

Waiting for the Lord  
Micah 7:1-20  
Bethany Assembly of God  
12.8.2024

**Central Proposition: Wait for the God of your salvation.**

**Introduction**

This is the last message in our series on Micah and I think it's the quintessential message of the book; it all leads here. Micah's life was spent warning God's people of judgment and encouraging them to turn from injustice, oppression, and idolatry, only to see it come tumbling down near the end of his life. Its little wonder Micah 7 begins the way it does. I need you to get into this headspace of frustration with me so that we can better understand what's going on. God, I expected more. I was looking for greater things. Where are they? I am frustrated and disappointed, but I will wait for the God of my salvation. What's involved in this waiting?

**1. Hope in the vindication of Christ.** See Micah 7:8-10; 2 Corinthians 5:21; Psalm 27:1 & 139:12.

Vindication involves a turnaround in which there is proof that someone or something is right, reasonable, or justified. Micah trusted in the covenant that God made with Abraham and with the people of Israel, but we trust in the covenant that God secured for us through Jesus. In His life and death, Jesus embodies God's covenant people, Israel, and the blessing that was to flow from them to the world, only where they failed because of their lack of faith and sin, He succeeded. If you are a believer in Christ, then you are in Him and all the promises of God are "yes and amen" to you in Jesus.

**2. Rest in the strength of the Good Shepherd.** See Micah 7:11-17; John 10:11, 14.

Micah has lamented the current and future desolation of Jerusalem and Israel, but a day is coming when the judgment God brought on Jerusalem will be brought on the rest of the world. Then, a restored Jerusalem will become a place of salvation for the desolate world. Again, we find the ultimate fulfillment of this prophecy in Jesus. Relying on the strength of the Good Shepherd means that our causes should point people to Jesus, not to our own strength or resourcefulness. Resting in the strength of the Good Shepherd also means quieting our hearts and being led by God when we feel like we're walking in darkness, in the valley of the shadow of death, or we're surrounded by enemies. He will lead you through the darkness if you will rest in His strength.

**3. Have confidence in God's gracious character.** See Micah 7:18-20.

The ultimate reason to wait for the God of your salvation is His character. Unlike the faithless leaders of Israel who oppressed and adulterated themselves with false gods and unlike the often characterless and faithless leaders of our age, God is worthy of trust. Have confidence in the character of God. He pardons sin through the blood of Jesus. People may delight and profit from anger and outrage but He delights in steadfast love. He is compassionate. He doesn't only forgive sin, He tramples it underfoot. If you will humble yourself, confess your need, and put your whole confidence in the Lord, He desires to trample your iniquity underfoot rather than you being trampled because of your iniquity.

**Conclusion**

And so we find that waiting for the Lord means hoping in the vindication of Christ, resting in the strength of the Good Shepherd, and having confidence in God's gracious character. Are you waiting on the Lord? Following Jesus doesn't mean that we don't face frustration, disappointment, and darkness; it means that when we face it, we know that He is with us and we have confidence that He will deliver us.