"On the Way" 365 Bible Reading Plan

Micah 7

Micah seven is the recording of the final words of the prophet Micah. "Who is like the LORD?" Micah, a contemporary of Isaiah, saw the downfall of the Northern Kingdom and the scattering of God's people. For thirty years (740-710 B.C.), Micah thundered the warning of coming judgment, and now Micah has witnessed what happens when God warns His people, and they refuse to listen. As you read Micah and the other prophets, you sense the divine tension between God's justice and God's mercy. God is holy and just and must punish sin, but He loves His people. Even though they had broken the covenant over and over again, God's desire was for them to walk with Him and experience the joy of His smile of blessing upon their lives.

Reading through the early verses of this chapter is like reading a current newspaper about the corrupt culture in which we live today.

The godly people have all disappeared. Not one honest person is left on the earth. They are all murderers, setting traps even for their own brothers. Both their hands are equally skilled at doing evil! Officials and judges alike demand bribes. The people with influence get what they want, and together, they scheme to twist justice. Even the best of them is like a brier. The most honest is as dangerous as a hedge of thorns. But your judgment day is coming swiftly now. Your time of punishment is here, a time of confusion. Don't trust anyone- not your best friend or even your wife! (vv.4-6)

If it were not for the LORD and His promises, we would give up in despair. But be reminded that God, who is rich in grace and mercy, as the final say. God wants to forgive. God wants to pardon His people.

Where is another God like you, who pardons the guilt of the remnant, overlooking the sins of his special people? You will not stay angry with your people forever, because you delight in showing unfailing love. Once again, you will have compassion on us. You will trample our sins under your feet and throw them into the depths of the ocean! You will show us your faithfulness and unfailing love, as you promised to our ancestors Abraham and Jacob long ago. (vv.18-20)

Prayer and Action Steps

Dear God in Heaven, please have mercy upon our families and upon our nation. Please forgive our sins and heal our land. Amen

Date

_____ Scripture _

Read the chapter. If you have time, read it again.

Highlight, underline or circle the Key Verse or Verses of the chapter.

Ask yourself these questions as you read through the chapter.

Is this historical narrative, analogy, metaphor, allegory, or some other element of speech or communicating truth?

What is the Context? Old Testament? New Testament? What is the writer speaking or writing about? To whom is he writing?

Is this a clear passage of Scripture (can only be interpreted one way)? Or could the passage be interpreted legitimately, in two or more ways, according to grammar and context? Does the passage teach a Biblical Precept; that is, tells you something to be, do or act?

Are there principles in this chapter that if followed, would require me to change my attitudes or actions?

Does the passage give a Biblical Pattern that is followed here and other places in the Bible?