

The Verdict for Unjust Powers

Pastor Derek Mackie
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Micah 3:1–12 (LSB)

¹ And I said, “Hear now, heads of Jacob And rulers of the house of Israel. Is it not for you to know justice?” ² “You who hate good and love evil, Who tear off their skin from them And their flesh from their bones, ³ And who eat the flesh of my people, Strip off their skin from them, Break their bones, And spread *them* out as for the pot And as meat in a caldron.” ⁴ Then they will cry out to Yahweh, But He will not answer them. Instead, He will hide His face from them at that time Because they have practiced evil deeds. ⁵ Thus says Yahweh concerning the prophets who lead my people astray; When they have *something* to bite with their teeth, They call out, “Peace,” But against him who puts nothing in their mouths, They set *themselves* apart for war. ⁶ Therefore *it will be* night for you—without vision, And darkness for you—without divination. The sun will go down on the prophets, And the day will grow black over them. ⁷ The seers will be ashamed, And the diviners will be humiliated. Indeed, they will all cover *their* mouths Because there is no answer from God. ⁸ On the other hand I am filled with power— With the Spirit of Yahweh— And with justice and might To declare to Jacob his transgression, Even to Israel his sin. ⁹ Now hear this, heads of the house of Jacob And rulers of the house of Israel, Who abhor justice And twist everything that is straight, ¹⁰ Who build Zion with bloodshed And Jerusalem with violent injustice. ¹¹ Her heads pronounce judgment for a bribe, And her priests instruct for a price, And her prophets divine for money. Yet they lean on Yahweh saying, “Is not Yahweh in our midst? Evil will not come upon us.” ¹² Therefore, on account of you Zion will be plowed as a field; Jerusalem will become a heap of ruins, And the mountain of the house of *God will become* high places of a forest.
