

## MICÁH

### THE ARGUMENT.

*Micáh the Prophet of the tribe of Judáh served in the work of the Lord, concerning Judáh and Israél, at the least thirtie yeres at what time Isaiáh prophesied. He declareth the destruction, first of the one kingdom, and then of the other, because of their manifold wickedness, but chiefly for their idolatrie. And to this end he noteth the wickedness of the people, the crueltie of the princes and governours, and the permission of the false prophetes, and the deliting in them. Then he setteth forth the comming of Christ, his kingdom, and the felicitie thereof. This Prophet was not that Micáh which resisted Ahab, and all his false prophets, as 1 Kings 22.8, but another of the same name.*

#### Chapter 1

1 *The destruction of Judáh and Israél because of their idolatrie.*

The word of the Lord, that came unto Micáh the <sup>a</sup>Morashite in the days of Jothám, Aház, and Hezekiáh Kings of Judáh, which he saw concerning Samaria and Jerusalém.

2 Hear, <sup>b</sup>all ye people: hearken thou, ô earth, and all that therein is, and let the Lord God be witness against you, *even* the Lord from his holie Temple.

3 For behold, the Lord cometh out of his place, and will come <sup>c</sup>down, and tread upon the hie places of the earth.

4 And the mountains shal melt under him (so shal the valleis cleave) as wax before the fire, *and* as the waters that are poured downward.

5 For the wickedness of Jaakób *is* all this, and for the sins of the house of Israél: what is the wickedness of Jaakób? Is not <sup>d</sup>Samaria? and which are the hie <sup>e</sup>places of Judáh? Is not Jerusalém?

6 Therefore I will make Samaria as an heap of the field, *and* for the planting of a vineyard, and I will cause the stones thereof to tumble down into the valley, and I will discover the foundations thereof.

7 And all the graven images thereof shalbe broken, and all <sup>f</sup>the gifts thereof shalbe burnt with the fire, and all the idoles thereof will I destroy: for she gathered it of the hire of an harlot, and they shall return <sup>g</sup>to the wages of an harlot.

8 Therefore I will mourn and howl: I will go without clothes, and naked: I will make lamentation like the dragons, and mourning as the ostriches.

9 For her plagues are grievous: for it is come into Judáh: *the enemie* is come unto the gate of my people, unto Jerusalém.

10 Declare ye it not at <sup>h</sup>Gath, neither weep ye: for the house of <sup>i</sup>Aphrah roll thy self in the dust.

11 Thou that dwellest at <sup>k</sup>Shaphír, go together naked with shame: she that dwelleth at Zaanán, shal not come forth in the mourning of Beth-ézel: *the enemie* shal <sup>l</sup>receive of you for his standing.

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1 a Born in Mareshah a city of Judah.

2 b Because of the malice, and obstinacy of the people whom he had so oft exhorted to repentance, he summons them to God's judgements taking all creatures, and God himself to witness, that the preaching of his Prophets, which they have abused, shall be revenged.

3 c Meaning hereby that God will come to judgement against the strong cities and holdes.

5 d Samaria, which should have been an example to all Israel of true religion and justice, was the puddle, and stews of all idolatry, and corruption, and boasted themselves of their father Jacob.

5 e That is, the idolatry and infection.

7 f Which they gathered by evil practices, and thought that their idols had enriched them therewith for their service unto them.

7 g The gain that came by their idols, shall be consumed as a thing of nought: for as the waged or riches of harlots are wickedly gotten, so are they vilely and speedily spent.

10 h Lest the Philistims our enemies rejoice at our destruction.

10 i Which was a city near to Jerusalem, Josh. 18.23, and signifies dust: therefore he wills them to mourn, and roll themselves in the dust, for their dusty city.

11 k These were cities whereby the enemy should pass as he came to Judah.

11 l He shall not depart before he has overcome you, and so you shall pay for his tarrying.

12 For the inhabitant of Maróth waited for good, but evil came from the Lord unto the <sup>m</sup>gate of Jerusalém.

13 O thou inhabitant of Lachish, bind the charet to the *beasts* <sup>n</sup>of price: she <sup>o</sup>is the beginning of the sin to the daughter of Zión: for the transgressions of Israél were found in thee.

14 Therefore shalt thou give presents to Morésheth <sup>p</sup>Gath: the houses of Achzib *shalbe* as a lie to the Kings of Israél.

15 Yet will I bring an <sup>q</sup>heir unto thee, ô inhabitant of Maresháh, he shal come unto Adullám, <sup>r</sup>the glorie of Israél.

16 Make thee bald: and shave thee for thy delicate children: enlarge thy baldness as the eagle, for they are gone into captivity from thee.

#### Chapter 2

1 *Threatenings against the wanton the deintie people. 6 They would teach the Prophets to preach.*

W<sup>o</sup> unto them, that imagine iniquity, and work wickedness upon their beds: <sup>a</sup>when the morning is light they practice it because their hand <sup>b</sup>hath power.

2 And they covet fields, and take them by violence, and houses, and take them away: so they oppress a man and his house, *even* man and his heritage.

3 Therefore thus saith the Lord, Behold, against this family have I devised a plague, whereout ye shal not pluck your necks, and ye shal not go so proudly, for this time is evil.

4 In that day shal they take up a parable against you, and lament with a dolful lamentation, and say, <sup>c</sup>We be utterly wasted: he hath changed the portion of my people: how hath he taken it away to restore it unto me? he hath divided our fields.

5 Therefore thou shalt have none that shal cast a coard by lot in <sup>d</sup>the Congregation of the Lord.

6 <sup>e</sup>They that prophesied, Prophecie ye not. <sup>f</sup>They shal not prophesie to them, neither shal they take shame.

7 O thou that art named the house of Jaakób, is the Spirit of the Lord shortened? <sup>g</sup>are these his works? are not my words good

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12 m For Rabshakéh had shut up Jerusalem, that they could not send to succor them.

13 n To flee away: for Saneherib laid siege first to the city, and remained therein when he sent his captains, and army against Jerusalem.

13 o You first received the idolatry of Jeroboam, and so did infect Jerusalem.

14 p You shall bribe the Philistims your neighbors, but they shall deceive you, as well as they of Jerusalem.

15 q He prophesies against his own city, and because it signifies an heritage, he says that God would send an heir to possess it.

15 r For so they thought themselves for the strength of their city.

#### Chapter 2

1 a Assoon as they rise, they execute their wicked devises of the night, and according to their power hurt others.

1 <sup>b</sup>Ebr., is to power.

4 b Thus the Jews lament and say that there is no hope of restitution seeing their possessions are divided among the enemies.

5 c You shall have no more lands to divide, as you had in times past, and as you used to measure them in the Jubilee.

6 d Thus the people warn the Prophets that they speak to them no more: for they can not aide their threatenings.

6 e God says, that they shall not prophesy, nor receive no more of their rebukes nor tantes.

7 f Are these your works according to his Law?

unto him <sup>9</sup>that walketh uprightly?

8 But he that was <sup>h</sup>yester day my people, is risen up on the other side, as against an enemy: they spoil the <sup>b</sup>beautiful garment from them that pass by peaceably, as though they returned from the war.

9 The women of my people have ye cast out from their pleasant houses, *and* from their children have ye taken away <sup>h</sup>my glorie continually.

10 Arise and depart, for this is not *your* <sup>l</sup>rest: because it is polluted, it shall destroy *you*, even with a sore destruction.

11 <sup>m</sup>If a man walk in the Spirit, and would lie falsely, *saying*, <sup>n</sup>I will prophesie unto thee of wine, and of strong drink, he shall even be the Prophet of this people.

12 I will surely gather <sup>a</sup>thee wholly, ô Jaakób: I will surely gather the remnant of Israél: I will put them together as the sheep of Bozrah, *even* as the flock in the middes of their fold: *the cities* shall be full of brute of the men.

13 The <sup>b</sup>breaker up shall come up before them: they shall break out, and pass by the gate, and go out by it, and their King shall go before them, and the Lord *shalbe* <sup>9</sup>upon their heads.

### Chapter 3

*Against the tyrannie of princes and false prophetes.*

**A**nd I said, Hear, I pray you, ô heads of Jaakób, & ye princes of the house of Israél: should not ye know <sup>a</sup>judgement? 2 *But* they hate the good, and love the evil: they pluck off their skins from them, and their flesh from their bones.

3 And they eat also the <sup>b</sup>flesh of my people, and flay off their skin from them, and they break their bones, and chop them in pieces, as for the pot, and as flesh within the caldron.

4 Then <sup>c</sup>shall they cry unto the Lord, but he will not hear them: he will even hide his face from them at that time, because they have done wickedly in their works.

5 Thus saith the Lord, Concerning the prophets that deceive my people, and <sup>d</sup>bit them with their teeth, and cry peace, but if a man put not into their mouths, they prepare war against him,

6 Therefore <sup>e</sup>night shall be unto you for a vision, and darkness

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7 <sup>g</sup> Do not the godly find my words comfortable?

8 <sup>h</sup> That is, afore time.

8 <sup>i</sup> The poor can have no commodity by them, but they spoil them, as though they were enemies.

9 <sup>k</sup> That is, their substance, and living, which is God's blessing, and as it were, part of his glory.

10 <sup>l</sup> Jerusalem shall not be your safeguard: but the cause of your destruction.

11 <sup>m</sup> That is, show himself to be a Prophet.

11 <sup>n</sup> He shows what Prophets they delight in: that is, in flatterers, which tell them pleasant tales, and speak of their commodities.

12 <sup>o</sup> To destroy you.

13 <sup>p</sup> The enemy shall break their gates and walls and lead them into Caldea.

13 <sup>q</sup> To drive them forward, and to help their enemies.

### Chapter 3

1 <sup>a</sup> That thing which is just and lawful, both to govern my people aright, and also to discharge your own conscience?

3 <sup>b</sup> The Prophet condemns the wicked governors not only of covetousness, theft, and murder, but compares them to wolves, lions, and most cruel beasts.

4 <sup>c</sup> That is, when I shall visit their wickedness: for though I hear the godly before they cry, Is. 65.24, yet I will not hear these though they cry, Is. 1.15, Jam. 2.13, 1 Pet. 3.11.

5 <sup>d</sup> They devour all their substance, and then flatter them, promising that all shall go well: but if one restrain from their bellies, then they invent all ways to mischief.

6 <sup>e</sup> As you have loved to walk in darkness, and to prophesy lies so God shall reward you with gross blindness and ignorance, so that when all others shall see the bright beams of God's graces, you shall as blind men grope as in the night.

*shalbe* unto you for a divination, and the sun shall go down over the Prophets, and the day shall be dark over them.

7 Then shall the Seers be ashamed, and the sothesaiers confounded: yea, they shall all cover <sup>t</sup>their lips, for they have none answer of God.

8 Yet notwithstanding I am full <sup>9</sup>of power by the Spirit of the Lord, and of judgement and of strength to declare unto Jaakób his transgression, and to Israél his sin.

9 Hear this, I pray you, ye heads of the house of Jaakób, and princes of the house of Israél: they abhor judgement, and pervert all equity.

10 They build up Zión with <sup>h</sup>blood, and Jerusalem with iniquity.

11 The heads thereof judge for rewards, and the Priests thereof teach for hire, and the Prophets thereof prophesie for money: yet will they <sup>l</sup>lean upon the Lord, and say, Is not the Lord among us? no evil can come upon us.

12 Therefore shall Zión for your sake be <sup>k</sup>plowed as a field, and Jerusalem shall be an heap, and the mountain of the house, as the hie places of the forest.

### Chapter 4

*1 Of the kingdom of Christ, and felicitie of his Church.*

**B**ut in the <sup>a</sup>last days it shall come to pass, that the mountain of the House of the Lord shall be prepared in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the <sup>b</sup>hills, and people shall flow unto it.

2 Yea, many nations shall come & say, Come, & let us go up to the Mountain of the Lord, and to the House of the God of Jaakób, & he will <sup>c</sup>teach us his ways, & we will walk in his paths: for the Law shall go forth of Zión, & the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

3 And he shall judge among many people, and <sup>d</sup>rebuke mighty nations a far off, and they shall break their swords into mattocks, and their spears into <sup>e</sup>sieths: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they <sup>f</sup>learn to fight any more.

4 But they shall sit every man under his vine, and under his fig tree, and none shall make them afraid: for the mouth of the Lord of hostes hath spoken it.

5 For all people will walk <sup>9</sup>every one in the name of his god, and we will walk in the Name of the Lord our God, for ever and ever.

6 At the same day, saith the Lord, will I gather her that halteth, and I will gather her that is cast out, and her that I have afflicted.

7 And I will make her that halted, <sup>a</sup>a remnant, and her that was

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7 <sup>f</sup> When God shall discover them to the world, they shall be afraid to speak: for all shall know that they were but false prophets, and did belie the word of God.

8 <sup>g</sup> The Prophet being assured of his vocation by the Spirit of God, sets himself alone against all the wicked, showing how God both gave him gifts, abilities, and knowledge, to discern between good and evil, and also constancy to reprove the sins of the people, and not to flatter them.

10 <sup>h</sup> They build them houses by bribery, which he calls blood & iniquity.

11 <sup>i</sup> They will say, that they are the people of God, and abuse his Name as a pretense to cloak their hypocrisy.

12 <sup>k</sup> Read Jeremiah 26.18.

### Chapter 4

1 <sup>a</sup> When Christ shall come, and the Temple shall be destroyed.

1 <sup>b</sup> Read, Is. 2.2.

2 <sup>c</sup> He shows that there is no true Church but where as the people are taught by God's pure word.

3 <sup>d</sup> By his corrections and threatenings he will bring the people into subjection which are in the uttermost corners of the world.

3 <sup>e</sup> They shall abstain from all evil doing, and exercise themselves in godliness and in well doing to others.

3 <sup>f</sup> Read, Is. 2.4.

5 <sup>g</sup> He shows that the people of God ought to remain constant in their religion, albeit all the world should give themselves to their superstition and idolatry.

7 <sup>h</sup> I will cause that Israel, which is now as one lame and halting, and so almost destroyed, shall live again and grow into a great people.

cast far off, a mighty nation: and the Lord shal reign over them in Mount Zión, from hence forth even for ever.

8 And thou, ô tower of the flock, the stronghold of the daughter Zión, unto thee shal it come, even <sup>k</sup>the first dominion, and kingdom shal come to the daughter Jerusalém.

9 Now why doest thou cry out with lamentation? <sup>i</sup>is there no King in thee? is thy counsellor perished? for sorrow hath taken thee, as a woman in travail.

10 Sorrow and mourn, ô daughter Zión, like a woman in travail: for now shalt thou go forth of the city, and dwell in the field, and shalt go into Babél, *but* there shalt thou be delivered: there the Lord shal redeem thee from the hand of thine enemies.

11 Now also many nations are gathered against thee, saying, Zión shalbe condemned and our eye shal look upon Zión.

12 But they <sup>m</sup>know not the thoughts of the Lord: they understand not his counsel, for he shal gather them as the sheaves in the barn.

13 Arise, and thresh, <sup>n</sup>ô daughter Zión: for I will make thine horn iron, and I will make thine hooves brass, and thou shalt break in pieces many people: and I will consecrate their riches unto the Lord, and their substance unto the ruler of the whole world.

### Chapter 5

*2 The destruction of Jerusalém. 2 The excellencie of Beth-léem.*

**N**ow assemble thy garrisons, ô daughter <sup>a</sup>of garrisons: he hath laid siege against us: they shal smite the judge of Israël with a rod upon the cheek.

2 And thou Beth-léem Ephráthah art <sup>b</sup>little to be among the thousands of Judáh, yet out of thee shal he come forth unto me, that shal be the ruler in Israël: whose <sup>c</sup>goings forth *have been* from the beginning *and* from everlasting.

3 Therefore will he give them up, until the time that <sup>d</sup>she which shal beare, shal travail: then the remnant of their brethren shal return unto the children of Israël.

4 And he shal <sup>e</sup>stand, and feed in the strength of the Lord, *and* in the majesty of the Name of the Lord his God, and they shal dwell still: for now shal he be magnified unto the ends of the world.

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8 i Meaning Jerusalem where the Lord's flock was gathered.

8 k The flourishing state of the kingdom, as it was under David and Solomon, which thing was accomplished to the Church by the coming of Christ.

9 l In the mean season he shows that they should indure great troubles & tentations when they saw themselves neither to have King nor counsel.

12 m He shows that the faithful ought not to measure God's judgements by the brags and threatenings of the wicked, but thereby are admonished to lift up their heads to God to call for deliverance.

13 n God gives his Church this victory so oft as he overcomes their enemies: but the accomplishment hereof shall be at the last coming of Christ.

### Chapter 5

1 a He forewams them of the dangers that shall come, before they enjoy these comforts, showing that forasmuch as Jerusalem was accustomed with her garrison to trouble others the Lord would now cause other garrisons to vex her, and that her Rulers should be smitten on the face most contemptuously.

2 b For so the Jews divided their country, that for every thousand there was a chief captain & because Bethlehem was not able to make a thousand, he calls it little, but yet God will raise up his captain and governor therein: and thus it is not the least by reason of this benefit, as Mat. 2.6.

2 c He shows that the coming of Christ and all his ways were appointed of God from all eternity.

3 d He compares the Jews to women with child, who for a time shall have great sorrows, but at length they should have a comfortable deliverance, John 16.21.

4 e That is, Christ's kingdom shall be stable and everlasting, and his people, aswell the Gentiles as the Jews shall dwell in safety.

5 And he <sup>f</sup>shal be *our* peace when Asshúr shal come into our land: when he shal tread in our palaces, then shal we raise against him seven shepherds, and eight principle men.

6 And they shal destroy <sup>g</sup>Asshúr with the sword, and the land of Nimród with their swords: thus shal he <sup>h</sup>deliver *us* from Asshúr, when he cometh into our land, and when he shal tread within our borders.

7 And the <sup>i</sup>remnant of Jaakób shalbe among many people, as a dew from the Lord, *and* as the showers upon the grass, that waiteth not for man, nor hopeth in the sons of Adám.

8 And the remnant of Jaakób shal be among the Gentiles in the middes of many people, as the lyon among the beasts of the forest, *and* as the lyon's whelp among the flocks of sheep, who when he goeth through, treadeth down and teareth in pieces, and none can deliver.

9 Thine hand shal be lift up upon thine adversaries, and all thine enemies shalbe cut off.

10 And it shal come to pass in that day, saith the Lord, that I will cut off thine <sup>k</sup>horses out of the middes of thee, and I will destroy thy charets.

11 And I will cut off the cities of thy land, and overthrow all thy strong holdes.

12 And I will cut off thine inchanters out of thine hand: and thou shalt have no more sothsayers.

13 Thine idols also will I cut off, & thine images out of the middes of thee: and thou shalt no more worship the work of thine hands.

14 And I will pluck up thy groves out of the middes of thee: so will I destroy thine enemies.

15 And I will execute a vengeance in *my* wrath and indignation upon the heathen, <sup>l</sup>which they have not heard.

### Chapter 6

*An exhortation to the dumme creatures to hear the judgement against Israël being unkind. 6 What manner of sacrifices do please God.*

**H**earken ye now what the Lord saith, Arise thou, *and* contend <sup>a</sup>before the mountains, and let the hills hear thy voice.

2 Hear ye, ô mountains, the Lord's quarrel, and ye mighty foundations of the earth: for the Lord hath a quarrel against his people, and he will plead with Israël.

3 O my people, what have I done unto thee? or wherein have I grieved thee? testify against me.

4 Surely I <sup>b</sup>brought thee up out of the land of Egypt, and redeemed thee out of the house of servants, and I have sent before thee, Mosés, Aarón, and Miriám.

5 O my people, remember now what Balák King of Moáb had devised, and what Balaám the son of Beór answered him, from

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5 f This Messiah shall be sufficient safeguard for us, and though the enemy invade us for a time, yet shall God stir up many which shall be able to deliver us.

6 g These whom God shall raise up for the deliverance of his Church, shall destroy all the enemies thereof, which are meant here by the Assyrians and Babylonians which were the chief at that time.

6 h By these governors will God deliver us when the enemies come into our land.

7 i This Remnant or Church which God shall deliver, shall only depend on God's power and defense, as does the grass of the field, and not on the hope of man.

10 k l I will destroy all things wherein you put your confidence, as your vain confidence and idolatry, and so will help you.

15 l It shall be so terrible that the like has not been heard of.

### Chapter 6

1 a He takes the high mountains and hard rocks to witness against the obstinacy of his people.

4 b l I have not hurt you, but bestowed infinite benefits upon you.

°Shittím unto Gilgál, that ye may know the <sup>d</sup>righteousness of the Lord.

6 Wherewith <sup>e</sup>shal I come before the Lord, *and* bow my self before the hie God? Shal I come before him with burnt offerings, *and* with calves of a year old?

7 Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, or with ten thousand rivers of oil? shal I give my <sup>f</sup>firstborn for my transgression, *even* the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?

8 He hath shewed thee, ô man, what is good, and what the Lord requireth of thee: <sup>g</sup>surely to do justly, and to love mercy, and to humble thy self, to walk with thy God.

9 The Lord's voice cryeth unto the <sup>h</sup>city, and the man of wisdom shal see thy name: Hear the rod, and who hath appointed it.

10 Are yet the treasures of wickedness in the house of the wicked, and the scant measure, that is abominable?

11 Shal I justify the wicked balances, and the bag of deceitful weights?

12 For the rich men <sup>i</sup>thereof are ful of cruelty, and the inhabitants thereof have spoken lies, and their tongue *is* deceitful in their mouth.

13 Therefore also will I make thee sick in smiting thee, *and* in making *thee* desolate because of thy sins.

14 Thou shalt eat & not be satisfied, and <sup>k</sup>thy casting down *shal-be* in the middes of thee, and thou <sup>l</sup>shalt take hold, but shalt not deliver: and that which thou deliverest, will I give up to the sword.

15 Thou shalt sow, but not reap: thou shalt tread the olives, but thou shalt not anoint thee with oil, and *make* sweet wine, but shalt not drink wine.

16 For the <sup>m</sup>statutes of Omrí are kept, and all the manner of the house of Aháb, and ye walk in their counsels, that I should make thee waste, and the inhabitants thereof an hissing: therefore ye shal bear the reproach of my people.

### Chapter 7

1 *A complaint for the small number of the righteous* 4 *The wickedness of these times.* 14 *The prosperitie of the Church.*

**W**o is me, for I am as <sup>a</sup>the summer gatherings, *and* as the grapes of the vintage: there *is* no cluster to eat: my soul

5 c That is, remember my benefits from the beginning how I delivered you from Balaam's curse, and also spared you from Shittim, which was in the plain of Moab, till I brought you into the land promised.

5 d That is, the truth of his promise and his manifold benefits toward you.

6 e Thus the people by hypocrisy ask how to please God, and are content to offer sacrifices, but will not change their lives.

7 f There is nothing so dear to man, but the hypocrites will offer it unto God, if they think thereby to avoid his anger: but they will never be brought to mortify their own affections and to give themselves willingly to serve God as he commands.

8 g The Prophet in few words calls them to the observation of the second table, to know if they will obey God aright or no, saying that God has prescribed them to do this.

9 h Meaning, that when God speaks to any city or nation, the godly will acknowledge his majesty and consider not the mortal man that brings the threatening, but God that sends it.

12 i That is, of Jerusalem.

14 k You shall be consumed with inward grief and evils.

14 l Meaning, that the city should go about to save her men, as they that lay hold on that which they would preserve.

16 m You have received all the corruption and idolatry, wherewith the ten tribes were infected under Omri and Ahab his son: and to excuse your doings, you allege the Kings authority by his statutes, and also wisdom and policy in so doing, but you shall not escape punishment, but as I have showed you great favor, and taken you for my people, so shall your plagues be accordingly, Luke 12.47.

### Chapter 7

1 a The Prophet takes upon him the person of the earth, which complains that all her fruits are gone, so that none is left: that is, that there is no godly man remaining: for all are given to cruelty and deceit, so that none spares his own brother.

desired the first ripe fruits.

2 The good man is perished out of the earth, and there *is* none righteous among men: <sup>b</sup>they all lie in wait for blood: every man hunteth his brother with a net.

3 To make good for the evil of *their* hands, the prince asked, and the judge *judgeth* for a reward: therefore the <sup>c</sup>great man he speaketh out the corruption of his soul: so <sup>d</sup>they wrap it up.

4 The best of them *is* as <sup>e</sup>a brier, and the most righteous of them *is sharper* then a thorn hedge: the day of <sup>f</sup>thy watchmen *and* the visitation cometh: then shalbe their confusion.

5 Trust ye not in a friend, neither put ye confidence in a counselor: keep the doors of thy mouth from her that lieth in thy bosom.

6 For the son revileth the father: the daughter riseth up against her mother: the daughter in law against her mother in law, *and* a man's enemies *are* the men of his own house.

7 Therefore <sup>g</sup>I will look unto the Lord: I will wait for God my Saviour: my God will hear me.

8 Rejoyce not against me, <sup>h</sup>ô mine enemy: though I fall, I shal arise: when I shal sit in darkness, the Lord *shal be* a light unto me.

9 I will bear the wrath of the Lord because I have sinned against him, until he plead my cause, and execute judgement for me: *then* will he bring me forth to the light, *and* I shal see his righteousness.

10 Then she that is mine enemy, shal look upon it, and shame shal cover her, which said unto me, Where is the Lord thy God? Mine eyes shal behold her: now shal she be trodden down as the myre of the streets.

11 *This is* <sup>t</sup>the day, that thy walls shal be built: this day shal drive far away <sup>k</sup>the decree.

12 In this day also they shal come unto thee from <sup>l</sup>Asshúr, and *from* the strong cities, and from the strong holds even unto the river, and from sea to sea, and *from* mountain to mountain.

13 Notwithstanding, the land shalbe desolate because of them that dwell therein, *and* for the fruits of <sup>m</sup>their inventions.

14 <sup>n</sup>Feed thy people with thy rod, the flock of thine heritage (which dwell solitary in the wood) as in the middes of Carmél: let them feed in Bashán and Gileád, as in old time.

15 <sup>o</sup>According to the days of thy coming out of the land of Egypt, will I shewe unto thee marvelous things.

16 The nations shal see, and be confounded for all their power:

2 b He shows that the prince, the judge and the rich man are linked together, all to do evil and to cloak the doings one of another.

3 c That is, the rich man that is able to give money, abstains from no wickedness nor injury.

3 d These men are among themselves and conspire with one consent to do evil.

4 e They that are of most estimation and are counted most honest among them, are but thorns and briars to prick.

4 f Meaning of the Prophets and governors.

7 g The Prophet shows that the only remedy for the godly in desperate evils is to flee unto God for succor.

8 h This is spoken in the person of the Church which calls the malignant Church her enemy.

11 i To wit, when God shall show himself a deliverer of his Church, and a destroyer of his enemies.

11 k Meaning, the cruel empire of the Babylonians.

12 l When the Church shall be restored, they that were enemies afore, shall come out of all the corners of the world unto her, so that neither holds, rivers, seas nor mountains shall be able to let them.

13 m Afore this grace appear, he shows how grievously the hypocrites themselves shall be punished, seeing that the earth itself, which can not sin, shall be made waste because of their wickedness.

14 n The Prophet prays to God to be merciful unto his Church, when they should be scattered abroad as in solitary places in Babylon and to be beneficial unto them as in time past.

15 o God promises to be favorable to his people as he had been afore time.

they shal <sup>p</sup>lay their hand upon their mouth: <sup>q</sup>their ears shal be deaf.

17 They shal <sup>r</sup>lick the dust like a serpent: they shal move out of their holes like worms: they shal be afraid of the Lord our God, and shal fear because of thee.

18 Who is a God like unto thee, that taketh away iniquity, and <sup>s</sup>passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage! He

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16 p They shall be as dumb men and dare brag no more.

16 q They shall be astonished, and afraid to hear men speak, lest they should hear of their destruction.

17 r They shall fall flat on the ground for fear.

18 s As though he would not see it, but wink at it.

reteineth not his wrath for ever, because mercy pleaseth him.

19 He will turn again, *and* have compassion upon us: he will subdue our iniquities, and cast all <sup>t</sup>their sins into the bottom of the sea.

20 Thou wilt perform *thy* <sup>u</sup>truth to Jaakób, *and* mercy to Abrahám, as thou hast sworn unto our fathers in old time.

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19 t Meaning, of his elect.

20 u The Church is assured, that God will declare in effect the truth of his merciful promise, which he had made of old to Abraham, and to all that should apprehend the promise by faith.