

The Incomparable God
5. Pleasing the Lord (Micah 6)

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Introduction

- responding to God?

Why should we please God? (v1-5)

- God's accusation against his people (v1-2)

- his grace (v3-5)

How can we please God? (v6-8)

- not religious activity (v6-7)

- real relationship (v8)

What happens if we don't please God? (v9-16)

- a warning (v9)

Conclusion

Bible references: Hebrews 12:10-11

Micah 6 (NIV)

¹ Listen to what the LORD says: "Stand up, plead your case before the mountains; let the hills hear what you have to say. ² Hear, O mountains, the LORD's accusation; listen, you everlasting foundations of the earth. For the LORD has a case against his people; he is lodging a charge against Israel. ³ "My people, what have I done to you? How have I burdened you? Answer me. ⁴ I brought you up out of Egypt and redeemed you from the land of slavery. I sent Moses to lead you, also Aaron and Miriam. ⁵ My people, remember what Balak king of Moab counseled and what Balaam son of Beor answered. Remember *your journey* from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the righteous acts of the LORD."

⁶ With what shall I come before the LORD and bow down before the exalted God? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? ⁷ Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousand rivers of oil? Shall I offer my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul? ⁸ He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

⁹ Listen! The LORD is calling to the city--and to fear your name is wisdom--"Heed the rod and the One who appointed it. ¹⁰ Am I still to forget, O wicked house, your ill-gotten treasures and the short ephah, which is accursed? ¹¹ Shall I acquit a man with dishonest scales, with a bag of false weights? ¹² Her rich men are violent; her people are liars and their tongues speak deceitfully. ¹³ Therefore, I have begun to destroy you, to ruin you because of your sins. ¹⁴ You will eat but not be satisfied; your stomach will still be empty. You will store up but save nothing, because what you save I will give to the sword. ¹⁵ You will plant but not harvest; you will press olives but not use the oil on yourselves, you will crush grapes but not drink the wine. ¹⁶ You have observed the statutes of Omri and all the practices of Ahab's house, and you have followed their traditions. Therefore I will give you over to ruin and your people to derision; you will bear the scorn of the nations."

Timeline for Micah

- c1000 BC United kingdom under David and Solomon
- c920 BC Kingdom divides into northern kingdom (Israel) and southern kingdom (Judah)
- c740-700 BC Ministry of Micah
- 722 BC Assyria destroys northern kingdom of Israel
- 701 BC Assyria invades Judah but kingdom is spared
- 597 BC Judah falls to Babylon and its people go into exile