hosts
May be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.*

- Instead of that, they 'hated good and loved evil.'
 - This is the opposite of what God commanded above.
 - This showed that they did not _____ God.

Prov. 8:13a – The fear of the Lord is to hate evil;

- This showed that they did not really _____ God or His people.

Rom. 12:9 ('wooden') – *Unhypocritical love: abhorring evil, clinging to good*

- Micah compares the harm they do as bad leaders to cannibalism!
- Because they did not listen to God or His people, He will not listen to them when their judgment comes.

THE MESSAGE: Bad political leadership uses and abuses its people, but good political leadership is concerned with establishing and upholding justice.

- **Bad _____ Leadership (vv5–8)**
 - These 'prophets' do not have messages from God, just messages to comfort or condemn based on whether or not they get _____.
 - Because they are 'blinding' the people, they will be 'blinded' from any real spiritual insight.
 - Micah, however, is filled with the _____.

THE MESSAGE: Bad religious leadership manipulates faith for personal gain, but good religious leadership proclaims God's Word no matter what.

- **The Consequence of _____ Leadership (vv9–12)**

- He returns to the main problem: no concern for _____.
- Political leaders, priests, and prophets all are accepting _____.

*Deut. 16:19 – You shall not distort **justice**; you shall not be partial, and you shall not take a bribe, for a bribe blinds the eyes of the wise and perverts the words of the righteous.*

- Micah describes the problem this way to point to the leadership model so important in God's people.

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- If PPK were all corrupt, there was no hope for the people.
- This model points to the need for ultimate fulfilment in the

_____.

- Today, we see delegated versions of them appointed by God:
 - Pastors (and those gifted to teach the Word)—Eph. 4:11–12; 2 Tim. 3:16–4:2
 - All believers (through prayer mediated by Christ)—1 Pet. 2:9
 - Human government (established by God)—Rom. 13:1
- What happens when the Messiah—the perfect PPK—is established on earth?

Isaiah 42:1–4 – Behold, My Servant, whom I uphold;

My chosen one in whom My soul delights.

I have put My Spirit upon Him;

*He will bring forth **justice** to the nations.*

²He will not cry out or raise His voice,

Nor make His voice heard in the street.

³A bruised reed He will not break

And a dimly burning wick He will not extinguish;

He will faithfully bring forth justice.

⁴He will not be disheartened or crushed

*Until He has established **justice** in the earth;*

And the coastlands will wait expectantly for His law.

- The breakdown of leadership spelled doom for the people (even if they claimed to worship God), BUT GOD used this message to get people's attention and hold off judgment.

Jer. 26:16–19 – Then the officials and all the people said to the priests and to the prophets, “No death sentence for this man! For he has spoken to us in the name of the Lord our God.” ¹⁷*Then some of the elders of the land rose up and spoke to all the assembly of the people, saying,* ¹⁸*“Micah of Moresheth prophesied in the days of Hezekiah king of Judah; and he spoke to all the people of Judah, saying, ‘Thus the Lord of hosts has said, “Zion will be plowed as a field, And Jerusalem will become ruins, And the mountain of the house as the high places of a forest.”’* ¹⁹*Did Hezekiah king of Judah and all Judah put him to death? Did he not fear the Lord and entreat the favor of the Lord, and the Lord changed His mind about the misfortune which He had pronounced against them? But we are committing a great evil against ourselves.”*

THE MESSAGE: Corrupt leadership destroys justice in the land and causes the breakdown of society, but good leadership can reform an entire nation.

What Do We Do with This Text?

1. We need to balance the _____ of leadership God gives us with our ultimate need for _____ leadership.

Matt. 20:25–28 – But Jesus called them to Himself and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them. ²⁶It is not this way among you, but whoever wishes to become great among you shall be your servant, ²⁷and whoever wishes to be first among you shall be your slave; ²⁸just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”

1 Pet. 5:2–3 – shepherd the flock of God among you, exercising oversight not under compulsion, but voluntarily, according to the will of God; and not for sordid gain, but with eagerness; ³nor yet as lording it over those allotted to your charge, but proving to be examples to the flock.

Blanks: Political, justice, fear, love, Religious, paid, Holy Spirit, Corrupt, justice, bribes, Messiah, weight, Christ’s