

Millennium 8/24/07 # 5

Sometimes, after giving it, he looks beyond to the coming of Christ, and to the answer that Christ gives, the permanent answer to sin. Sometimes he looks ~~beyond~~ beyond it to still more distant events in the future, and there is this progression which we find over and over in the prophets and sometimes the break in it comes very, very suddenly.

Now we are interested tonight in the second portion of the Book of Micah, the portion that begins with chapter 3. And with chapter 3 we get a section of rebuke to the nation for its sin, and some of the rebuke there really sounds as if it would exactly fit conditions in our world today. Look at verse 5 of chapter 3. "Thus saith the Lord concerning the prophets that make my people err, that bite with their teeth, and cry, Peace:" Did you ever hear of people today who are calling for peace all the time? always talking about ~~peace~~ peace? Well, we want peace, but we want righteous peace. We want just peace. But look at these people he speaks of here. He says, "the prophets that * * * cry, Peace; and he that putteth not into their mouths, they even prepare war against him." Isn't that a picture of the false prophets in the day of Micah? And isn't it a picture of many false prophets in our present day? And then he goes on and declares how God is going to punish them for this. And he speaks of His punishment against the false prophets, and the false leaders of Israel, and he continues until you get to verse 11 where he says, "her 'heads shall judge for reward'" and her "priests * * * teach for hire" and her "prophets * * * divine for money; yet will they learn upon the Lord and say, Is not the Lord among us? no evil can come upon us." Thus he has rebuked them for their sin, and shown their wickedness, and now he tells the terrible result that is to come for it. He says, "Therefore," in verse 12, "Therefore shall Zion for your sake be plowed as a field, and Jerusalem shall become heaps, and the mountain of the house as the high places of a (the) forest."

Now Zion was the section of Jerusalem where David's palace was. And when Jerusalem was taken by the Babylonians that part was just ruined and left desolate, and they had a ~~yoke of oxen~~ yoke of oxen go across it and plough plow it to show