

# ARAMAIC BIBLE COMPANION

## INTIMATIONS OF CHRIST IN MICAH

*This short guide to the Messianic references of Micah establishes him among the prophets. Scholars have dismissed this great prophetic figure of Israel's classic era a prophet. He speaks of himself as a man moved by the Spirit of God and in the following prophetic notices you will find the stamp of a genuine prophet and the ring of truth in his timeless message.*

### THE GREAT MESSIANIC HUMILITY 7.8-10

*Where in the Old Testament will you get anything to compare with this statement except in Isaiah 53. Micah who is concerned with "justice" tells us in as many words that the LORD will provide his justification by "striving for him"*

Do not rejoice with laughter **O MY ENEMY**; when I am falling one I rise. When I am sitting in darkness the LORD is my light. I will carry the indignation or sadness [p[z] of the LORD because I have sinned against Him **UNTIL THE TIME WHEN HE STRIVES MY STRIFE AND CREATES JUSTIFICATION FOR ME. He will cause me to come forth to the light and I will see by prophecy or preaching into the house of His righteousness**

### CHAPTER 4

**4.1** And it shall come to pass **IN LATTER DAYS** that:

- (1)** The mountain of the house of the LORD shall be constituted or prepared [mkn As a threshing floor] at the head of the mountains
- (2)** And it shall be beyond and apart from the hills
- (3)** And peoples shall flow as rivers up to it.
- (4)** And great Gentile nations will come and say with revelation "Come let us go up to the mountain of the LORD and to the house of the God of Jacob so that He may teach us His **separated ways**
- (5)** And we shall walk in His **big pathways** of principle for from Zion comes Torah [Christ-ward direction] and from Jerusalem the oracle of guidance.
- (6)** He shall administer **justice between Great peoples** and cause **strong nations to be struck to the limits of distance away.**

**4.9 AT THIS TIME** why is it you cause a loud cry? Is there no king within you? Has your **COUNSELLOR** been slain? *Micah's prophecy would seem to relate to the "wonderful Counsellor" of Isaiah-the Christ of Isaiah 9.6. Birth pangs or fear and trembling have taken strong hold on you as on a woman during labour. Labour and bring forth O Daughter of Zion as one who gives birth.*

**4.6-7**In that day whispers the LORD...

- (1) ...I will collect those who lean to one side and are lame
- (2) And I will kibbutz those who were expelled and whom I caused to pass through calamity or those I broke
- (3) And I will make or constitute or establish the lame as a remnant and those cast far away to the Gentile a strong nation.
- (4) And the LORD will reign over them in mount Zion...

**FROM THIS TIME** (of the inception of his gathering and rule) unto the millennium. *Micah both tops and tails the Kingdom of Messiah. It has a terminus ex quo and a terminus ad quem.*

**4.11 AND AT THIS** time Great or many nations will assemble against you saying "Let us seduce her to apostasy or profane her and our eyes shall contemplate Zion with pleasure. But these do not know the distant devised plans of the LORD and they do not comprehend his predicted counsel or prudence for he will gather them together as sheaves of the threshing floor. *This latter simile is appropriate since the*

temple area which is at the heart of Jewish religion and was bought from Araunah symbolises the gathering of nations for a military defeat of extraordinary significance.

**4.13 (5.1 ENGLISH) AT THIS TIME** [*ht*] [*"this opportune time"*] break in upon the enemy O daughter of troops-he made a pressing siege against us. With a rod they will smite **THE JUDGE** of Israel upon the jaw-bone. *This prophecy was literally fulfilled as recorded in Luke 22.64 and John 18.22. We read "When they had blind-folded Him they struck him on the face" and "One of the officers who stood by struck Jesus with the palm of his hand". This prophecy cannot pass without remark that such callous treatment could be meted out to our precious LORD is despicable in the light of his divine compassionate and caring life work. Micah calls our Saviour "the Judge" as earlier he has called Him the Counsellor" and in the following chapter the "Ruler."*

## CHAPTER 5

**5.2** *The Hebrew Scriptures include the first verse of our translation in the previous chapter which makes better sense since the warfare of Israel is the topic continued in the verse. So the fifth chapter best begins with reference to the birth of Messiah. In defence of placing the verse as we have it there is a reference to our LORD in the prophecy about the "Judge of Israel".*

And You Bethlehem Ephrata are not to be the least among the thousands of Judah. From you will come for me He who is to be **RULER** in Israel. His regular goings forth (like the "risings" of the sun) have been far distant beyond the days of the age or earliest time.

## FURTHER MESSIANIC TITLES

**5.2** He will stand as **A MINISTER** and will be **SHEPHERD** in the strength of the LORD-in the splendid majesty of the name of the LORD His Eloah and they shall settle (*the reference is to Israel's latter day "settlement"*) for ...

**5.4 AT THIS TIME** he shall be **GREAT** to the ends of the earth. *The distinction between this "latter" time and the former appearance of the "ruler" is such as to recognise that one unique person supplies the part of David's son by His birth in Bethlehem and the Messianic role by His second advent-hence "at this time"*[*ht*] [*Adonai Jesus Christ was known for His ministry and His shepherd care. He said "The Son of Man came not to be ministered unto but to minister"(Matthew 20.28 & Mark 10.45). He also said, "I am the Good Shepherd -the good shepherd gives his life for the sheep"(John 10)*

## CHRIST THE PEACEMAKER OR SHILOH

**5.5 THIS ONE SHALL BE PEACE** for the Assyrian shall come into his land and when he will walk into our palaces and he will cause to be raised against him **seven Shepherds** (leaders) and eight **Appointed Persons** of mankind[*then thought of as princes JS*] literally means "*anointed ones*" or "*covenanted ones*". *The numbers should the context conform to the preceding setting of the latter days are of great interest. The "Shepherds" and "Appointed Persons" are of considerable interest. If we take Israeli Presidents there have been 9 to date and there have been 13 or more Prime-Ministers so the historic leadership of Israel since 1948 is not the subject here-but specific leaders when Christ rules. He will install a group of seven pastoral figures and eight rulers]*

## CHAPTER 7

**7.4** Their best is as a sharp stinging nettle, the just worse than a thorn hedge. The day of your watchman or he who lies in wait -of your visitor or examiner is coming.

**AT THIS TIME** comes their perplexity or confusion. Do not have faith in a caring friend; do not be confident of a familiar or associate; Keep the doors of your mouth from the one who rests on your breast. For the son is impious and disgraceful towards the father; the daughter gathers people against her mother; the daughter-in-law against her mother in law. The enemies of a man are sons or men of his own house. *The setting is reportage of the internecine time under Manasseh but prophetic of the times Christ spoke of in Luke 12 49-53 when Christ comes to send the "fire" of the Holy Spirit and the subsequent "fire" of judgment on the earth.*

## **MESSIAH'S KINGDOM AND WORLDWIDE MILLENNIAL RULE**

**7.11** The day of the building of your walls-this is the day the ordinance will be distant or effective to far away. **IN THAT DAY** they will come to you from Assyrian and cities of fortification [*i.e. "shut cities" "cities on your borders"*] and from fortified Egypt to the River (*Euphrates?*) and from sea to sea [*i.e. "all the earth"*]and mountain to mountain [*i.e. Exiles who return from East and West will come from many lands and kingdoms*] But the land shall be headed for destruction on account of its inhabitants and the fruit of their repeated wrongdoings.

## **MICAH CALLS FOR THE ADVENT OF THE "SHEPHERD"**

**7.14** Be **SHEPHERD** to your people with Your rod [*emblem of "the sceptre of rule"*] -the flock of Your inheritance who dwell in lonely woodland in the midst of Carmel; may they pasture Bashan and Gilead as in the days of the age gone by or long ago. As in the days of your coming from the land of Egypt I will cause him to see miracles.

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**To the glory of the Lord**  
**Aramaic Bible Companion**