Major Profit from Minor Prophets

(Micah)

- Introduction: 1. "Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul" (Micah 6:7)?
 - 2. I know of no better verse to describe the times in which Micah prophesied than this verse.
 - 3. God's people had become so debase and ungodly that they were actually offering their children to pagan deities.

I. Brief Background to the book of Micah

- A. Micah was a pre-exilic prophet.
- B. He was a contemporary of Isaiah and Hosea.
- C. It was written approximately 735 to 700 B.C.
- D. Micah has been called the "mini-Isaiah."
- E. Like Isaiah, Micah prophesies of the coming of the Messiah.
- F. It was written to both Israel and Judah for their idolatry (1:1).

II. Practical Lessons to Learn from Micah

- A. Woe to those who devise iniquity.
 - 1. (Micah 2:1; Isaiah 5:11) Rise up early to do evil.
 - 2. (Micah 7:3) Sin with both hands.
 - 3. (Micah 3:2; Isaiah 5:20) Good evil and evil good.
 - 4. (Proverbs 6:18).
- B. Value God's word.
 - 1. (Micah 2:6).
 - 2. (John 12:48; 1 Thess. 2:13).
- C. God isn't manipulated
 - 1. (Micah 3:4).
 - 2. (Micah 3:8,11).
 - 3. (James 5:16; James 4:1-3).
- D. What does the Lord require of us?
 - 1. (Micah 6:6-8).
 - 2. There is no substitution for justice, mercy, and humility.
- E. The character of God.
 - 1. (Micah 7:18).
 - 2. We can learn much from the things in which a person "delights."
- E. Jesus is predicted as well as his kingdom.
 - 1. (Micah 5:2).
 - 2. (Matthew 2:1-6).
 - 3. (Micah 4:1-3).
 - 4. (Isaiah 2:1-4; 11:1-10).

Conclusion:

- 1. There's so much to learn from the book of Micah.
- 2. In short, God will punish wickedness, but he is gracious to those who repent.
- 3. In the midst of sinfulness and impending destruction, God has a plan to save the faithful.
- 4. While God hates sin, he loves the faithful.