

- iv. What do we trust in as American Christians?
 - a) Is it our Bibles?
 - b) Is it our constitution?
 - c) Is it in our military might?
 - d) Is it Jesus?

Conclusion

The greatest contribution the church can make to society is the church.

- A. Where do your loyalties lie?

- B. Justice was, is, and will always be important to God.

LIVE THE STORY

*The Gospel is intended to be learned and lived in community.
The following questions are designed for use in our Community Groups as an aid to growth in the Gospel and Community.*

- Through this message were any false securities revealed in your own life from which you needed to repent? False loyalties? Explain.
- How does our text say that it is the responsibility of leaders to know justice, and what is God's description of their acts of injustice?
- How does the book of Micah show us that God will treat Israel as He treats other nations—justly? ... that injustices will never produce security, for God is the One Who liberates people from bondage?
- How does Micah's declaration in 3:8 resemble Jesus' declaration in Luke 4:18-21? What might it say about the church's call in the world?
- Why do you think it is important to recognize that the recipients of the declarations in Micah 3 are the civil and spiritual leaders? How might this apply today?
- What does it mean to say that the greatest contribution the church can make to society is the church, as long as the church is the church?
- How do the texts in Jeremiah (9 & 22) reveal a connection between showing mercy and knowing God? What does this say to you?

Who is Like God? - Part 4 *No Justice, No Light, No Protection* Jerry Cisar — July 2, 2017

Text: Micah 3

Introduction

- A. In what do you trust?

- B. Confidence in the Lord's blessings apart from obedience to the Lord's commands to love our neighbor are evidence of false security in idolatrous versions of the gospel.

I. No Justice (3:1-4)

- A. Those in leadership, whether civil or spiritual, are under a much greater standard of judgment than those who are *"on the ship."*
 - i. Matthew 7:15-19
 - ii. James 3:1

 - iii. God of the Nations (Romans 3:29)

 - iv. It is the responsibility of leaders to know justice. (1)
 - a) Psalm 82
 - b) Jeremiah 9:23-26
 - c) Jeremiah 22:15-17

- B. Israel's rulers are cannibals. (2-3)
 - i. What are the evidences that they hate good and love evil?

 - ii. They are ravenous wolves!

- C. God will be silent. (4)
 - i. Two circumstances in which God is silent to His people:
 - a) What Job and Jesus experienced.

 - b) The silence of God's judgment.

 - ii. When God's hides His face, everything goes dark.

II. No Light (3:5-8)

- A. Prophets for hire.
 - i. The prophets job was to speak on God's behalf by expounding God's Law.

 - ii. It isn't hard to find a church today preaching what these false prophets preached.

- B. "If you prophets silence my Word, I will remove it!" (6-7)

- C. The Mission of the True Prophet (8)
 - i. The true prophet is empowered by the Spirit of the Lord, with justice and might to declare to Jacob (Israel) his sin.

 - ii. Jesus is the ultimate prophet; the prophet who embodies the fullness of prophetic ministry. (Luke 4:14-21)

III. No Protection (3:9-12)

- A. The Distortion of What is Right

- B. Trusting in the Wrong Things
 - i. Psalm 48:1-8

 - ii. A security rooted in cheap grace is no security at all.

 - iii. God will treat Israel as He treats other nations—justly.