

# **Walking Humbly with God**

Micah 6: 8; Psalm 50: 14-15; Micah 7: 7

# God took His people to court (Micah 6)

- The LORD challenged His people to state their case against Him, because He had a case against them (6: 1-5)
- God's people had not fulfilled His requirements (6: 6-8)
- Guilty verdict – Their crime (6: 9-12)
- Sentence – Their punishment (6: 13-16)

# God's charge vs. His people

- “My people, what have I done to you?  
How have I burdened you? Answer me.”  
(Micah 6: 3)
- “O my people, what have I done to you?  
What have I done to make you tired of me?  
Answer me!”  
(Micah 6: 3; NLT)

# What He did for them (w. 4-5; NLT)

For I brought you out of Egypt  
and redeemed you from slavery.

I sent Moses, Aaron, and Miriam to help you.

<sup>5</sup> Don't you remember, my people,  
how King Balak of Moab tried to have you cursed  
and how Balaam son of Beor blessed you instead?  
And remember your journey from Acacia Grove to  
Gilgal, when I, the LORD, did everything I could  
to teach you about my faithfulness.”

# The Wilderness Journey



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**About 13 miles between  
Abel-shittim and Jericho**

Jericho  
River

Gilgal?

Jericho

Abel-shittim

Jerusalem

Bethlehem

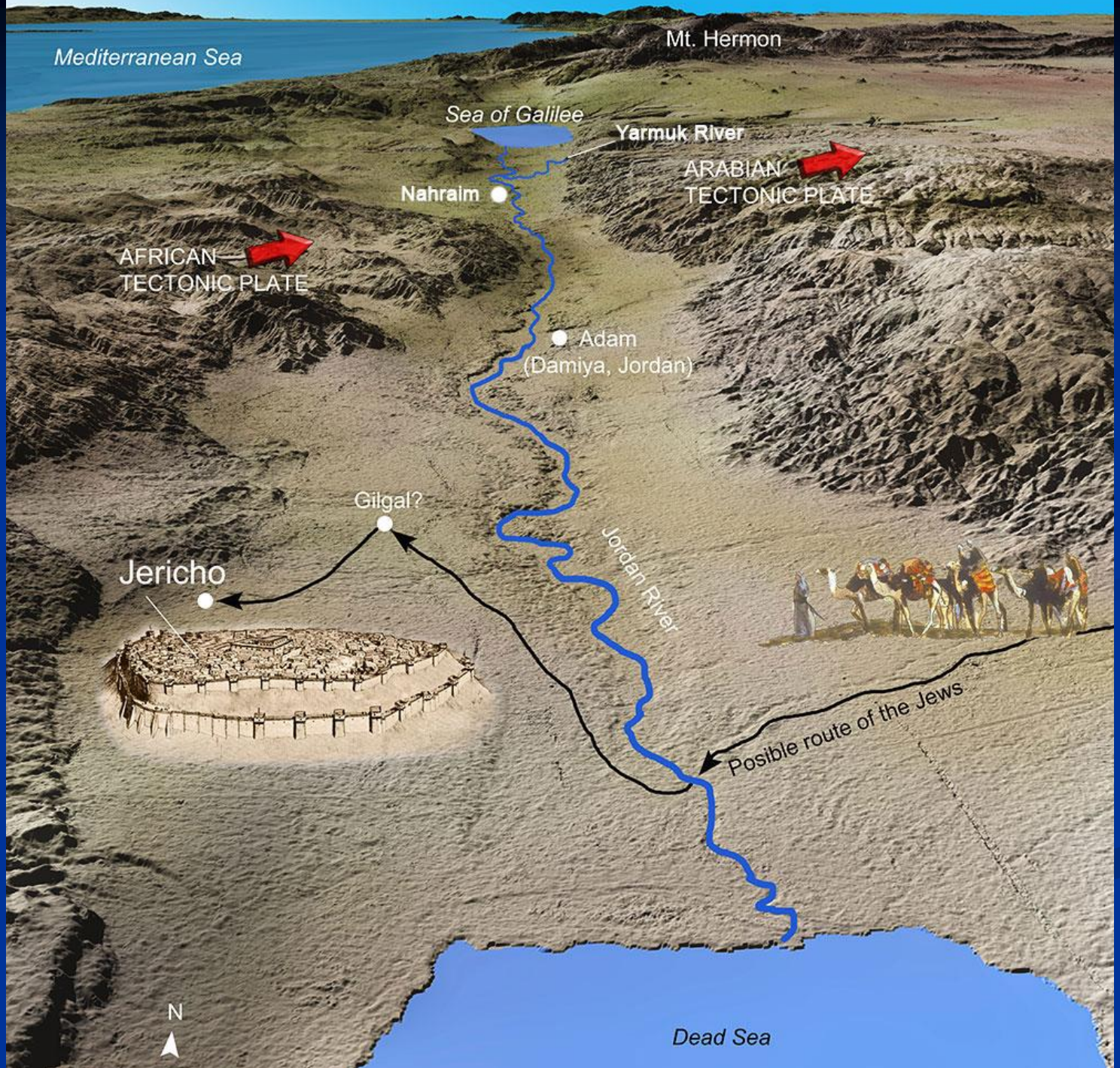
Nebo

DEAD SEA

**Crossing the Jordan**  
**Gilgal east of Jericho**

**MOAB**







# God's reminder/question

- Have you forgotten about my righteous acts on your behalf? (Micah 6: 5; NIV; ESV)
- Have you forgotten about what I did to teach you about my faithfulness? (Micah 6: 5; NLT)

# **God asked a question in v. 3**

## **The people also responded with questions**

- God's Q: "My people, what have I done to you? How have I burdened you? Answer me. (v. 3)
- People's response: "With what shall I come before the Lord and bow down before the exalted God?" (v.6)

# God asked a question in v. 3

## The people also responded with questions

- “What can we bring to the Lord?  
Should we bring him burnt offerings?  
Should we bow before God Most High  
with offerings of yearling calves?  
Should we offer him thousands of rams  
and ten thousand rivers of olive oil?  
Should we sacrifice our firstborn children  
to pay for our sins? With what shall I come  
before the Lord and bow down before the exalted  
God?” (vv. 6-7; NLT)

# **God wants a renewed and faithful heart, not extravagant gifts or extreme actions**

No, O people, the Lord has told you what is good,  
and this is what he requires of you:  
to do what is right, to love mercy,  
and to walk humbly with your God.



# God rests His case with Micah's statement in 6:8

He has told you, O man, what is good;  
and what does the Lord require of you ? ...

- *God gave Israel His law and it is good.*
- *We have His complete revelation (the Bible) and it is good.*

but to do justice, and to love kindness,  
and to walk humbly with your God?

- *God requires 3 things from us – do justice; love kindness; walk humbly with God*
- *These 3 are connected by "and", not "or"*

# Not 1, or 2; not just any one ... but all 3

- Do justice (act justly)
- Treating people right because we know God
- In the Bible, this means caring and advocating for the poor, widows, orphans and foreigners
- Love kindness (love mercy)
- Showing love, compassion and mercy in all we do
- Can't do this without loving people, showing mercy to others, and forgiving those who hurt us
- Walk humbly with God

# **Not 1, or 2; not just any 1 of the 3 ... but all 3**

- Do justice (act justly)
- Love kindness (love mercy)
- Walk humbly with God

# **“Walk with God” in the OT**

- After he became the father of Methuselah, Enoch walked faithfully with God 300 years and had other sons and daughters. (Gen. 5: 22)
- This is the account of Noah and his family. Noah was a righteous man, blameless among the people of his time, and he walked faithfully with God. (Gen. 6: 9)
- When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to him and said, “I am God Almighty; walk before me faithfully and be blameless. (Gen. 17: 1)



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# **“Walking with God” ...**

- A lot more than going places with God
- Symbolic of a close relationship

I will walk among you and be your God, and you will be my people. (Leviticus 26: 12)

Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, “This is the way; walk in it.” (Isaiah 30: 21)

All the nations may walk in the name of their gods, but we will walk in the name of the Lord our God for ever and ever. (Micah 4: 6)

# Walking with Jesus Christ in the NT

- ... [Jesus] said, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.” (John 8: 12)
- This is how we know that we have known him: if we keep his commands. <sup>4</sup> The one who says, “I know him,” but does not keep his commands is a liar, and the truth is not in him. <sup>5</sup> If anyone keeps God’s word, the love of God is truly made complete in him. This is how we know that we are in him: <sup>6</sup> The one who says he remains in him should walk as Jesus walked. (1 John 2: 3-6)

# Walking with God

- A relationship that's fully committed and “forever”
- Requires faithfulness on our part
- Obeying the voice and directions given by God
- Staying in the “light”
- Imitating the example of our Lord Jesus



# Walking humbly with God

In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

- 6 Who, being in very nature God,  
did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;
- 7 rather, he made himself nothing  
by taking the very nature of a servant,  
being made in human likeness.
- 8 And being found in appearance as a man,  
he humbled himself  
by becoming obedient to death—  
even death on a cross!

# Walking humbly with God

9 Therefore God exalted him to the highest place  
and gave him the name that is above every name,  
10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should  
bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
11 and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ  
is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

(Philippians 2: 5-11)

# **We need help from others stay on track**

- Macrina and her brother Basil (4<sup>th</sup> century; Turkey)

# Any parallels between God's people then and now ?

- *Both in covenant relationship with God based on grace*
- *Both have received revelation of who God is and what He requires of His people*
- What charges would be brought against us and our church if we were in this courtroom scene?



**What God requires of His people  
hasn't changed**

# Another courtroom scene – Psalm 50

“Listen, my people, and I will speak;  
I will testify against you, Israel:  
I am God, your God.

8 I bring no charges against you concerning your  
sacrifices

or concerning your burnt offerings, which are  
ever before me.

9 I have no need of a bull from your stall  
or of goats from your pens,

10 for every animal of the forest is mine,  
and the cattle on a thousand hills.

# Another courtroom scene – Psalm 50

- 11 I know every bird in the mountains,  
and the insects in the fields are mine.
- 12 If I were hungry I would not tell you,  
for the world is mine, and all that is in it. ...
- 14 “Sacrifice thank offerings to God,  
fulfill your vows to the Most High,  
15 and call on me in the day of trouble;  
I will deliver you, and you will honor me.”

# What's the charge vs. God's people?

- “You are insulting Me!”
  - The people thought they were giving to God some of their possessions
  - The correction:
    - <sup>14</sup> “Sacrifice thank offerings to God,  
fulfill your vows to the Most High,
    - <sup>15</sup> and call on me in the day of trouble;  
I will deliver you, and you will honor me.”
- (Psalm 50: 14-15)

# Goal of the Judge in this court case ?

- Our good and God's glory

14 “Sacrifice thank offerings to God,  
fulfill your vows to the Most High,  
15 and call on me in the day of trouble;  
I will deliver you, and you will honor me.”  
(Psalm 50: 14-15)

# What have we learned about walking humbly with our God?

- A relationship that's fully committed and “forever”
- Requires faithfulness on our part
- Obeying the voice and directions given by God
- Staying in the “light”
- Imitating the example of our Lord Jesus
- God wants our “offering of thanks”
- We are to call out to Him when in trouble



# How are we going to put all these into practice ?

But as for me, I watch in hope for the Lord,  
I wait for God my Savior;  
my God will hear me. (Micah 7:7)