

# MICAH

## FROM JUDGMENT RISES HOPE



### The Urgency of Hope

Micah 4:9-5:15

#### Main Idea

God sovereignly determines all events and graciously delivers his people, so true, lasting hope is only found in God

#### Overview

- **God is Sovereign, so Don't Hope in Your Circumstances**
  - The judgment Micah warned about in chapter 3 is now upon the people, and the torment is seemingly unbearable
  - They people start to cry out for an earthly king, but Micah reminds them they have a heavenly king who will rescue and redeem
  - God is control during defeats (vv. 9-10) and through victory (vv. 11-13)
  - Micah is telling his people, be realistic about your circumstances, but don't hope in them
  
- **Hope in the Certain Promises of God**
  - God Promises a Shepherd-King Who Brings Peace
    - Though the early king will be defeated God will raise up another King
      - This king is from Bethlehem
      - This king is eternal, yet born of a woman
      - This king shepherds his people
    - This King is Jesus who not only has a kingdom of peace but *is* his people's peace (cf. Col. 1:20; Lk 2:14)
  - God promises to destroy false hope and all those who trust in them
    - God will destroy the false hope of self-reliance (v. 10)
    - God will destroy the false hope of worldly success (v. 11)
    - God will destroy the false hope of idolatry (vv. 12-14)
    - God will destroy all those who trust in false hopes (v. 15)

#### Questions

1. What does the fact that God allows his people to be conquered by the Babylonians tell us about the severity of sin?
2. How do we see from the text that God is in control of all events?
3. How do we see from the text that God's sovereignty over events does not negate man's responsibility in those events?
4. Why does hoping in circumstances bring despair? What are some specific Scripture verses you can call to mind when you find yourself hoping in circumstances?
5. In 5:2 what's significant about the ruler coming from Bethlehem?

6. What's significant about the ruler being "of old, from ancient days?"
7. How does this prophecy point to the truthfulness of Scripture?
8. What does it mean this ruler *is* his people's peace?
9. How do verses 10-15 address the false hopes of our day?