MICAH.

1. 1 The word of the LORD. The only occurrence of this expression in this book: bidding us to receive it from Jehovah, not Micah, and to note Micah's pit, and not Jehovah's words.

A. A. C. (p. 1253)

2. Hear, all ye people; hearken, O earth, and a' all that therein is; and b' let the LORD God be witness against you, the LORD c' from His holy temple. 3. For b' behold, the LORD cometh forth out of His place, and will come down, and c' tread upon the high places of the earth. 4. And a' the mountains shall be molten under Him, and the valleys shall be cleft, as wax before the fire, and as the waters that are poured down a steep place.

D. 5. For the transgression of Jacob is all this, and for the sins of the house of Israel. What is the transgression of Jacob? Is it not Samaria, and what are the high places of Judah? Are they not Jerusalem?

b'. Therefore I will make Samaria as an heap of the field, and as plantings of a vineyard: and I will pour down the stones thereof into the valley, and I will discover the foundations thereof.

7. And all the graven images thereof shall be broken to pieces, and all the a' hires thereof shall be burned with the fire; and all the idols thereof will I lay desolate; for she prepared it of the hire of an harlot, and she shall return to the hire of an harlot.

c'. Therefore I will wail and howl, I will go stripped and naked: I will make a wailing like the dragons, and mourning as the owls. B. For her wound is incurable; for c' it is come unto Judah; c' he is come unto the gate of My people, even to Jerusalem.

10. Declare ye it not at Gath, weep ye not people=people. Including ourselves.

all that therein is=her fulness. let the Lord God be witness. Ref. to Pent. (Gen. 31. 50), the Lord. Heb. Adonai. Ap. 4. VIII (2).


from His holy temple. Cp. Ps. 11. 4. Jonah 2. 7. Hab. 2. 20. holy. See note on Ex. 3. 5. 3 behold. Fig. Asterismos.


What=Whose. is it not Samaria? is it not Samaria's [idolatry]? Fig. Erotics. Ap. 6.

high places. Cp. 1 Kings 12. 31; 14. 22. Ezek. 6. 4. These existed in Jerusalem (Jer. 32. 35); hence the mention of them in the further question. Fig. Erotics. Ap. 6. Cp. 2 Kings 15. 4. are they not Jerusalem? is it not Jerusalem's [idol altars]?

c' they shall return, &c. This has now recently (1911) been done in the unearthing of Ahab's wine-cellar.


they shall return, &c. i.e. the wealth gained by idolatry shall be taken away by the Assyrian idolaters.

wall=lamen. Cp. the Structure above; and note weight of the prophet's burden; dragons=jackals, owls. Heb. daughters of a doleful cry.

wound=stroke. Heb. makkah (fem.). b' it, Aram. and Syr. read "she", referring to her stroke, which is he, referring to some unnamed foe.

Aram. and Syr. read "she", referring to the "stroke" of judgment.

c' the gate. Cp. Obad. 11. 12.

10 Declare ye it not at Gath. Cp. 2 Sam. 1. 20. Gath. Now Tell es Saif (Josh. 11. 22, &c.).
at all. Heb. bakkō, written defectively for bē’akē. Note the Fig. Paronomasia (Ap. 6). Heb. bakkō ’al tibkā—"[in] Weep-town weep not!"

in . . . Aphrah roll thyself in the dust. Note the Fig. Paronomasia (Ap. 6). Heb. in ’aphar . . . ’aphar. English, "in Dust-town roll thyself in dust."

12 For the inhabitant of Maroth waited carefully for good; but evil came down from the LORD unto the gate of Jerusalem.

13 O thou inhabitant of Lachish, bind the chariot to the swift beast! E.g. is to the sin of the daughter of Zion: for the transgressions of Israel were found in thee.

14 Therefore shalt thou give presents to Moresheth-gath: the houses of Achzib shall be as a lie to the king of Israel.

15 Yet will I bring an heir unto thee, O inhabitant of Mareshah: he shall come unto Adullam the glory of Israel.

16 Make thee bald, and poll thee for thy delicate children; enlarge thy baldness as the eagle; for they are gone into captivity from thee.

2 Woe to them that devise iniquity, and work evil upon their beds: when the morning is light, they practise it; because it is in the power of their hand.

2 And they covet fields, and take them by violence; and houses, and take them away: so they oppress a man and his house, even a man and his heritage.

3 Therefore saith the LORD; Behold, against this family do I devise an evil, from which ye shall not remove your necks: neither shall ye go haughtily: for this time is evil.

4 In that day shall one take up a parable against you, and lament with a doleful lamentation, and say, We be utterly spoiled: he hath changed the portion of my People: how hath he removed it from me! turning away he hath divided our fields.

5 Therefore thou shalt have none that shall cast a cord by lot in the congregation of the LORD.

6 "Prophesy ye not," saith they to them that prophesy:

1 they shall not prophesy to them, that they shall not take shame.
7 O thou that art named the house of Jacob, is the Spirit of the Lord straitened? are these His doings? do not My words do good to him that walketh uprightly? 
8 Even of late My People is risen up as an enemy: ye pull off the robe with the garment from them that pass by securely as men averse from war.
9 The women of My People have ye cast out from their pleasant houses; from their children have ye taken away My glory for ever. 
10 Arise ye, and depart, for this is no your rest: because it is polluted, it shall destroy you, even with a sore destruction.
11 If a man walking in the spirit and falsehood do lie, saying, I will prophesy unto thee of wine and of strong drink; he shall even be the prophet of this people.

C

12 I will surely assemble, O Jacob, all of thee; I will surely gather the remnant of Israel; I will put them together as the sheep of Bozrah, as the flock in the midst of their fold: they shall make great noise by reason of the multitude of men. 
13 The breaker is come up before them: they have broken up, and have passed through the gate, and are gone out by it: and their king shall pass before them, and the Lord on the head of them.

3

And I said, "Hear, I pray you, O heads of Jacob, and ye princes of the house of Israel: Is it not for you to know judgment? 
2 Who hate the good, and love the evil; who pluck off their skin from off them, and their flesh from off their bones; 
3 Who also eat the flesh of My People, and flay their skin from off them; and they break their bones, and chop them in pieces, as for the pot, and as flesh within the caldron. 
4 Then shall they cry unto the Lord, but He will not hear; they shall even hide His face from them at that time, as they have behaved themselves ill in their doings."

A

5 Thus saith the Lord concerning the prophets that make My people err, that bite with their teeth, and cry, "Peace," and he that putteth not into their mouths, they even prepare war against him. 
6 Therefore shall night shall be unto you, that ye shall not have a vision, and it shall be dark unto you, that ye shall not divine; and the sun shall go down over the prophets, and the day shall be dark over them. 
7 Then shall the seers be ashamed, and the diviners confounded: yea, shall they all cover their lips; for there is no answer of God. 
8 But truly 3 am full of power by the Spirit of the Lord, and of judgment, and of might, to declare unto Jacob his transgression, and to Israel his sin.

B

9 "Hear this, I pray you, ye heads of the house of Jacob, and princes of the house of Israel, that abhor judgment, and pervert all equity. 
10 They build up Zion with blood, and Jerusalem with iniquity. 
11 The heads thereof judge for reward, and the priests thereof teach for hire, and the prophets thereof divide for money: yet will they lean upon the Lord, and say, "Is not the Lord among us? none evil can come upon us."
12 Therefore shall Zion for your sake be plowed as a field, and Jerusalem shall become heaps, and the mountain of the house as the high places of the forest.

4 But in the last days it shall come to pass, that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it.

2 And many nations shall come, and say, "Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and He will teach us of His ways, and we will walk in His paths." for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

3 He shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

4 But they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree; and none shall make them afraid; for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it.

5 For all the nations will walk every one in the name of his god, but we will walk in the name of the LORD our God for ever and ever.

6 In that day, saith the LORD, will I assemble her that halteth, and I will gather her that is driven out, and her that I have afflicted;

7 And I will make her that halteth a remnant, and her that is cast far off a strong nation: and the LORD shall reign over them in mount Zion from henceforth, even for ever.

8 And it shall come to pass in that day, that the良 sound of the daughter of Zion, unto thee shall it be even, even the first dominion; the kingdom shall come to the daughter of Jerusalem.

9 Now why dost thou cry aloud? is there no king in thee? is thy counsellor perished? for pang has taken thee as a woman in travail.

10 Be in pain, and labour to bring forth, O daughter of Zion, like a woman in travail:

for now shalt thou go forth out of the city, and thou shalt dwell in the field, and thou shalt go even to Babylon;

9 there shalt thou be delivered; there shall the LORD redeem thee from the hand of thine enemies.
MICAH. 

5 Now gather thyself in troops, O daughter of troops; for he hath laid siege against us: he shall smite the judge of Israel with a rod upon the cheek.

6 Therefore will he give them up, until the time that she which travaileth hath brought forth;

7 Then the remnant of his brethren shall return unto the children of Israel.

8 And he shall stand in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord His God; and they shall abide: for now shall He be great unto the ends of the earth.

9 And this Man shall be the peace, when the Assyrian shall come into our land: and when he shall tread in our palaces, then shall we raise against him seven shepherds, and eight principal men.

10 And they shall waste the land of Assyria with the sword, and the land of Nimrod in the entrances thereof.

11 Thus shall He deliver us from the Assyrian, when He cometh into our land, and when he treadeth within our borders.

12 But you know not the thoughts of the Lord, neither understand they His counsel: for He shall gather them as the sheaves into the floor.

13 Arise and thresh, O daughter of Zion; for I will make thee an horn of iron, and I will make thy hoofs brass: and thou shalt beat in pieces many people: and I will consecrate their gain unto the Lord, and their substance unto the Lord of the whole earth.

14 Now gather thou in troops, O daughter of troops: for he hath laid siege against us: he shall smite the judge of Israel with a rod upon the cheek.

15 Therefore will he give them up, until the time that she which travaileth hath brought forth;

16 Then the remnant of his brethren shall return unto the children of Israel.

17 And the remnant of Jacob shall be in the midst of many people as a dew from the Lord, as the showers upon the grass, that tarrieth not for man, nor waiteth for the sons of men.

18 And the remnant of Jacob shall be among the Gentiles in the midst of many people as a lion among the beasts of the forest, as a young lion among the flocks of sheep: who, if he go through, both treadeth down, and teareth in pieces, and none is able to deliver.

19 Meanwhile, as in v. 10:5.1. Referring to the then immediately impending hostility.


13 they know not. Cp. Isa. 58.8. Jer. 29, 11. thoughts = purposes, or plans: i.e. for Israel in purging him of idolatry by his tribulation.

14 counsel: i.e. with regard to themselves. The reason follows.

15 or, that. floor = threshing-floor.


18 THE LORD. Heb. 4’Adon. The Divine title, relating to dominion in the earth. See Ap. 4. VIII (1).

19. 1 Now = Meanwhile; as in 4. 10. 11. Showing that 5.1 relates to the interval between the then present time and "that day" of 4. 11. Cp. the members "X" and "Y". gather thyself, &c.: or, thou shalt have sore tribulation [for thy sins], thou daughter of affliction: he = i.e. the enemy. The Assyrian.

20: The prophet includes himself, the judge. Or, the then ruler (cp. 1 Kings 22.24. Lam. 5.39; 4.20; 5.8, 12), who would thus be the type of the Messiah (Matt. 27.30).

21 rod = sceptre. Heb. shebdel = the club (of defense), as in 7. 14; hence, of office: not military, the rod of staff (of support), as in 6.2. See note on Ps. 22.4.

22 But thou. This marks out the Structure. Cp. 4.8 ("d") with 5.2 ("d"). Quoted in Matt. 2.6.6. John 7.42.

23 Beth-lehem Ephratah. The full name given, as in Gen. 35.19, thus connecting Gen. 35.21 with Mic. 4.8; little = too little [to rank among]. Cp. 1 Cor. 1.27-29. thousands = districts (1 Sam. 23.23). Like our old English divisions, called "hundreds". Cp. 49.25. Ref. to Pent. (Ex. 18.24).

24 Come forth. Note the difference between Heb. here (palld), and bo=come unto, in Zech. 9.9. All the versions between these two make up the period we call the "first Advent", and thus are typical of the "second Advent"; the coming forth being 1 Thess. 4.16, and the coming unto being 1 Thess. 5.2, 3, and 2 Thess. 2.8: the former being in grace, the latter in judgment. A similar period may elapse in the antitypical comings and the typical comings of 5.2, and Zech. 9.8. unto = for.

25 everlasting. Cp. Ps. 50.2. Prov. 8.22, 23. John 1.1, 2. until the time: i.e. the end of the "meanwhile" (v. 15).

26 the which travaileth. Cp. 4.9,10-("e"), and note there; also John 16.21, 22, and Rev. 12.1-5. children = sons.


9 Thine hand shall be lifted up upon thine adversaries, and all thine enemies shall be cut off.

10 And it shall come to pass in that day, saith the LORD, that I will cut off thy horses out of the midst of thee, and I will destroy thy chariots:

11 And I will cut off the cities of thy land, and thou shalt consent to all thine enemies:

12 And I will cut off witchcrafts out of thine hand; and thou shalt have no more soothsayers:

13 Thy graven images also will I cut off, and thy standing images out of the midst of thee; and thou shalt no more worship the work of thine hands.

14 And I will pluck up thy groves out of the midst of thee:

15 And I will execute vengeance in anger and fury upon the heathen, such as they have not heard.

6 "Hear ye now what the LORD saith; Arise, contend thou before the mountains, and let the hills hear thy voice.

2 "Hear ye, O mountains, the LORD's controversy, and ye strong foundations of the earth:

N for the LORD hath a controversy with His People, and He will plead with Israel.

OP 3 O My People, what have I done unto thee? and wherein have I wearied thee? testify against Me.

Q For I brought thee up out of the land of Egypt, and redeemed thee out of the house of servants; and I sent before thee Moses, Aaron, and Miriam.

5 O My People, remember now what Baalak king of Moab consulted, and what Baalath the son of Beor answered him from Shittim unto Gilgal; that ye may know the righteousness of the LORD.

6 Wherewith shall I come before the LORD, and bow myself before the high God? shall I come before Him with burnt offerings, with calves of a year old?

7 Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, or with ten thousands of rivers of oil? shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for my sin of my soul?

8 He hath shewed thee, O man, what is good; and what doth the LORD require of thee, but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?

9 The LORD's voice crieth unto the city,
6.9

The man of wisdom shall see Thy name—(such as would have) true stability of safety—will regard Thy name. The Mugah Codex, quoted in the Masoreth (Ap. 30), reads: "such as reverse".

Wisdom. Heb. teshuvah. See note on Prov. 2. 7.

Thy. The Sept. reads: "and He (the Lord) will save such as reverse His name"

rod. Heb. matzah—staff (for support or chastisement). Not the same word as in 5. 1; 7. 14. Either put by Fig. Metonymy (of Cause), Ap. 6, for the chastisement inflicted, or supply the Etiope thus: "hear ye the rod, and [Him] Who hath appointed (the chastisement)."

The suffix on the verb, "it", is fem.; while "rod" is masc. Therefore we may supply "chastisement" (Heb. tōkōḥah), which is fem.

6.10-16 (N, p. 1259). CONTROVERSY.

(Alteration.)

The antecedent measure, &c. Note the word "abominable" below. In this form only in Prov. 22. 14.

measure = ephah. See Ap. 51. III. 3 (5)

abominable. Ref. to Pent. Out of six words thus rendered, Heb. šāḵeth is chosen in Num. 23. 7, 8, 9, 12; defiled = abhorred. It occurs only eight times elsewhere.

Ap. 92.

11 and. Supply [her]: i.e. the wicked city, the wicked balances. Heb. balances of wickedness.

Ap. 92.

13 will make thee sick. Ref. to Pent. (Lev. 26, 16).

sins, Heb. chattāl. Ap. 44.

14 thou shalt eat, &c. Ref. to Pent. (Lev. 26, 24), thy casting down = thy dissatisfaction or emptiness.

Heb. yāḇach. Occurs only here.

shall be in the midst of thee = shall remain in thee, take hold. Some codices, with one early printed edition (Rabbinic, margin), read "take possession".


16 the statutes. Heb. ḫūḳēḵāth = in a religious sense (Lev. 20. 6, 2 Kings 17. 34, Jer. 10. 3).

Ap. 18. 3. Cp. 1, 1 Kings 16, 22, as to the worship of Baal.


that I should make, &c. Ref. to Pent. (Deut. 28, 37).

7.1-10 (O, p. 1259). LAMENTATION.

(Introversion.)

0 R | 1-4. Evils lamented.

5.6. Remedies. Vain.

5.7. Remedy. True.

R | 8-10. Evils endured.


2 good—gracious.


asketh = asketh (for a reward). Ref. to Pent. (Deut. 18. 18).

Ap. 92. Cp. 3. 1, 2.

the judge asketh = the judge (judges), &c. Fig.


they = i.e. the prince and the judge. wrap it up = weave it together. Occurs only here.

they. Heb. suffix is fem., so we must supply a fem. noun: e.g.


8 doors on our path. &c. Ref. to Pent. (Ex. 20. 12, Deut. 5. 16). Ap. 92.


Verse 7 gives the true remedy ("S") in contrast with the vain remedies of vs. 5, 6 ("S").
7. 7.

S 7. Then therefore 3 will look unto the Lord; I will wait for the God of my salvation: my God will hear me.

R 8. Rejoice not against me, O mine enemy: when I fall, I shall arise; when I sit in darkness, the Lord shall be a light unto me.

9. I will bear the indignation of the Lord, because I have sinned against Him, until He plead my cause, and execute judgment for me: He will bring me forth to the light, and I shall behold His righteousness.

10. Then she that is mine enemy shall see it, and shame shall cover her which said unto me, Where is the Lord thy God? mine eyes shall behold her: now shall she be trodden down as the mire of the streets.

B T 11. In that day thy walls shall be built, in that day shall the decree be far removed.

12. In that day also he shall come even to thee from Assyria, and from the fortified cities, and from the fortress even to the river, and from sea to sea, and from mountain to mountain.

13. Notwithstanding the land shall be desolate because of them that dwell therein, for the fruit of their doing.

U 14. Feed Thy People with Thy rod, the flock of Thine heritage, which dwell solitary in the wood, in the midst of Carmel: let them feed in Bashan and Gilead, as in the days of old.

T 15. According to the days of thy coming out of the land of Egypt will I shew unto him marvellous things.

16. The nations shall see and confound at all their might: they shall lay their hand upon their mouth, their ears shall be deaf.

17. They shall lick the dust like a serpent, they shall move out of their holes, like worms of the earth: they shall be afraid of the Lord our God, and shall fear because of Thee.

U 18. Who is a God like unto Thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of His heritage? He retains not His anger for ever, because of the length of Thy mercy.

19. He will turn again, He will have compassion upon us; He will subdue our iniquities; and Thou wilt cast all their sins into the depths of the sea.

20. Thou wilt perform the truth to Jacob, and the mercy to Abraham, which Thou hast sworn unto our fathers from the days of old.

and sign. See Job 21. 5; 29. 9; 40. 4.

editions, read “and their”.

7. 20.


8. When I fall: i.e. into calamity; not into sin. Lit. I have fallen, I have arisen; though I should sit in darkness, Jehovah, &c.

Indignation. Put by Fig. Metonymy (of Cause), Ap. 6, for the punishment which was the result of it. sinned. Heb. chãi. Ap. 44. i.

behold: look unto.

His righteousness: i.e. His righteous vindication.

10. Then she, &c. So shall she [who had been] mine enemy: i.e. Assyria (in 2. 19).


7. 11-20 (B, p. 1282). CONSOLATION.

Alternation.


15-17. Subjugation of Israel’s enemies.

18-20. Favour.


be far removed = become distant; i.e. extended. See the Oxford Gesenius, p. 836. Heb. ruckh, as in Isa. 21. 25. Note the Fig. Paronomasia (Ap. 6).

13. Notwithstanding the land shall be desolate because of them that dwell therein, for the fruit of their doing.

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20. Thou wilt perform the truth to Jacob, and the mercy to Abraham, which Thou hast sworn unto our fathers from the days of old.