

What God Requires
Micah 6:1-8
July 18, 2021

Micah 1:1–2 (NASB95)

1 The word of the Lord which 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, O peoples, all of you; Listen, O earth and all it contains, And let the Lord God be a witness against you, The Lord from His holy temple.

Psalms 89:14 (NASB95)

14 Righteousness and justice are the foundation of Your throne; Lovingkindness and truth go before You.

Greed and exploitation of the poor (Micah 2:2)

Corrupt leaders (3:2, 3)

Dishonesty, lies, and violence (Micah 6:10-12)

Idolatry (5:13; 6:16)

Micah 6:1–2 (NASB95)

1 Hear now what the Lord is saying, “Arise, plead your case before the mountains, And let the hills hear your voice. 2 “Listen, you mountains, to the indictment of the Lord, And you enduring foundations of the earth, Because the Lord has a case against His people; Even with Israel He will dispute.

Micah 6:3–5 (NASB95)

3 “My people, what have I done to you, And how have I wearied you? Answer Me. 4 “Indeed, I brought you up from the land of Egypt And ransomed you from the house of slavery, And I sent before you Moses, Aaron and Miriam. 5 “My people, remember now What Balak king of Moab counseled And what Balaam son of Beor answered him, And from Shittim to Gilgal, So that you might know the righteous acts of the Lord.”

Micah 6:6–7 (NASB95)

6 With what shall I come to the Lord And bow myself before the God on high? Shall I come to Him with burnt offerings, With yearling calves? 7 Does the Lord take delight in thousands of rams, In ten thousand rivers of oil? Shall I present my firstborn for my rebellious acts, The fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?

Micah 6:8 (NKJV)

8 He has shown you, O man, what is good; And what does the Lord require of you But to do justly, To love mercy, And to walk humbly with your God.

Apart from God, justice often operates out of envy, anger, and vengeance. And this envy, anger, and vengeance is almost always accompanied by a self-justifying kind of pride.

Likewise, Apart from God, mercy often turns into a sentimentalism in which love is emptied of all moral content. This is often accompanied by a self-justifying pride in not being “judgmental.”

Romans 3:21–23 (NASB95)

21 But now apart from the Law the righteousness of God has been manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, 22 even the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe; for there is no distinction; 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God . . .

This is how we know the modern social justice movement is off the rails . . .

“If a view of justice treats individuals as exemplars or ciphers of their identity groups, attributing goodness or guilt on the basis of skin tone, gender, or social status, then it is not true justice. A Christian worldview assesses everyone as guilty based on our group identity ‘in Adam.’ This guilt can be erased only by finding our new and deepest group identity in Jesus, ‘the second Adam.’ Rather than condemning people for ethnic or gender group identity, ‘there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus’ (Rom. 8:1).”

Where can justice and mercy be found?

Justice and mercy can only meet at the cross of Jesus Christ.

2 Corinthians 5:21 (NASB95)

Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

Psalm 85:10 (NLT)

10 Unfailing love and truth have met together. Righteousness and peace have kissed!