



SERIES: MAY- JULY: THE MAIN THING

SPEAKER: JACOB WIRKA

Wednesday, 6/8/22

Scripture: Micah

TITLE: Micah - Answer Key to Life

Wouldn't it be nice to have the answer key? Both as a student and as a teacher I know that a lot of times we just want to know what we need to do to get a good grade or even just a pass. Just tell me what to do and I'll do it. Well in the book of Micah we see many things, but one of the most important is that in this book, God tells us exactly what he's looking for, God tells us exactly what He requires of us. It's almost like in the book of Micah God is giving us the answer key.

The key themes found in the Book of Micah are judgment and mercy. This book was written somewhere between 740 and 687 B.C. It's written by the prophet Micah himself and his main audience is the nation of Israel and Samaria. Micah, like many prophets in the Old Testament, is calling out the people for their blatant disregard for God's commands. He's calling them out on their sins.

At this time in their history, the leaders of the people and the other prophets have become very corrupt. They were known for spreading all sorts of injustice and greed, especially the mistreatment of the poor and the worship of idols. Pride and arrogance were rampant among God's people, and He had had enough. So through the prophet Micah, God tells the people that judgment is coming.

God tells them that the nations of Assyria and Babylon will come and overthrow them and take them into exile. But even through these harsh prophecies of judgment God also gives hope. Micah speaks of a Savior who will come and be a shepherd to His people and provide for them and protect them. Micah also gives us specific details about the Messiah and that He would be born in Bethlehem. So even in Micah, we know Jesus is coming to bring hope.

So what we can learn from this book is that although God is a God of justice and will bring punishment, he will also remain merciful and faithful to his promises. God promised long ago that He would send a Savior and that through His people He would bring a blessing to all nations. And even though they had sinned against Him, and even though He would bring judgment, He would still fulfill these promises.

Through Micah, God tells these sinful people what He's wanted for them all along, God gives us the answer key. In Micah 6:8 (ESV) we read: **“He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?”**

This is why we were created as human beings! This is all God has ever wanted from us. To be, and bring about, justice and fairness in this world. To show love and kindness to all. To be humble and walk in relationship with the God who made us. If we would do these things, we bring glory to the God who made us.

So here are the key takeaways I hope we see through the book of Micah. God is a God of justice and will bring judgment for our wrongdoing. But even when we mess up and sin, we still can't undo the promises of God, he promised to send a savior and no amount of the Israelite's sin was going to change that.

He's given us hope in Jesus and he's given us a way to be the people He created us to be. Through Jesus, we can meet the requirements of God, He can change our hearts and we can be people of justice and love and kindness. Through Jesus' life death, and resurrection we can be people who humbly walk with our God for all eternity. And that's what I hope we see through the Book of Micah. And when we share that hope, we win the day!