

John 19:1-5

Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. ²The soldiers twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head. They clothed him in a purple robe ³ and went up to him again and again, saying, “Hail, king of the Jews!” And they slapped him in the face.

⁴ Once more Pilate came out and said to the Jews gathered there, “Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no basis for a charge against him.” ⁵ When Jesus came out wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe, Pilate said to them, “Here is the man!”

Listen to what the LORD says:

“Stand up, plead my case before the mountains;
let the hills hear what you have to say.

² “Hear, you mountains, the LORD’s accusation;
listen, you everlasting foundations of the earth.

For the LORD has a case against his people;
he is lodging a charge against Israel.

Micah 6:1-2

Two concepts to pay attention:

1. The Lord invite Israel and Judah to *Listen*: The word Listen is the same found in

Deuteronomy 6: 4 Shama, the message convey here carries great importance for God's people. This is when God establish the covenant with the Israelites for the first time.

2. God is bringing His people to judgement for breaking the covenant-contract, the Hebrew word for case, content is Rib. Denoting a legal case or dispute.

The case against his people is explained in more detail in the previous chapters of the book.

Micah 3:9-12

Hear this, you leaders of Jacob,
you rulers of Israel,

who despise justice

and distort all that is right;

¹⁰ who build Zion with bloodshed,
and Jerusalem with wickedness.

¹¹ Her leaders judge for a bribe,
her priests teach for a price,
and her prophets tell fortunes for money.

Yet they look for the LORD's support and
say,

“Is not the LORD among us?

No disaster will come upon us.”

¹² Therefore because of you,

Zion will be plowed like a field,

Jerusalem will become a heap of rubble,

the temple hill a mound overgrown

with thickets.

Some of this amazing prophecies found fulfillment years later, first in Israel, and later in Jerusalem.

1. The witness in this case are the Mountains and Hills.
2. The preamble to the case is found in verses 1 and 2.
3. The case is argued by God in verses 3- 5.

God does not accused His people in a direct way in this chapter, he reminds them of the many times he bless and protect them:

- a. I brought you out of Egypt and slavery.
- b. I send you Moses and Miriam my prophets(servants).
- c. I protect you from Balak. Numbers 22:1-5, he hires a prophet to curse Israel.
- d. Balaam, was a prophet of God who was willing to sell his spiritual gifts for money.

Micah 6: 6-7

With what shall I come before the LORD
and bow down before the exalted God?

Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,
with calves a year old?

⁷ Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of
rams,

with ten thousand rivers of olive oil?

Shall I offer my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?

The prophet is asking in a poetic way how to please God.

1. Offering thousand rams in a burn sacrifice.
2. Pouring rivers of olive oil as an offering.
3. Making a human sacrifice, that was prohibited by God, perhaps an allusion to Abraham intent of sacrificing Isaac.

The human effort to please God are futile, emphasizes our incapacity to honor God with Human effort. For sin.

The sacrifices and offering is what God's people was instructed to offer for sin, however the sacrifices take a non intended course, they replace the lack of sincere and deep repentance for sin.

Micah 6:8

He has shown you, O mortal, what
is good.

And what does the LORD require
of you?

To act justly and to love mercy
and to walk humbly with your
God.

God Was expecting from Israel three things that summarized His law:

1. Act justly, doing the best for their neighbor, the invitation is to restrain ourselves from harming or taking advantage of people.
2. Love mercy, is an invitation to extend compassion to the people that we encounter daily, is treating others In the way God treat us.
3. Walking humble with God remind us of our need of a relationship with our God where humility take a primary roll.

The text mentions: He have show you.

The text remind the first hearers of this message that God not only says what he expected, but he showed them what to do.

How God have show the modern readers of scripture what to do?

Where the modern Christian can find a living example in what God is expecting from us?

1 Peter 2:19-24

¹⁹ For it is commendable if someone bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because they are conscious of God. ²⁰ But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God. ²¹ To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.

²² “He committed no sin,
and no deceit was found in his mouth.”^[e]

²³ When they hurled their insults at him, he did not retaliate; when he suffered, he made no threats. Instead, he entrusted himself to him who judges justly. ²⁴ “He himself bore our sins” in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; “by his wounds you have been healed.”

What is your answer?

