

# #4 "The System of Injustice" The Vineyard Church of Conroe Raymond McDonald September 4, 2016

#### **Sermon Outline Notes**

### The Prophetic Voice <u>REVEALS GOD'S TRUTH FOR THE PURPOSE OF RESTORING JUSTICE</u>

"The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are healthy, your whole body will be full of light. <sup>23</sup> But if your eyes are unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness!" Matthew 6:22-23

### Injustice MANIFESTS IN EVIL SYSTEMS AND IS REVEALED THROUGH THE EYES OF GOD

For we are not contending against flesh and blood, but against the principalities, against the powers, against the world rulers of this present darkness, against the spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. Ephesians 6:12 RSV

#### I. Micah 3:1-4

<sup>1</sup> Then I said, "Listen, you leaders of Jacob, you rulers of Israel. Should you not embrace justice, <sup>2</sup> you who hate good and love evil; who tear the skin from my people and the flesh from their bones; <sup>3</sup> who eat my people's flesh, strip off their skin and break their bones in pieces; who chop them up like meat for the pan, like flesh for the pot?" <sup>4</sup> Then they will cry out to the Lord, but he will not answer them. At that time he will hide his face from them because of the evil they have done.

### The Prophetic Voice confronts Systems <u>THAT OPPRESS THE</u> DISADVANTAGED AND UNPROTECTED

- INEQUALITY OF JUSTICE SYSTEM
- OVER TAXATION OR CONSCRIPTION
- FINANCIAL EXPLOITATION

But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd. <sup>37</sup> Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few. <sup>38</sup> Therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest." Matthew 9:36-38

#### II. Micah 3:5-7

<sup>5</sup> This is what the LORD says: "As for the prophets who lead my people astray, they proclaim 'peace' if they have something to eat, but prepare to wage war against anyone who refuses to feed them. <sup>6</sup> Therefore night will come over you, without visions, and darkness, without divination. The sun will set for the prophets, and the day will go dark for them. <sup>7</sup> The seers will be ashamed and the diviners disgraced. They will all cover their faces because there is no answer from God."

## The Prophetic Voice confronts Systems <u>OF CORRUPT</u> <u>THEOLOGY AND ORGANIZATIONS THAT PROMOTE MONEY</u> <u>AND COMFORT OVER KINGDOM VALUES</u>

<sup>3</sup> If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, "Here's a good seat for you," but say to the poor man, "You stand there" or "Sit on the floor by my feet," <sup>4</sup> have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts? <sup>5</sup> Listen, my dear brothers and sisters: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him? James 2:1-7

#### III. Micah 3:8-12

<sup>8</sup> But as for me, I am filled with power, with the Spirit of the Lord, and with justice and might, to declare to Jacob his transgression, to Israel his sin.<sup>9</sup> Hear this, you leaders of Jacob, you rulers of Israel, who despise justice and distort all that is right; <sup>10</sup> who build Zion with bloodshed, and Jerusalem with wickedness. <sup>11</sup> 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." <sup>12</sup> 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.

### The Prophetic Voice confronts Systems <u>WITH GOD'S</u> PERSPECTIVE AND COMES WITH HIS POWER

<sup>4</sup> My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, <sup>5</sup> so that your faith

might not rest on human wisdom, but on God's power. 1 Corinthians 2:1-5