

<u>**Title</u>**: The Sins of a Corrupt Society (vv.1-11) & The Only Solution (vv.12-13) <u>**Text**</u>: Micah 2:1-13</u>

# A. They Plotted Evil and Execute their Plot:

1 Woe to them that devise iniquity, and work evil upon their beds! when the morning is light, they practice it, because it is in the power of their hand.

## **B. They Coveted and Violently Take Away Private Properties**: (cf. Prov. 22:22; Amos 4:1; James 2:6).

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 thus 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.

(v.5) "none that shall cast a cord by lot" – no one will be there to inherit their land.

# C. They Persecuted God's Prophets and Angered the Spirit of the LORD:

6 Prophesy ye not, say they to them that prophesy: 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?

# D. They were As An Enemy (Violent and Adverse):

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.

#### E. They Abuse Women and Children:

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 not your rest: because it is polluted, it shall destroy you, even with a sore destruction.

#### **F. They Lie and Follow False Prophets of Prosperity**: (cf. Isa. 28:9-13; Amos 2:12; 7:13, 16).

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.

# <u>G. The Only Solution to Societal Problems: The LORD (The Shepherd, The Breaker, & The King)</u>.

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.

#### Conclusion:

- 1. The wicked society practiced land-grabbing on the poor. They persecuted God's prophets. They love violence and lies. They abused women and children and listened to false prophets.
- 2. The Messiah will remove all obstacles to the re-gathering of His people. This has yet to take place. Chapter 1:6-7, The Fall of Samaria (722 B.C.) and the Invasion of Judah by Sennacherib, 1:9-16 (ca. 702-701 B.C.) have already been fulfilled.