

### 3. Micah 3:1-12

Prayer: Heavenly Father, You give leaders to do right, protect people, and lead people to You. Help us always pray for our leaders and encourage them to do right, then our churches and nation can live and please You. We pray in Jesus' name, amen.

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Micah 3:1-4. The leaders destroy the people.

- Verse 1 says the leaders of Jacob (Judah) and Israel should know justice. That is a word that means they use laws in a right and fair way. What happens if leaders aren't just, aren't fair, if they favor some people more than others?
- Verses 2-3 describe how bad it is for people when leaders are not fair and take advantage of people. Why would leaders do this to their own people?
- When the leaders oppressed the people, they ignored the people's cries for mercy. When God punishes, will He listen to the leaders crying for mercy?

Micah 3:5-8. The prophets destroy the people.

- Remember that a prophet is a "mouthpiece of God," a person who announces God's word for Him. Were those prophets announcing the truth?
- Why were they speaking? What was the only thing the prophets cared about?
- Will God speak through those kinds of prophets? What does this say about "prophets" today who don't speak the truth?
- How is Micah different from those prophets (vs. 8)? Give two big differences.

Micah 3:9-12. God will destroy Jerusalem.

- What are the words the leaders, priests, and prophets say (verse 11)?
- What do the leaders, priests, and prophets do (verses 9-11). Do they act like God is with them?
- Zion is another name for Jerusalem. Who is responsible for Jerusalem getting destroyed?