



## Godly Grief

### 2<sup>nd</sup> 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).