

1. All the sins of Judah mentioned in chapter 2 verses 1-11 violate stipulations in the Mosaic Covenant. Therefore - the destruction coming on them (Judah) was justified. (1:9-16)
2. How could God permit such suffering and shame to come to His covenant people? Were they not His chosen people? That was why He was punishing them! (Amos 3:2)
3. Privilege brings responsibility, and responsibility brings accountability. God held them accountable for two particular sins: covetousness and listening to false prophets.
4. They were guilty of covetousness (2:1-5) and listening to false prophets (2:6-11).
5. The people coveted others' fields and houses and took them simply because they wanted them. They would defraud another by stealing their home or inheritance (land).
6. Ultimately the ones Micah addressed would reap what they sowed; and the dreadful harvest of their sins would one day appear.
7. The Lord is speaking to the entire nation in verse 12. His promise seems to reach ahead to the end times when Israel and Judah will be united and their King will reign over them.
8. The leader of the remnant of the faithful receives three titles in verse 13.
9. First, he is called "the Breaker." The leader breaks through all barriers which confine or impede the march of his people.
10. Second, the leader is called "their king." He is one of them and one with them. The reference must be to the Messiah.
11. Third, the leader is called "Yahweh." This name emphasizes the role of God as redeemer of His people.
12. In Micah's first message (chaps. 1-2) he emphasized the people's sins and their failure to take seriously God's righteous demands on their lives.
13. In only two verses (2:12-13) did Micah discuss God's future blessings on His nation. In the second message the emphasis is different.
14. Chapter 3 details the sins of the leaders of Israel and Judah. (3:5-7; 12)
15. In chapters 4 and 5 Micah foretold the coming kingdom, which was announced by almost all the writing prophets.
16. He spoke of the characteristics of the coming kingdom (4:1-8), events that will precede it (4:9-5:1), and the King who will establish it (5:2-15).
17. The millennial temple will be prominent in the world and Jerusalem will be the place of instruction for the entire world. (4:1-8)

18. Micah also spoke of four events that would occur before the millennial kingdom will be established. (4:9-5:1)
 - A. Israel would be exiled to Babylon. (4:9-10)
 - B. Israel would be released from Babylon. (4:10)
 - C. Nations will gather against Israel. (4:11-13)
 - D. The ruler of Israel will be humiliated. (5:1)
19. In verse 1 of chapter 5 - Jerusalem - taken by the Babylonians (2 Kings 25:1), was called a city of troops (lit., "daughter of troops"), that is, a city surrounded by soldiers.
20. Micah did not identify the ruler of Israel except to say that he would be struck on the cheek with a rod.
21. Some suggest this ruler was Christ - however, several factors show that the ruler is probably Judah's king Zedekiah:
 - A. The first part of verse 1 refers to the Babylonian attack on Jerusalem.
 - B. The word "ruler" translates *šōpēṭ* ("judge"), whereas the word for ruler in verse 2, which does clearly refer to Christ, is *mōšēl*.
 - C. Christ was not smitten by troops of an enemy nation while Jerusalem was besieged. Nebuchadnezzar however - did capture Zedekiah and torture him (2 Kings 25:1-7).
 - D. A soon-coming event, not a distant-future one, seems to be suggested by the Hebrew word for "Now" in Micah 5:1. This is followed by the distant future in verses 2-6.
22. Micah described the birth of the Ruler in verse 2 and His work on behalf of the nation in verses 3-15.
23. The "Ruler," Christ, will be from Bethlehem Ephrathah, about five miles from Jerusalem. Ephrathah, also called Ephrath - was an older name for Bethlehem or the name of the area around Bethlehem.
24. The chief priests and teachers of the Law understood this verse in Micah to refer to the Messiah (Matt. 2:3-6). That confused some of the people in Jesus' day (John 7:42) for though He was born in Bethlehem He was raised in Nazareth, in Galilee.
25. Christ, Israel's Ruler, will accomplish several things for the nation during the Millennium:
 1. He will reunite and restore the nation.
 2. He will care for His people and give them security.
 3. The Ruler will destroy Israel's enemies (5:5-9).
 4. The Ruler will also purge Israel of her reliance on military power.
 5. The ruler will destroy false worship from within Israel (5:12-14).