



Godly Grief

2nd in the “Who is a God Like You?” Series

Micah 1:2-16, p. 776

May 20, 2018

Pastor Mickey Klink

Introduction

In this passage God calls out our sin, and directs us to respond with godly grief before his holiness.

The Text: Micah 1:2-16

1) God is love (1 John 4:8) but he is also holy, and out of his holiness God judges sin (vv. 2-7).

What makes God's love so wonderful is that our sin is so horrible!

2) An awareness of our sin should cause us to weep and mourn before God (vv. 8-16).

A Song of Lament – “Lord, I Need You” (Matt Maher)

*(1) Lord, I come, I confess,
Bowing here I find my rest,
Without You I fall apart,
You're the One that guides my heart*

*(2) Where sin runs deep Your grace is more,
Where grace is found is where You are,
Where You are, Lord, I am free,
Holiness is Christ in me*

*(3) So teach my song to rise to You,
When temptation comes my way,
When I cannot stand I'll fall on You,
Jesus, You're my hope and stay*

*(4) chorus: Lord, I need You, oh, I need You,
Every hour I need You,
My one defense, my righteousness,
Oh God, how I need You.*

Response

Honor God with Godly Grief, and to you he will give the forgiveness and peace of Jesus Christ.

Sunday Text Questions for Micah 1:2-16

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- 1) Starter Question: Do you think Christians speak too much about God's love and grace and not enough about God's holiness and judgment?
- 2) Read the text aloud and discuss together any significant observations or issues needing clarification.
- 3) If this passage is judgment against Israel, why does v. 2 address "all people" and the whole "earth," and what does that teach us about the extent of sin and God's judgment?
- 4) How does v. 2 depict God like a Judge in his courtroom who is beginning a trial?
- 5) What kind of response does the language in v. 3 elicit in you? What would it be like to face God in all his holiness?
- 6) How does the symbolic language of extreme natural disasters helpfully depict the cosmic holiness and judgment of God? Focus on the details of the symbolism.
- 7) Why would God use the enemies of Israel, the Assyrians, to punish and judge Israel, his people (vv. 5-7)? How might God do the same thing to Christians and his church today?
- 8) How does Micah's "godly grief" in vv. 8-9 model for us an appropriate response to our sin and the sin of our community/nation?
- 9) Vv. 10-15 is an ancient song of lament/mourning. What role do you think lament songs can and should play as part of Sunday morning corporate worship? How about times of confession (private and public)?
- 10) How can Christians make sure they balance the love and grace of God with the holiness and judgment of God? What does that balance look like in practice?

Further study this week: 2 Kings 17 on God using Assyria to judge Israel (Mon); Psalm 13 on a psalm of lament (Tues); Exodus 32 on idolatry (Wed); Isaiah 64 on sin (Thurs); 1 John 1:5-2:6 (Fri).