

Act Justly

Love Mercy

Walk Humbly
with your God

Micah 6:8

**“Micah
Mandate”**

“Micah Mandate”

Micah 6:8

Intro: God through Micah indicted Israel:

- 1.** For her corrupt, spiritual leadership,
Micah 3:11
- 2.** Her meaningless, hollow worship, and,
- 3.** The mistreatment of the poor and disenfranchised by the wealthy. **Micah 6:11-12**

Micah was a contemporary of Amos, Hosea and Isaiah. He prophesied under three kings, spanning from 750 BC to about 686 BC.

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Intro: In **Micah 6:8** we see:

- 1.** We need to have a change of heart and lifestyle,
- 2.** We need to be intentionally engaged in seeking justice and mercy for others, and,
- 3.** Change our world and spiritual view toward God and others.
- 4.** Our relationship with God needs to be driven by our humble, reverential fear of Him.

“Micah Mandate”

Micah 6:8

A. The Lord’s Indictment of Israel

6:1-2

The Lord puts Israel on notice that He is bringing a covenant lawsuit against her. **Vs. 2a**

He calls all creation to be His witness, **Vs. 1-2**

He makes known He will not dismiss the allegations against her, **Vs. 2b.**

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B. The Plaintiff's Case

6:3-5

God demonstrates by past actions He does not deserve Israel's behavior:

- 1.** He delivered them from slavery,
- 2.** Gave them righteous leaders, Moses, Aaron & Miriam,
- 3.** Defeated their enemies and reversed Balaam's curses,
- 4.** Brought them to the Promised Land.

In each instance God demonstrated His covenant faithfulness.

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C. Israel’s Response

6:6-7

Israel doesn’t refute the charge but looks for ways to repair the damage. She feigned ignorance to God’s accusations.

God makes it clear He desires ourselves, not stuff that we bring Him. He doesn’t want the gift, He desires the giver.

Israel has heard this before, just before going into the Promised Land, **Deut. 10:12**.

Justice, Mercy and Faithfulness are to be the defining characteristics of those who truly follow Jesus.

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I. To Do Justice

6:8

Justice (*mishpat*) is always spoken of in context with Righteousness. Those who seek righteousness will pursue justice. **Isa. 56:1, Ps. 89:14, Amos 5:24**

The most basic meaning of *mishpat* is to treat people equitably, **Lev. 24:22**, to Give people their rights, **Deut. 18, Prov. 31:9**.

In true discipleship there is no distinction between the inward and outward. Heart and hand, body and soul are connected. **Zech. 7:10-11**.

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II. To Love Mercy

6:8

Both justice (*mishpat*) and mercy (*hesed*), are foundational to God’s character, **Ps. 89:14**.

Both, though seemingly different, are two sides to the same coin when it comes to the treatment of others

What **Micah 6:8** is telling us is that in order to walk with God we must do justice out of merciful love.

- 1.** Justice (*mishpat*), puts the emphasis on our action,
- 2.** Mercy (*hesed*) puts it on the motive/attitude behind the action.

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III. Walk Humbly with God

6:8

To walk humbly with God:

- 1.** Is a description of our heart attitude toward God,
- 2.** Is to know Him intimately and to be attentive to what He desires and loves,
- 3.** It's a trusted dependence upon Him at the expense of our own abilities,
- 4.** Involves a right understanding of who we are in relation to God, of the earth, mortal not divine.