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Mikah

(Heb. Mikah)

Introduction

The prophets Mikah/Micah and Yeshayah (Isaiah) lived at the same time—Mikah came from a town in the southern kingdom of Yehudah. God revealed to Mikah the coming destruction to Yehudah that had been prophesied by the prophet Amos concerning the northern kingdom. Yahweh would punish the people due to their disobedient actions and due to his anger over their biased court decisions, but the account of prophet Mikah also talks about a hopeful future.
Now there are famous prophecies included in this document : Yahweh's announcement about ruling the entire world and bringing of peace/prosperity (4:1-4), the prophesying concerning the coming king from David's descendants bringing of peace/prosperity (5:2-5a); and the vital command taught by prophet Mikah there to Yisrael: "[Yahweh] has told humanity what is good, and what [he] requires from you: Act justly, love kindness, and walk humbly with your god." (6:8)

Main components of this document

The punishment of Yisrael and Yehudah *1:1–3:12*
The arrival of promised teacher of Yisrael bringing good living *4:1–5:15*
The warning and telling of hopefulness *6:1–7:20*

Lighter type marks additions. Underscores join parts of a single source word.
Struck words are untranslated. The ◘ sign marks a verse with no text.
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Readers' Version

1:1 This is Yahweh's message that came to Mikah (from Morashet) in the days of Yehudah's (Judah's) kings Yotam (Jotham),[1] Ahaz,[2] and Hizkiyah (Hezekiah),[3] that he saw concerning Shomron (Samaria) and Yerushalem (Jerusalem).

Shomron and Yerushalem's mourning · Both kingdoms

2 Listen, all you peoples.
Let the world and everything in it pay attention.
Let my master Yahweh be against you as a witness,
my master from his sacred temple
3 because wow, Yahweh comes out of his place.
He will come down and tread on the high places[4] of the earth.
4 The mountains will melt under him.
The valleys will break apart,
like wax that's near a fire,
like waters that are poured out from a steep place.
5 All that is because of Ya'akov's (Jacob's) disobedience,
and because of the sins of the Israeli people.
What was Ya'akov's transgression? Isn't it Shomron (Samaria)?
What is Yehudah's (Judah's) high place? Isn't it Yerushalem (Jerusalem)?
6 "I will make Shomron a heap of ruins in the countryside—
a place for planting vineyards.
Then I'll pour the stones from her buildings down into the valley
and I'll uncover her foundations.
7 All her carved statues will be smashed into pieces,
and all her wages will be burnt.
Yes, I'll totally destroy all her idols.
Since she used prostitutes' wages to pay for them,
the crushed pieces of idols will become prostitutes' wages again."

Literal Version

1:1 The_message_of **YHWH** which it_came to Mīkāh the_Mōrashtiy in_the_days_of Yōtām/(Jotham) 'Āḥāz Ḥizqiy^{yāh} the_kings_of Yəhūdāh/(Judah) which he_saw on Shomrōn and_Yərūshālaim/(Jerusalem).

2 Hear Oh_peoples of_them_of_all pay_attention Oh_earth and_what_of_fills_it and_let_it_be my_ _master **YHWH** in_you(pl) (into)_a_witness my_ _master from_the_temple_of his_holiness_of_his. **3** If/because HERE **YHWH** is_about_to_go_forth from_place_of_his and_he_will_come_down and_ _he_will_tread on the_high_places_of[5] the_earth. **4** And_ the_mountains _they_will_melt under_ _him and_the_valleys they_will_be_cleft like_wax from_face/in_front_of the_fire like_water poured_out on_a_descent. **5** Is_for_the_ _transgression_of Ya'$_a$qov/(Jacob) all_of this and_ _for_the_sins_of the_house_of Yisrā'^{ēl}/(Israel) who is_the_transgression_of Ya'$_a$qov am_not is_ _it_Shomrōn and_who are_the_high_places_of Yəhūdāh am_not is_it_Yərūshālaim/(Jerusalem). **6** And_I_will_make Shomrōn into_(the)_heap_of_ _ruins_of the_field into_planting_place(s)_of a_ _vineyard and_I_will_pour_down to_valley stones_of_its and_foundations_of_its I_will_ _uncover. **7** And_all images_of_its they_will_be_ _crushed and_all hire(s)_of_its they_will_be_ _burnt with_fire and_all idols_of_its I_will_make a_waste if/because from_the_hire_of a_prostitute it_gathered_them and_unto the_hire_of a_ _prostitute they_will_return. **8** On this I_will_ _lament and_I_will_wail I_will_go barefoot[6] and_ _naked I_will_make a_lament like_jackals and_a_ _mourning like_the_daughters_of an_ostrich. **9** If/because is_incurable wounds_of_its if/because it_has_come to Yəhūdāh/(Judah) it_ _has_reached to the_gate_of my_people_of_my to Yərūshālaim/(Jerusalem).

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1 **RV 1:1 · Cross-ref.** 2Ki 15:32-38; 2Ch 27:1-9.

2 **RV 1:1 · Cross-ref.** 2Ki 16:1-20; 2Ch 28:1-27.

3 **RV 1:1 · Cross-ref.** 2Ki 18:1–20:21; 2Ch 29:1–32:33.

4 **RV 1:3 · Note** Possibly referring to the pagan temples which were often constructed on hilltops.

5 **LV 1:3 · Note** OSHB variant note: יתומב: (x-qere) 'יְתָמָּב': lemma_1116 morph_HNcfpc id_33Wkf יְתָמָּב

6 **LV 1:8 · Note** OSHB variant note: ללישׁ: (x-qere) 'לָלוֹשׁ': lemma_7758 n_1.0 morph_HAamsa id_33jQ8 לָלוֹשׁ

Literal Version

10 In_Gath do_not tell at_all_(weep) do_not weep in_house_of leaphrah dust roll_yourself[7]. **11** Pass_ _on to/for_you(pl) Oh_inhabitant[s]_of Shaphir bareness shame not the_inhabitant[s]_of Tsa'ₐnān/(Zaanan) she_came_forth the_lament_ _of Bēyt Ezel it_will_take from_you(pl) ground_ _of_its_standing. **12** If/because she_is_in_anguish for_good the_inhabitant[s]_of Mārōt if/because calamity it_has_come_down from_with **YHWH** to_the_gate_of Yərūshālaim/(Jerusalem). **13** Harness the_chariot to_steed[s] Oh_ _inhabitant[s]_of Lākīsh was_the_beginning_of sin it for_the_daughter_of Tsiyyōn/(Zion) if/because in_you the_transgressions_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) they_were_found. **14** For_ _so/thus/hence you_will_give parting_gifts to Mōreshet Gat the_houses_of 'Akzīv will_become_ _(into)_a_deceitful_thing to_the_kings_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel). **15** Again the_one_who_ _dispossesses I_will_bring to/for_you(fs) Oh_ _inhabitant[s]_of Mar'ēshāh to ʹAdullām[8][9][10] the_ _glory_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) he_will_come. **16** Make_ _bald and_shave on the_children_of your(pl)_ _delights_of_your make_large baldness_of_your like_eagle if/because they_will_go_into_exile from_you.

2:1 Woe_to those_who_plan_of (of)_wickedness and_those_who_do_of (of)_evil on beds_of_their at_the_light_of the_morning they_do_it

Readers' Version

8 Because of that, I'll mourn and wail.
I'll go barefoot and undressed.
I'll wail like the jackals
and mourn like owls
9 because her wound is incurable.
Yes, it's come to Yehudah (Judah).
It's reached the gate of my people—reached Yerushalem (Jerusalem).

War is coming to Yerushalem · Southern kingdom

10 Don't tell about it in Gat.
Don't weep at all.
I roll myself in the dust at Beyt-Le'afrah (the house of dust).
11 Pass by undressed and humiliated, inhabitants of Shafir.
Don't come out, inhabitants of Tsa'anan.
Beyt-Haetsel mourns—its place to stand is taken from you
12 because the inhabitants of Marot wait anxiously for good,
because disaster has come down from Yahweh to Yerushalem's (Jerusalem's) gates.
13 Harness the chariot to the team of horses, inhabitants of Lakish.
She was the beginning of sin for the daughter of Tsiyon (Zion),
because Yisrael's (Israel's) transgressions were first found in you.
14 So you'll give parting gifts to Moreshet-Gat.
The town of Akziv will deceive Yisrael's kings.
15 I will again bring a conqueror to you, inhabitants of Mareshah.
Yisrael's best will come to Adulam.
16 Shave your head
and cut off your hair
for the children who you delight in.
Make yourselves as bald as eagles,
because they'll be taken from you and into exile.

Punishing the oppressors

2:1 Woe to those who plan to do wicked things—

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7 **LV 1:10 · Note** OSHB variant note: יתשלפתה: (x-qere) יְשָׁלְפָתְהּ: lemma_6428 n_0 morph_HVtv2fs id_33aMT יְשָׁלְפָתְהּ

8 **LV 1:15 · Note** OSHB note: Marks a place where we agree with BHQ against BHS in reading L.

9 **LV 1:15 · Note** OSHB note: Marks an anomalous form.

10 **LV 1:15 · Note** OSHB note: We read punctuation in L differently from BHS.

Readers' Version

to those who do evil on their beds.
They do it in the morning light
because they make use of their power.
2 They see fields that they'd like and seize them,
and houses and they just take them.
They'll oppress a man and his household—
even taking property handed down in the family.
3 Therefore Yahweh says,
"Listen, I'm planning to bring disaster against this clan,
which you won't be able to avoid.
You won't walk so proudly,
because it'll be a terrible time for you all.
4 In that day someone will sing a song against you all.
and mourn with a song of wailing,
and say, 'We're completely ruined.
Yahweh changes my people's territory.
How can he remove the land from me?
He divides our fields up to give to traitors.' "
5 Therefore, there'll be no one in Yahweh's assembly
who'll have authority to measure you out any more land.
6 "Don't tell us that,"
they tell us!
"They shouldn't preach those things—
that sort of disgrace will never happen to us."
7 Do Ya'akov's (Jacob's) descendants really ask,
"Is the Yahweh's spirit impatient?
Are these his actions?"
Don't my words do good to anyone who obeys them?
8 Lately my people have risen up against me like an enemy.
You strip the rich robe off those who are innocently going past,
like a soldier on the battlefield might have done to his enemy.
9 You've driven our widows out of their pleasant houses.
You've forever deprived their young children of what I'd blessed them with.
10 Get ready and leave because this isn't a place for resting.

Literal Version

if/because (there)_it_is to_the_power_of their_
_hand_of_their. **2** And_they_desire fields and_
_they_seize_them and_houses and_they_take_
_them and_they_oppress a_man and_his/its_
_house(hold) and_a_man and_inheritance_of_his.
3 For_so/thus/hence thus **YHWH** he_says here_I
am_planning on the_clan (the)_this calamity
which not you(pl)_will_remove from_there
necks_of_your(pl) and_not you(pl)_will_walk
haughtily if/because will_be_a_time evil it. **4** In_
_the_day (the)_that someone_will_lift_up on_
_you(pl) a_saying and_he_will_wail a_wailing it_
_is_finished he_will_say utterly_(devastate) we_
_are_devastated the_portion_of my_people_of_
_my he_changes how he_removes_it to_me to_an_
_apostate fields_of_our he_apportions. **5** For_
_so/thus/hence not he_will_belong to/for_
_yourself(m) one_who_throws a_measuring-line
by_lot in_the_assembly_of **YHWH**. **6** Do_not
prophesy they_prophesy not they_will_prophesy
of_these_things not ignomini[es] it_will_be_
_turned_back. **7** Is_it_said Oh_house_of
Ya'ₐqov/(Jacob) is_ the_spirit_of **YHWH** _it_short
or are_these deeds_of_his am_not
words/messages_of_my do_they_do_good with
the_upright_person walking. **8** And_yesterday
people_of_my to_an_enemy he_raises_up from_
_in_front_of a_garment a_mantle you(pl)_strip_
_off from_those_who_pass_by security those_
_who_turn_back_of war. **9** The_women_of my_
_people_of_my you(pl)_drive_out from_the_
_house_of her_delights_of_her from_under
children_of_her you(pl)_take_away glory_of_my
forever_perpetuity. **10** Arise and_go if/because
not this is_(the)_resting_place in_account_of
uncleanness it_will_ruin and_the_ruin will_be_
_grievous. **11** If anyone who_walks_of wind and_
_falsehood he_told_a_lie I_will_prophesy to/for_
_yourself(m) of_wine and_of_(the)_drink and_it_
_was the_prophesier_of the_people (the)_this.
12 Surely_(gather) I_will_gather Oh_Ya'ₐqov of_
_you_of_all surely_(assemble) I_will_assemble
the_remnant_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) together I_will_
_make_it like_sheep a_sheepfold like_a_flock in_
_the_middle of_(the)_pasture_of_its they_will_be_
_distraught from_humankind. **13** The_one_who_
_breaks_through he_will_go_up before_them
they_will_break_through and_they_have_passed_
_through the_gate and_they_went_out in_him/it
and_ king_of_their _he/it_passed_through
before_them and_**YHWH** will_be_of_at_their_

Literal Version

_head.

3:1 And_I_said hear please Oh_leaders_of Ya'ₐqov/(Jacob) and_Oh_rulers_of the_house_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) am_not to/for_you(pl) to_know ~~DOM~~ (the)_justice. **2** Oh_you(pl)_who_hate_of (of)_ _good and_you(pl)_who_love_of (of)_evil[12] who_ _tear_away_of skin_of_(of)_their from_on_them and_flesh_of_their from_under bones_of_their. **3** And_which they_have_eaten the_flesh_of my_ _people_of_my and_skin_of_their from_on_them they_have_stripped_off and_~~DOM~~ bones_of_their they_have_broken_in_pieces and_they_have_ _chopped_them_up just_as in_pot and_like_meat in_the_middle a_caldron. **4** Then they_will_cry_ _out to **YHWH** and_not he_will_answer them and_he_will_hide his/its_faces/face from_them at_time (the)_that just_as they_have_made_evil deeds_of_their. **5** Thus **YHWH** he_says on the_ _prophets who_mislead ~~DOM~~ people_of_my who_ _bite with_teeth_of_their and_they_proclaim peace and_which not he_puts on_mouth_of_their and_they_consecrate on/upon/above_him/it war. **6** For_so/thus/hence night to/for_you(pl) from_ _vision and_it_will_grow_dark to/for_you(pl) from_divining and_ the_sun _it_will_go on the_ _prophets and_it_will_be_dark on_them the_day. **7** And_they_will_be_ashamed[13] the_seers and_

Readers' Version

It's about to be completely destroyed because of its disobedience.

11 If someone comes to you full of talk and lies and says,
"I'll prophesy to you about enjoying wine and strong drink,"
he'd be considered to be a prophet for this people.
12 I will certainly gather all of you, Ya'akov (Jacob).
I'll definitely assemble the remnant of Yisrael (Israel).
I'll bring them together like sheep in a pen—
like a flock in the middle of their pasture.
Noisy because there'll be so many people.
13 Someone will go in front of them to break open the way.
They'll force open the gate and go out.
Their king will pass on ahead of them.
Yahweh will be at their head.

Scolding Yisrael's leaders and prophets · Both kingdoms

3:1 Then I said, "Now listen,
you leaders of Ya'akov (Jacob),
and rulers of the house of Yisrael (Israel):
Isn't it your responsibility to understand justice?
2 Those who hate good
and love evil,
those who tear their skin off them
and their flesh from their bones,
3 those who eat the flesh of my people,
and their skin that they've stripped off them,
they break their bones,
and chop them in pieces,
just like soup in a pot—
like meat in a cauldron.
4 Then they'll call out to Yahweh for help,
but he won't answer them.
He'll hide himself from them at that time,
because they've done evil things."
5 So Yahweh speaks out against the 'prophets' who lead his people astray:
"They lie through their teeth and proclaim,

12 LV 3:2 · Note OSHB variant note: הער: (x-qere) 'עֶרֶ': lemma_7451 b n_1 morph_HAamsa id_33pm7 עֶרֶ

13 LV 3:7 · Note OSHB note: We read one or more accents in L differently from BHQ.

Readers' Version

'Peace.'
They're fighting against the one who never put a single word into their mouths.
6 Therefore, it'll be night for you prophets, without any visions.
It will be dark for you all, without any prophesying.
The sun will go down on the 'prophets',
and the day will be black for them.
7 The tellers of the future will be put to shame,
and the diviners will be disgraced.
They will cover their lips, all of them,
because there'll be no answer from God."
8 But I'm full of power from Yahweh's spirit,
and full of justice and strength,
to declare to Ya'akov (Jacob) his disobedience,
and to Yisrael (Israel) his sin.
9 Now listen to this,
you leaders of the house of Ya'akov,
and rulers of the house of Yisrael,
you all who detest justice,
and who take everything that's right and make it crooked.
10 You build Tsiyon (Zion) with blood
and Yerushalem (Jerusalem) with evil.
11 Her leaders judge for a bribe,
her priests teach for a price,
and her prophets do divination for money.
Yet they claim to depend on Yahweh, and they say,
"Isn't Yahweh right here with us?
Nothing bad can happen to us."
12 Therefore, because of you all,
Tsiyon (Zion) will become a ploughed field,
Yerushalem (Jerusalem) will become a heap of rubble,
and the temple hill will become covered with scrub.[11]

Yahweh's mountain · Both kingdoms[14]

4:1 In the last days it'll come about
that the mountain where Yahweh's residence is
will become more important than other mountains.

Literal Version

those_who_divine _they_will_be_abashed and_
_they_will_cover over a_moustache of_them_of_
_all if/because there_will_not_be an_answer_of
god. **8** And_but I I_am_full power with the_spirit_
_of **YHWH** and_justice and_might to_announce
to_Ya'$_{a}$qov/(Jacob) transgression_of_its and_to_
_Yisrā'^{ēl}/(Israel) sin_of_its. **9** Hear please this Oh_
_leaders_of the_house_of Ya'$_{a}$qov and_Oh_rulers_
_of the_house_of Yisrā'^{ēl}/(Israel) who_loathe
justice and_~~DOM~~ every_of (the)_straight_thing
they_make_crooked. **10** Who_build
Tsiyyōn/(Zion) with_blood(s) and_
_Yərūshālaim/(Jerusalem) with_injustice.
11 Leaders_of_its for_a_bribe they_judge and_
_priests_of_its for_a_price they_teach and_
_prophets_of_its for_money they_divine and_on
YHWH they_depend to_say am_not is_**YHWH** in_
_midst_of_our not it_will_come on_us calamity.
12 For_so/thus/hence on_account_of_of_you(pl)
Tsiyyōn a_field it_will_be_plowed and_
_Yərūshālaim/(Jerusalem) heaps_of_ruins it_will_
_be and_the_mountain_of the_house (into)_high_
_places_of a_forest.

4:1 And_it_was in_end/latter the_days it_will_be
the_mountain_of the_house_of **YHWH**
established (in)_the_chief_of the_mountains and_
it _will_be_lifted_up more_than_the_hills and_
_they_will_stream on/upon/above_him/it
peoples. **2** And_ nations many _they_will_come

11 RV 3:12 · Cross-ref. Jer 26:18.

14 RV 4:1 · Parallel Isa. 2:2-4

Literal Version

and_they_will_say come and_let_us_go_up to the_
_mountain_of **YHWH** and_near/to the_house_of
the_god_of Ya´ₐqov/(Jacob) so_that_he_may_
_teach_us from_ways_of_his and_so_that_we_
_may_walk in_paths_of_his if/because from_
_Tsiyyōn instruction it_will_go_forth and_the_
_message_of **YHWH** from_
_Yərūshālaim/(Jerusalem). **3** And_he_will_judge
between peoples many and_he_will_decide for_
_nations mighty to far_away and_they_will_beat
swords_of_their into_plowshares and_spears_of_
_their into_pruning_knives not nation they_will_
_lift_up against nation a_sword and_not they_
_will_learn again warfare. **4** And_they_will_dwell
everyone under vine_of_his_own and_under fig_
_tree_of_his_own and_there_will_not_be one_
_who_terrifies if/because the_mouth_of **YHWH**
soldiers/messengers it_has_spoken. **5** If/because
all_of the_peoples they_walk everyone in/on_
_name_of his/its_god and_we we_will_walk
in/on_name_of **YHWH** god_of_our forever_
_perpetuity and_ever.

6 In_the_day (the)_that the_utterance_of **YHWH**
I_will_gather the_one_who_is_lame and_the_one_
_who_is_outcast I_will_assemble and_which I_
_have_done_harm_to. **7** And_I_will_make ~~DOM~~
the_one_who_was_lame into_a_remnant and_the_
_one_who_was_straying to_(a)_nation mighty
and_ **YHWH** _he_will_reign over_them in_the_
_mountain_of Tsiyyōn/(Zion) from_now and_
_unto perpetuity. **8** And_you(ms) Oh Migdal Oh_
_hill_of the_daughter_of Tsiyyōn to_you it_will_
come and the_dominion (the)_former a_
_kingdom_of to_the_daughter_of
Yərūshālaim/(Jerusalem) _it_will_come. **9** Now
to/for_what do_you_shout shouting a_king is_
_there_not on/over_you(fs) or counsellor_of_your
has_he_perished that/for/because/then/when
it_has_taken_hold_of_you anguish like_(the)_
_who]_gives_birth. **10** Writhe_in_pain and_burst_
_forth Oh_daughter_of Tsiyyōn like_(the)_who]_
_gives_birth if/because now you_will_go_out
from_the_town and_you_will_dwell in_the_field
and_you_will_go to Bāvel there you_will_be_

Readers' Version

Then it'll be lifted above the hills,
and peoples will stream to it.
2 Many nations will go and say,
"Come, let's go up to Yahweh's mountain,
to the house of the Ya'akov's (Jacob's) god
so that he will teach us his ways,
and we will walk on his paths."
Because the law will go out from Tsiyon (Zion),
and Yahweh's message from Yerushalem (Jerusalem).
3 He'll judge among many peoples
and will arbitrate for strong countries far away.
They'll beat their swords into plough blades
and their spears into pruning hooks.
Nations won't attack other nations,
nor will they train for war any longer.
4 Then every person will be able to sit under their grapevine
and under their fig tree.
No one will make them afraid,[15]
because Commander-in-chief Yahweh has spoken.
5 All various people groups follow their own god,
but we will obey our god Yahweh's instructions
forever and ever.

Yisrael will return from exile · Both kingdoms

6 Yahweh declares: "At that time, I'll gather the lame people
and assemble those who were scattered—those who I've done harm to.
7 And I will turn those lame people into a growing group,
and those scattered ones into a strong nation,
and Yahweh will reign over them on Mt. Tsiyon (Zion),
from now and until forever.
8 And you, watchtower for the flock,
hill of the daughter of Tsiyon—
to you it will come—your former dominion will arrive—
the kingdom that belongs to the daughter of Yerushalem (Jerusalem).
9 Now, why do you shout so loudly?
Is it because you don't have a king?

15 **RV 4:4 · Cross-ref.** Zech 3:10.

Readers' Version

Is it because your advisor passed away
that pain's gripping you like that of a woman in labour.
10 Be in pain and labour daughter of Tsiyon,
like a woman giving birth.
For now, you need to go out of the city
and live in the countryside.
Then you'll go to Bavel (Babylon) and be rescued from there.
There Yahweh will redeem you from your enemies' control.
11 Now many nations have assembled against you.
They say, 'Let her be overrun.
Let our eyes gloat over Tsiyon's fall.'
12 But those enemies don't know Yahweh's thoughts,
and they don't understand his plans,
because he's gathered them up like bundles of grain ready to be broken on the threshing floor.
13 Get going and thresh, daughter of Tsiyon,
because I'll make your horn into iron,
and I'll make your hooves into bronze.
And you'll break many peoples into pieces
and you'll confiscate their unjust earnings to devote to Yahweh—
their wealth will be for the master of the whole world."
5:1 Now come together in battle ranks, daughter of soldiers.
A siege has been set up against us.
They strike Yisrael's (Israel's) judge on the cheek with a rod.

God promises a ruler from Beyt-Lehem · Southern kingdom

2 But you, Beyt-Lehem (Bethlehem) Efratah,
even though you're insignificant among Yehudah's (Judah's) clans,
out of you, one will come to me to rule in Yisrael (Israel),
whose beginning is from ancient times—

Literal Version

_delivered there he_will_redeem_you **YHWH** from_the_palm_of your(pl)_enemies_of_your. **11** And_now they_have_gathered on_you nations many which_are_saying let_her_be_polluted and_ _let_it_look on_Tsiyyōn eyes_of_our. **12** And_they not they_know the_thoughts_of **YHWH** and_not they_understand counsel_of_his if/because_that he_has_gathered_them like_(the)_grain threshing_floor_to_the. **13** Arise and_thresh Oh_ _daughter_of Tsiyyōn if/because horn_of_your I_ _will_make iron and_hooves_of_your I_will_make bronze and_you_will_pulverise peoples many and_I_will_dedicate_to_destruction to/for_**YHWH** gain_of_their_unjust and_wealth_of_their to_the_ _master_of all_of the_earth/land. **14** **16** Now you_ _will_cut_yourself Oh_daughter_of troop[s] a_ _siege someone_has_set on_us with_rod they_ _will_strike on the_cheek ~~ĐǾM~~ the_judge_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel).

5:1 **18** And_you(ms) Oh_Bēyt- leḥem 'Efrātāh are_ _insignificant to_be among_the_families_of Yəhūdāh/(Judah) from_you to_me someone_will_ _go_out to_be ruler over_Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) and_ _origins_of_his from_east from_days_of antiquity. **2** **19** For_so/thus/hence he_will_deliver_them_up until a_time when_one_who_is_about_to_give_ _birth she_has_given_birth and_the_rest_of his_ _brothers_of_his they_will_return with the_

16 **LV 4:14 · Note** Note: KJB: Mic.5.1

18 **LV 5:1 · Note** Note: KJB: Mic.5.2

19 **LV 5:2 · Note** Note: KJB: Mic.5.3

Literal Version

_people_of Yisrā'ēl/(Israel). 3 [20] And_he_will_
_stand and_he_will_shepherd by_the_strength_of
YHWH by_the_majesty_of the_name_of **YHWH**
his/its_god and_they_will_remain if/because now
he_will_be_great to the_ends_of the_earth. 4 [21]
And_it_was this_one peace 'Ashshūr if/because
it_will_come in_land_of_our and_because/when
it_will_tread on_fortresses_of_our and_we_will_
_raise_up on/upon/above_him/it seven
shepherds and_eight princes_of man.

5 [23] And_they_will_shepherd ~~DOM~~ the_land_of
'Ashshūr with_sword and_~~DOM~~ the_land_of
Nimrōd at_entrances_of_its and_he_will_deliver_
us from'Ashshūr if/because it_will_come in_
_land_of_our and_because/when it_will_tread in_
_territory_of_our. 6 [24] And_it_was the_remnant_
_of Ya'ₐqov/(Jacob) in_the_midst_of peoples
many like_dew from_with **YHWH** like_showers on
vegetation which not it_waits for_anyone and_
_not it_waits for_the_children_of humankind. 7 [25]
And_it_was the_remnant_of Ya'ₐqov among_
_nations in_the_midst_of peoples many like_a_
_lion among_the_animals_of the_forest like_a_
_young_lion among_flocks_of[262728] sheep which if
it_has_passed_through and_it_tramples and_it_
_tears and_there_is_not a_deliverer. 8 [29] Hand_of_
_your may_it_be_lifted_up above foes_of_your
and_all enemies_of_your may_they_be_cut_off.

Readers' Version

from everlasting.[17]

3 Therefore God will hand them over to their enemies,
until the time when the woman in labour gives birth,
and the rest of his brothers return to the people of Yisrael.

4 He'll stand and shepherd his flock with Yahweh's strength,
in the majesty of the name of his god Yahweh.
They'll remain, because then he will be famous to the ends of the earth.

5 That one will be our peace.
When the Assyrians come into our land
and when they march against our fortresses,
then we'll raise seven shepherds against them
and eight leaders of men.

God's salvation and his vengeance

6 They'll shepherd the land of Ashur (Assyria) with the sword—
that country founded by Nimrod in its entrances.[22]
He'll rescue us from the Assyrians,
when they come into our land,
when they march inside our borders.

7 The remnant of Ya'akov (Jacob) will end up among many peoples,
like dew from Yahweh,
like showers on the grass,
that don't need help from any person,
and they don't rely on human intervention.

8 The remnant of Ya'akov will be among the nations,

17 **RV 5:2 · Cross-ref.** Mat 2:6; Yhn 7:42.
20 **LV 5:3 · Note** Note: KJB: Mic.5.4
21 **LV 5:4 · Note** Note: KJB: Mic.5.5
22 **RV 5:6 · Cross-ref.** Gen 10:8-11.
23 **LV 5:5 · Note** Note: KJB: Mic.5.6
24 **LV 5:6 · Note** Note: KJB: Mic.5.7
25 **LV 5:7 · Note** Note: KJB: Mic.5.8
26 **LV 5:7 · Note** OSHB note: Marks a place where we agree with BHQ against BHS in reading L.
27 **LV 5:7 · Note** OSHB note: Marks an anomalous form.
28 **LV 5:7 · Note** OSHB note: We read punctuation in L differently from BHS.
29 **LV 5:8 · Note** Note: KJB: Mic.5.9

Readers' Version

among many peoples,
like a lion among the animals of the forest,
like a young lion among the flocks of sheep.
As he passes through them,
he'll trample over them and tear them to pieces,
and there'll be no one to save them.
9 You'll use your power against your enemies,
and they'll be destroyed.
10 Yahweh declares: "At that time,
I'll wipe out your horses
and demolish your chariots.
11 I'll destroy the cities in your country
and tear down all your fortresses.
12 I'll destroy the witchcraft that you practise,
and you'll no longer have any diviners.
13 I'll destroy your carved statues,
and the engraved stone pillars from among you.
You'll no longer worship the workmanship of your hands.
14 I'll topple your Asherah poles where you worship,
and I'll destroy your cities.
15 In my anger, I'll execute vengeance
on the nations that haven't obeyed.

Yahweh's challenge to Yisrael · Full kingdom

6:1 Now listen to what Yahweh says,
"Take action, present your case to the mountains.
and let the hills hear your voice.
2 Listen to Yahweh's lawsuit, you mountains,
and you enduring foundations of the earth,
because Yahweh has a lawsuit with his people,
and he'll present evidence against Yisrael (Israel)."
3 "My people, what have I done to you?
How have I worn you down?
Present your case against me.

Literal Version

9 **30** And_it_was in_day (the)_that the_utterance_
_of **YHWH** and_I_will_cut_off horses_of_your
from_midst_of_your and_I_will_destroy chariots_
_of_your. **10** **31** And_I_will_cut_off the_cities_of
your_land_of_your and_I_will_tear_down all_of
fortresses_of_your. **11** **32** And_I_will_cut_off
sorceries from_hand_of_your and_soothsayers
not they_will_belong to/for_you(fs). **12** **33** And_I_
_will_cut_off images_of_your and_your(pl)_
_sacred_of_pillars from_midst_of_your and_not
you_will_bow_down again to_the_work_of your_
_two's_hands_of_your. **13** **34** And_I_will_pluck_up
poles_your_'Ashērāh from_midst_of_your and_I_
_will_destroy cities_of_your. **14** **35** And_I_will_do
in_anger and_in_rage vengeance with the_
_nations which not they_have_obeyed.

6:1 Hear please ~~ḎOM~~ that_which **YHWH** is_saying
arise conduct_a_case with the_mountains and_
the_hills _let_them_hear voice_of_your. **2** Hear
Oh_mountains ~~ḎOM~~ the_case_of **YHWH** and_Oh_
_enduring_ones the_foundations_of the_earth
if/because a_case_at_law to/for_**YHWH** with
people_of_his and_with Yisrā'ēl/(Israel) he_will_
_argue. **3** My_people_of_my what have_I_done
to/for_yourself(m) and_what have_I_made_you_
_weary testify against_me.**41** **42** **4** If/because I_
_brought_you_up from_the_land_of
Mitsrayim/(Egypt) and_from_household slaves I_
_ransomed_you and_I_sent to_your_face ~~ḎOM~~
Mosheh 'Ah$_a$ron and_Miriam. **5** My_people_of_my
remember please what Bālāq the_king_of Mō'āv

30 **LV 5:9 · Note** Note: KJB: Mic.5.10
31 **LV 5:10 · Note** Note: KJB: Mic.5.11
32 **LV 5:11 · Note** Note: KJB: Mic.5.12
33 **LV 5:12 · Note** Note: KJB: Mic.5.13
34 **LV 5:13 · Note** Note: KJB: Mic.5.14
35 **LV 5:14 · Note** Note: KJB: Mic.5.15
41 **LV 6:3 · Note** OSHB note: Marks a place where we agree with BHQ against BHS in reading L.
42 **LV 6:3 · Note** OSHB note: We read punctuation in L differently from BHS.

Literal Version

did_he_plan and_what Bil'ām the_son_of Bə'ōr did_he_answer ~~DOM~~_him/it from (the)_Shiṭṭīm to (the)_Gilgal so_as to_know the_righteousness(es)_ _of **YHWH**.

6 With_what will_I_come_to_meet **YHWH** will_I_ _bow_myself_down to_the_god_of height will_I_ _come_to_meet_him with_burnt_offerings with_ _calves sons_of a_year. **7** Will_ **YHWH** _he_take_ _pleasure in_thousands_of rams in_tens_of_ _thousands_of torrents_of oil will_I_give firstborn_of_my transgression_of_my the_fruit_of my_belly_of_my the_sin_of my_self_of_my. **8** He_ _has_told to/for_yourself(m) Oh_humankind what is_good and_what is_**YHWH** requiring from_ _you if/because (if) to_do justice and_the_love_of covenant_loyalty and_to_be_modest to_walk with god_of_your. **9** The_voice_of **YHWH** to_city it_ _calls_out and_success it_will_see your(ms)_name hear Oh_tribe and_whoever he_appointed_it. **10** Still are_there house_of the_wicked treasures_ _of wickedness and_an_'ēyfāh_of scantness accursed. **11** Will_I_be_clean with_balances_of wickedness and_with_a_bag_of weights_of deceit. **12** Which its_rich_of_people they_are_full violence and_inhabitants_of_its they_speak falsehood and_tongue_of_their is_deceit in_ _mouth_of_their. **13** And_also I I_will_make_sick by_striking_you I_will_make_desolate_you on sins_of_your. **14** You you_will_eat and_not you_ _will_be_satisfied and_emptiness_of_your will_ _be_of_in_your_midst and_you_will_carry_away and_not you_will_bring_to_safety and_which you_will_bring_to_safety to_sword I_will_give. **15** You you_will_sow and_not you_will_reap you you_will_tread olive[s] and_not you_will_anoint_ _yourself oil and_new_wine and_not you_will_

Readers' Version

4 I rescued you out of slavery
and brought you out of Mitsrayim (Egypt).[36]
I sent Mosheh (Moses), Aharon (Aaron),[37] and Miryam (Miriam)[38] to you.
5 My people, remember what Moav's (Moab's) King Balak devised,
and how Be'or's son Bil'am (Balaam) answered that king[39]
as you went from Shitim to Gilgal.[40]
Think about that so you can know Yahweh's righteous actions."

The desire of Master God

6 What should I bring to Yahweh,
as I bow down to the high God?
Should I come to him with burnt offerings,
with year-old calves?
7 Will Yahweh be pleased with thousands of rams,
or with ten thousand rivers of oil?
Should I sacrifice my oldest child to pay for my disobedience—
my biological offspring to pay for my own sin?
8 He has told humanity what is good,
and what Yahweh requires from you:
Act justly,
love kindness,
and walk humbly with your god.[43]
9 Yahweh is making an announcement to the city—
even now wisdom is calling out to you:
"Pay attention to the rod of punishment,
and to the one who has put it in place.
10 There's dishonest wealth in wicked people's houses,
along with hated false weights and measures.
11 Should I consider people to be innocent if they use fraudulent scales
or a bag of deceptive weights?
12 The city's rich men are full of violence,

36 **RV 6:4 · Cross-ref.** Exo 12:50-51.
37 **RV 6:4 · Cross-ref.** Exo 4:10-16.
38 **RV 6:4 · Cross-ref.** Exo 15:20.
39 **RV 6:5 · Cross-ref.** Num 22:2–24:25.
40 **RV 6:5 · Cross-ref.** Josh 3:1–4:19.
43 **RV 6:8 · Cross-ref.** Deu 10:12-13.

Readers' Version

the inhabitants have spoken lies,
and you can't believe a word that they say.
13 Therefore I'll strike you with a terrible blow,
and I'll make you into a desolate country because of your sins.
14 You'll eat but not be satisfied—your emptiness will remain inside you.
You'll store goods away but not be able to save them, and what you do save I will be taken by force.
15 You'll sow, but not harvest.
You'll tread the olives, but not anoint yourselves with their oil.
You'll press grapes, but not drink the wine.
16 As a city, you've kept the regulations made by King Omri,[44]
and behaved similarly to Ahav's evil descendants.[45]
You walk by their advice, so I'll make you into a ruin.
People will hiss at your inhabitants,
and my people will mock you."

Dysfunctional society

7:1 I'm miserable because I've become like the gathering of left-over fruit,
and like the grapes that have already been gleaned.
There's no grape clusters to eat,
and none of the ripe early figs that I really felt like.
2 The faithful people have disappeared from the land.
There is no godly person among all mankind.
They all lie in wait to shed blood—
each one hunts his own fellow countryman with a net.
3 They're very good at doing harm:
the leader asks for money,
the judge is ready for bribes,
and the powerful man is telling others what he

Literal Version

_drink wine. **16** And_it_has_been_kept the_
_regulations_of ʿOmrī and_all/each/any/every
(the)_deed_of the_house_of ʾAḥʾāv and_you(pl)_
_have_walked in_schemes_of_their so_as I_to_
_make you into_a_horror and_inhabitants_of_its
into_hissing and_the_reproach_of my_people_of_
_my you(pl)_will_bear.

7:1 Woe to_me if/because I_have_become like_
_gathering(s)_of summer_fruit like_gleanings_of
the_grape_harvest there_is_not a_cluster_of_
_grapes to_eat an_early_fig appetite_of_my it_
_craves. **2** The_faithful he_has_perished from the_
_earth/land and_an_upright_person among_
_humankind there_is_not of_them_of_all for_
_blood(s) they_lie_in_wait each ~~DOM~~ brother_of_
_his they_hunt a_net. **3** Are_on (the)_evil both_
_hands to_do_it_well the_official is_asking and_
_the_judge for_bribe[474849] and_the_great_person
he is_speaking the_desire_of his_self_of_his and_
_they_weave_it. **4** Their_good_of_person is_like_a_
_thorn-bush an_upright_person more_than_a_
_thorn_hedge the_day_of your_watchmen
punishment_of_your it_has_come now confusion_
_of_their it_will_be. **5** Do_not believe in_a_
_neighbour do_not trust in_a_close_friend from_
_the_woman_who_lies_of your_bosom_of_your
guard the_openings_of your_mouth_of_your.

44 **RV 6:16 · Cross-ref.** 1Ki 16:23-28.

45 **RV 6:16 · Cross-ref.** 1Ki 16:29-34; 21:25-26.

47 **LV 7:3 · Note** OSHB note: Marks a place where we agree with BHQ against BHS in reading L.

48 **LV 7:3 · Note** OSHB note: Marks an anomalous form.

49 **LV 7:3 · Note** OSHB note: We read punctuation in L differently from BHS.

Literal Version

6 If/because a_son is_treating_with_contempt a_
_father a_daughter is_arising on_mother_of_her
a_daughter-in-law on_mother-in-law_of_her are_
_the_enemies_of a_person the_people_of his_
_own_household_of_his. **7** And_I for_**YHWH** I_
_will_watch I_will_wait for_the_god_of my_
_salvation_of_my he_will_hear_me god_of_my.

8 Do_not rejoice my_enemy_of_my to_me
if/because I_have_fallen I_will_arise if/because I_
_sit in_darkness **YHWH** will_be_light to_me.
9 The_rage_of **YHWH** I_will_bear if/because I_
_have_sinned to_him/it until that he_will_
_conduct case_of_my and_he_will_do justice_of_
_my he_will_bring_me_out to_the_light I_will_
_look on_righteousness_of_his. **10** And_ enemy_
_of_my _she_will_see and_it_will_cover_her
shame who_says to_me where_is_he **YHWH** god_
_of_your eyes_of_my they_will_look on_her now
she_will_become (into)_a_trampling_place like_
_the_mud_of the_streets. **11** A_day to_build walls_
_of_your a_day (the)_that a_boundary it_will_be_
_far. **12** A_day that and_to_you someone_will_
_come (to)_from 'Ashshūr and_the_cities_of
Mitsrayim/(Egypt) and_(to)_from Mitsrayim and_
_unto the_River and_sea from_sea and_mountain
the_mountain. **13** And_ the_earth/land _it_will_
_become (into)_a_desolation on inhabitants_of_
_its from_the_fruit their_deeds_of_their.

Readers' Version

wants to obtain,
and so they scheme together.
4 The best of them is like a thorn-bush.
The most upright is worse than a prickly hedge.
It's the day foretold by your watchmen—
the day of your punishment.
Now is the time of their confusion.
5 Don't trust any neighbour.
Put no confidence in any friend.
Be careful about what you say
even to the woman who lies in your arms,
6 because sons dishonour their fathers,
daughters rise up against their mothers,
and daughters-in-law against their mothers-in-law.
A person's enemies are the people in their own household.[46]
7 But as for me, I'll look out for Yahweh.
I'll wait for the god who saves me.
My god will hear me.

The saving/explaining of Master God

8 Don't be happy about what happened to me, my enemy.
After I fall, I'll get up and stand again.
When I sit in darkness, Yahweh will be a light for me.
9 Because I sinned against Yahweh, I'll endure his rage
until he pleads my cause on my behalf, and executes judgement for me.
He'll bring me to the light, and I'll see him rescue me in his justice.
10 Then my enemy will see it,
and shame will cover the one who said to me,
"Where is Yahweh your god?"
My eyes will look at her;
she'll be trampled down like the mud in the streets.
11 The time will come for rebuilding your walls.
On that day your boundaries will be greatly expanded.
12 On that day your people will come to you,
from Ashur (Assyria) and the cities in Mitsrayim (Egypt),
from Mitsrayim to the Perat (Euphrates) River,

46 **RV 7:6 · Cross-ref.** Mat 10:35-36; Luk 12:53.

Readers' Version

from sea to sea,
and from mountain to mountain.
13 But the land will be desolate
because of the people who are living there,
because of the fruit of their actions.
14 Shepherd your people with your staff—
the flock of your inheritance.
They live alone in a forest,
surrounded by pastureland.
Let them graze in Bashan and Gilead as in the old days.

God's mercy towards Yisrael

15 Just like in the days when you were rescued out of Mitsrayim (Egypt),
I'll display miracles to them.
16 The nations will see and be ashamed of all their power.
They'll put their hands over their mouths—
and act like their ears are deaf.
17 They'll lick the dust like a snake—
like creatures that crawl on the earth.
They'll be trembling as they come out of their fortresses.
They'll come with fear to you, our god Yahweh,
and they'll be afraid because of you.
18 What other God is there like you, who takes away sin?
Who forgives the disobedience of the remnant of his inherited people?
He doesn't stay angry forever,
because he happily demonstrates his loyal commitment.
19 You'll have compassion on us yet again.
You'll wipe away our disobedience.
You will throw all our sins into the deepest parts of the sea.
20 You'll give truth to Ya'akov (Jacob)
and loyal commitment to Avraham,
as you promised to our ancestors long ago.

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Literal Version

14 Shepherd people_of_your with_rod_of_your the_flock_of your_inheritance_of_your which_ _dwells_of (of)_alone a_forest in_the_middle a_ _garden-land let_them_graze Bāshān and_Gil'ād like_the_days_of antiquity. **15** Like_the_days_of you_came_out from_the_land_of Mitsrayim I_ _will_show_him wonders. **16** Nations they_will_ _see and_they_will_be_ashamed from_all strength_of_their they_will_put a_hand over a_ _mouth ears_of_their they_will_be_deaf. **17** They_ _will_lick_up dust like_snake like_things_which_ _crawl_of the_earth they_will_quake from_ _strongholds_of_their to **YHWH** god_of_our they_ _will_be_in_dread and_they_will_be_afraid from_ _you. **18** Who is_a_god like_you who_forgives iniquity and_who_passes over transgression to_ _the_remnant_of his_inheritance_of_his not he_ _keeps_hold_of forever_forever anger_of_his if/because is_one_desiring covenant_loyalty he. **19** He_will_return he_will_have_compassion_on_ _us he_will_subdue iniquities_of_our and_you_ _will_throw in_the_depths_of the_sea all_of sins_ _of_their. **20** You_will_give faithfulness to_ _Ya'ₐqovˇ/(Jacob) covenant_loyalty to_'Avrāhām which you_swore to_fathers_of_our from_days_of antiquity.

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