



**Title:** Micah – An Introduction (part 1)

**Text:** Mic. 1:1 “The word of the LORD that came to Micah the Morasthite in the days of Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah, which he saw concerning Samaria and Jerusalem.”

*Pagsasalin:* Ang salita ng Panginoon na dumating kay Mikas na Morastita, sa mga araw nina Jotam, Ahaz, at Hezekias, na mga hari ng Juda, na nakita niya tungkol sa Samaria at Jerusalem.

### **Introduction:**

1. The Hebrew Bible was arranged as the Torah; Nebiim (Prophets); and the Kethubim (Writings). (TNK – TANAK; Lk. 11:50-51; 24:44).
2. A prophet was a spokesman or a mouthpiece (*tagapagsalita*) for God.
3. There were Patriarchal Prophets, like Abel (Lk. 11:49-51); Enoch (Jude 1:14), Noah (Heb. 11:7; 1 Pet. 3:30); Abraham (Gen. 20:7), and Jacob (Gen. 49:1-2). Mosaic-Period Prophets, Aaron (Exo. 7:1); Miriam (Exo. 15:20), Moses (Exo. 33:11; Deut. 18:15), Deborah (Jdg. 4:4) and seventy elders (Num. 11:24). The Prophetic School Period which included Samuel (1 Sam. 3:20), “the sons of the prophets” (1 Ki. 20:35; 2 Ki. 2:3, etc.), Elijah (2 Ki. 2-6) and Elisha. A school of the prophets also were in association with Jeremiah, Isaiah, and Samuel. The final period was the Writing Prophets Period: Major Prophets and Minor Prophets.
4. God gave several tests to help ascertain true prophets:
  - 1) They spoke only by revelation and inspiration (Deut. 18:19-22).
  - 2) They spoke in the name of Jehovah (Deut. 18:20).
  - 3) They had high moral character whereas the false prophets were wicked (Jer. 23:11); immoral (Jer. 23:15); a drunkard (Isa. 28:7); and lied from the heart (Ezek. 13:10-16).
  - 4) They demonstrated authentic signs (Isa. 7:14).
  - 5) Their message was in harmony with previous revelation (Deut. 13:1-5).
5. Micah represents the last of the twelve minor prophets who ministered prior to the fall of Samaria to the Assyrians, in the chronological arrangement of the minor prophets.

### **I. The Writer:**

- A. The name Micah means “Who is like Jehovah?” (see 7:18).
- B. His hometown was Moresteth beside Gath. (see the map). Moresheth means possession of Gath. Micah was a country-boy.
- C. His father was unknown – Micah came from an obscure family.
- D. His ministry demonstrated a concern for the common-folk and the poor.
- E. Micah had a full sense of calling from God (3:8).

### **II. The Date:**

- A. Micah ministered during the tenure of three Judean Kings: Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah.
- B. He saw the fulfillment of his prophecy against Israel (722 B.C.).
- C. His ministry dates are most likely from 735 – 700 B.C.
- D. He was a contemporary with Isaiah, and Hosea and Amos.

### **Conclusion:**

1. Next week we shall look at the outline to Micah which organizes around the three imperatives to “hear” (1:2; 3:1; 6:1).
2. The key verse: Mic. 6:2 – “The LORD hath a controversy with His people.”
3. May God raise us up men of conviction like Micah. May we listen to God’s messengers and avoid Divine judgment.