Micah 7:1-20, Revelation 10:1-6, I Kings 3:5-38

Woe is me! For I am Like the fruit pickers, like the grape gatherers. There is not a cluster of grapes to eat, or a first-ripe fig which I crave. ² The godly person has perished from the land, and there is no upright person among men. All of them lie in wait for bloodshed; each of them hunts the other with a net. ³ Concerning evil, both hands do it well. The prince asks, also the judge, for a bribe, and a great man speaks the desire of his soul; o they weave it together. ⁴ The best of them is like a briar, the most upright like a thorn hedge. The day when you post your watchmen, your punishment will come. Then their confusion will occur. ⁵ Do not trust in a neighbor; do not have confidence in a friend. From her who lies in your bosom guard your lips. ⁶ For son treats father contemptuously, daughter rises up against her mother, daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; a man's enemies are the men of his own household. Micah 7:1-6 NASB

 Micah says that the godly person has become very hard to find...an 'endangered species'.

¹ Help, Lord! For principled and godly people are here no more; faithfulness and the faithful vanish from among the sons of men. ² To his neighbor each one speaks words without use or worth or truth; with flattering lips and double heart [deceitfully] they speak. Psalm 12:1-2 AMPC

• The faithful man has 'disappeared'.

⁷ But as for me, I will watch expectantly for the LORD; I will wait for the God of my salvation. My God will hear me. ⁸ Do not rejoice over me, O my enemy. Though I fall I will rise; though I dwell in darkness, the LORD is a light for me. ⁹ I will bear the indignation of the LORD because I have sinned against Him, until He pleads my case and executes justice for me. He will bring me out to the light, and I will see His righteousness. ¹⁰ Then my enemy will see, and shame will cover her who said to me,

"Where is the LORD your God?" my eyes will look on her; at that time she will be trampled down like mire of the streets. Micah 7:7-10 NASB

- (V7) The prophet encourages us to wait 'before' God, not just 'on' God.
- He says I will wait because "My God will hear me..." (so regardless of your present condition...call on the Lord!)
- (V8) He speaks to the enemy..."Don't get excited over me...though I fall...I will rise!"

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- When I sit in darkness (the darkness of sin, shame, guilt, regret...) The Lord will be my light and will light the path out of darkness for me.
- Personal 'failure' is no match for empowered hope!
- (V8 AMPC) Rejoice NOT against me, O, my enemy.
- (V9-10) He will (He already has) execute justice for me...He will bring me out to the light and I will behold His righteous deliverance.

⁷ But as for me, I will look to the Lord and confident in Him I will keep watch; I will wait with hope and expectancy for the God of my salvation; my God will hear me. ⁸ Rejoice not against me, O my enemy! When I fall, I shall arise; when I sit in darkness, the Lord shall be a light to me. ⁹ I will bear the indignation of the Lord because I have sinned against Him, until He pleads my cause and executes judgment for me. He will bring me forth to the light, and I shall behold His righteous deliverance. ¹⁰ Then my enemy will see it, and shame will cover her who said to me, Where is the Lord your God? My eyes will see my desire upon her; now she will be trodden down as the mire of the streets. Micah 7:7-10 AMPC

¹⁵ "As in the days when you came out from the land of Egypt, I will show you miracles." ¹⁶ Nations will see and be ashamed of all their might. They will put their hand on their mouth, their ears will be deaf. ¹⁷ They will lick the dust like a serpent, like reptiles of the earth. They will come trembling out of their fortresses; to the LORD our God they will come in dread and they will be afraid before You.

¹⁸ Who is a God like You, who pardons iniquity and passes over the rebellious act of the remnant of His possession? He does not retain His anger forever, because He delights in unchanging love. ¹⁹ He will again have compassion on us; He will tread our iniquities under foot. Yes, You will cast all their sins into the depths of the sea. ²⁰ You will give truth to Jacob and unchanging love to Abraham, which You swore to our forefathers from the days of old. Micah 7:15-20 NASB

- God is saying...Like things happened when I brought you out of Egypt:
 - Miracles, signs, wonders, a 'parted' sea.
 - This will affect nations.
 - o Enemies will tremble.

Who is a God like You, who pardons iniquity and passes over the rebellious act of the remnant of His possession? He does not retain His anger forever, because He delights in unchanging love. Micah 7:18 NASB

He pardons iniquity.

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- He 'passes over' the rebellious act of the remnant of His possession, His heritage.
- Note, He talks about the 'remnant', the 'faithful ones' being forgiven of rebellious acts and attitudes...He is amazing!
- He does all this because He delights in 'unchanging love'.
- (V19) He shows His compassion...He casts our sings to the bottom of the sea.

¹² As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us. Psalm 103:12 NASB

• (V20) He gives truth and unchanging love to Abraham, Jacob and to <u>US!</u>

⁷ "BLESSED ARE THOSE WHOSE LAWLESS DEEDS HAVE BEEN FORGIVEN, AND WHOSE SINS HAVE BEEN COVERED. ⁸ "BLESSED IS THE MAN WHOSE SIN THE LORD WILL NOT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT." ⁹ Is this blessing then on the circumcised, or on the uncircumcised also? For we say, "FAITH WAS CREDITED TO ABRAHAM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS." Romans 4:7-9 NASB

¹³ For the promise to Abraham or to his descendants that he would be heir of the world was not through the Law, but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴ For if those who are of the Law are heirs, faith is made void and the promise is nullified; ¹⁵ for the Law brings about wrath, but where there is no law, there also is no violation. ¹⁶ For this reason it is by faith, in order that it may be in accordance with grace, so that the promise will be guaranteed to all the descendants, not only to those who are of the Law, but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, ¹⁷ (as it is written, "A FATHER OF MANY NATIONS HAVE I MADE YOU") in the presence of Him whom he believed, even God, who gives life to the dead and calls into being that which does not exist. Romans 4:13-17 NASB

²² Therefore IT WAS ALSO CREDITED TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS. ²³ Now not for his sake only was it written that it was credited to him, ²⁴ but for our sake also, to whom it will be credited, as those who believe in Him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, ²⁵ He who was delivered over because of our transgressions, and was raised because of our justification. Romans 4:22-25 NASB

• NO MORE delay.

⁵ In Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream at night; and God said, "Ask what you wish Me to give you." ⁶ Then Solomon said, "You have shown great

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lovingkindness to Your servant David my father, according as he walked before You in truth and righteousness and uprightness of heart toward You; and You have reserved for him this great lovingkindness, that You have given him a son to sit on his throne, as it is this day. ⁷ Now, O LORD my God, You have made Your servant king in place of my father David, yet I am but a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸ Your servant is in the midst of Your people which You have chosen, a great people who are too many to be numbered or counted. ⁹ So give Your servant an understanding heart to judge Your people to discern between good and evil. For who is able to judge this great people of Yours?"

God's Answer

¹⁰ It was pleasing in the sight of the Lord that Solomon had asked this thing. ¹¹ God said to him, "Because you have asked this thing and have not asked for yourself long life, nor have asked riches for yourself, nor have you asked for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself discernment to understand justice, ¹² behold, I have done according to your words. Behold, I have given you a wise and discerning heart, so that there has been no one like you before you, nor shall one like you arise after you. ¹³ I have also given you what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that there will not be any among the kings like you all your days. ¹⁴ If you walk in My ways, keeping My statutes and commandments, as your father David walked, then I will prolong your days." ¹⁵ Then Solomon awoke, and behold, it was a dream. And he came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of the covenant of the Lord, and offered burnt offerings and made peace offerings, and made a feast for all his servants. I Kings 3:5-15 NASB

- God speaks to Solomon in a dream and God makes promises to him.
- Solomon wakes up from the dream and begins to 'operate' in the wisdom, discernment, and discretion that God gave him as soon as he woke up.
- It happened at night in a dream and Solomon was the wisest man alive that very next day...NO MORE DELAY!

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