

# **"EVEN OF LATE MY PEOPLE IS RISEN UP AS AN ENEMY"**

## **Micah 2:8**

### INTRODUCTION:

1. This is a sad thing to have to be said about God's people.
2. But, Micah the prophet of God, made this charge against God's people.
3. Let us study this grievous charge.

### I. LET US LISTEN TO THE GRIEVOUS CHARGE

1. They were His own people -- Micah 2:8
  - (1) His people that He had brought out of Egypt -- Micah 6:4
  - (2) God has enemies enough without His own people becoming such.
  - (3) It is horrible ingratitude for the chosen of God to rebel.
2. His own people had risen up "as an enemy" -- Micah 2:8
  - (1) Faithless friends wound keenly -- Zech. 13:6; Psa. 41:9
  - (2) For His favored people to rise up as a foe was cruel indeed.
3. They had lately done this -- "*Even of late*" -- Micah 2:8
  - (1) The sin is fresh, the wound is bleeding, the offense is rank.

### II. THE GRIEVOUS EVIDENCE BY WHICH THE CHARGE IS SUBSTANTIATED

1. They oppressed the poor.
  - (1) They would lay awake at night and plan how they would do it -- Micah 2: 1 - 2; Isa. 5:8
  - (2) Women and children were driven out of house and home -- Micah 2: 9
  - (3) They would even pull off the robe with the garment from them that passed -- Mic. 2:8
2. There was a complete lack of integrity.
  - (1) They could not trust a friend -- Micah 7: 5
  - (2) They could not trust a neighbor
  - (3) They could not trust their wife -- Micah 7:5
  - (4) The inhabitants spoke lies -- Micah 6:12
  - (5) The scant measure -- Micah 6: 10 - 11
  - (6) The most upright is sharper than a thorn hedge -- Micah 7:4
3. There were problems of juvenile delinquency -- Micah 7:6

- (1) A man's enemies were in his own house -- Micah 7:6
- 4. The people did not want any preaching done, except the weak kind that would allow them to go on in their sin without embarrassment -- Micah 2:11; Jer. 5:31
- 5. The prophets and priests were corrupt and greedy -- Micah 3:5; 3:11
  - (1) They were in it for the money
  - (2) War was made against the man that did not pay off -- Micah 3:5
- 6. Good men had perished out of the land -- Micah 7:2
- 7. The heads of Jacob hated the good and loved the evil -- Micah 3: 1- 2
- 8. They did not want to hear about their sins and transgressions -- Micah 2:6
  - (1) Micah told them anyway -- Micah 3:8
- 9. They had corrupted their worship with idols -- Micah 5: 12 - 15

### III. GRIEVOUS EVIDENCE AGAINST GOD'S PEOPLE TODAY THAT MANY HAVE RISEN UP AS AN ENEMY

- 1. Worldliness in the lives of many Christians -- James 4:4; I John 2: 15 - 17
- 2. Lack of integrity
  - (1) Brethren will lie to one another -- Eph. 4:25
  - (2) Brethren will cheat in their dealings with one another.
- 3. Homes are filled with distrust and lack of love.
  - (1) Men cannot trust their wives, and wives cannot trust their husbands.
  - (2) Sons dishonor their Fathers -- Eph. 6: 1 - 4
  - (3) Daughters rise up against their mothers -- Micah 7:6
  - (4) Daughter-in-laws are often against her mother-in-law -- Ruth 1:16
- 4. Many people today do not want any preaching done except the weak kind that will allow them to go on in their sins without having to change -- II Tim. 4: 1 - 5
- 5. Many preachers today preach what people want to hear and make merchandise of their hearers -- II Pet. 2:3; Jude 16; Tit. 1:11
  - (1) Bro. H. E. Phillips said in "The Forest Hills Teacher", Nov. 3, 1974: *"It is a known fact, and I am in a position to offer proof, that a few preachers will not hesitate to impose upon the time, the influence, or the financial ability of a brother without his consent. Even of late my people is risen up as an enemy."*
- 6. There are leaders in the church today that call "evil good" and "good evil".
  - (1) Those who teach it is good to get people to attend the services with carnal means -- ( Bus ministry with promotions to get people to come, etc.)
    - 1. The Gospel is the drawing power -- John 6: 44 - 45; Rom. 1:16

- (2) Those who teach the church should furnish entertainment as part of its work.
  - (3) They say it is wrong to oppose such works -- they say this is evil.
7. There are those who have corrupted the work and organization of the church.
- (1) Would have the church do its work through human institutions.
  - (2) Would have the church do its work through sponsoring church arrangements.
  - (3) Would have the church to preach and practice a social gospel.

CONCLUSION:

- 1. God's people today are no different than they were in the Old Testament.
- 2. Many still rise up as an enemy.

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