

**BEREAN BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**MATTERS OF THE HEART (Micah 6:1-8)**  
**MORNING, JANUARY 22, 2023**

KEY TEXTS: Micah 6:1-8

INTRODUCTION – THE BOOK OF MICAH

- Micah was written as a w\_\_\_\_\_ against persistent sinful living
- There are three main parts to the book of Micah (starting with 1:2, 3:1, and 6:1)
- Each part starts with the word “h\_\_\_\_\_”
- this would be familiar to Jewish society, as they would all be familiar with the Shema (Deut 6:4-5)
- each part starts with the threat of judgment and ends with the hope of God’s covenantal promises
- chapter 6-7 is the last of these parts
- God’s message: all men are a \_\_\_\_\_ and must face judgment
- but at the same time, God’s covenantal promises to save His people will not f\_\_\_\_\_!

1.0 COMPLACENT REBELLION

- v1-3: God questions Israel: “*Why are you rebellious? Have I wronged you?*”
- instead of judgment, God reasons with them, with a view to Israel’s r\_\_\_\_\_.
- v4-5: *I have shown you My righteousnesses* (plural)
- God d\_\_\_\_\_ Israel from Egypt with mighty signs
- what did Balak king of Moab request of Balaam? (Num 22:2-3, 6)
- how did Balaam respond? God turned Balaam’s oracles of c\_\_\_\_\_ into those of b\_\_\_\_\_ because He loved Israel (Deut 23:5)

2.0 CONFUSED REACTION

- v6-7: they m\_\_\_\_\_ their offenses
- v6: their answer sought to excuse their failures but it showed they didn’t understand
- they thought that r\_\_\_\_\_ would solve the problem
- v7: thousands of rams – wrong to think if one was good, many must be better
- sacrifices are e\_\_\_\_\_ to make compared to walking upright before God (Hosea 6:6)
- God desired evidence that *their hearts were d\_\_\_\_\_ to Him*

3.0 COMMITTED RESOLUTION

- v8: the heart of the matter
- God desires fruit of the Spirit from a heart that l\_\_\_\_\_ God (Gal 5:22-23)
- justice, mercy and humility are matters of the h\_\_\_\_\_.
- do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly
- God loves a sacrifice that comes from a f\_\_\_\_\_, grateful heart (remember Cain & Abel)

CONCLUSION

- God has no r\_\_\_\_\_ for empty rituals – *He wants our hearts*
- the only thing that s\_\_\_\_\_ God is *the propitiation provided by Christ on the cross* (Rom 3:25-26)
- faith makes men’s hearts s\_\_\_\_\_ like His own: righteous, loving, humble, and faithful
- only a heart that has been t\_\_\_\_\_ by the Holy Spirit can fulfill the Law in C\_\_\_\_\_ (Phil 4:13)