

COLLOQUIES with Pastor Brian

Justice, Freedom and Love

According to Micah, the reason God allowed (or desired) the destruction of the Jewish nation was:

^{12b}“Your rich people are violent; your inhabitants are liars
and their tongues speak deceitfully.

¹³Therefore, I have begun to destroy you,
to ruin you because of your sins.” — Micah 6:12 b-13

While there are many other reasons why the nation was tried and found guilty by God, one might recognize this behavior as poison for any nation. Rich people have more power, even in a democracy, so if they are violent, the nation will be violent. And when truth is lost, the people are lost as well. Even without God’s ‘help’, violence and lies are a recipe for disaster.

Yet Micah (and God) never offer a word of destruction without a way back to God’s mercy. And God’s mercy is never far off. In verse 8 of this same chapter, God uses Micah to beautifully remind us what God really wants of us. “He has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.”

To act justly. To love mercy. And, to walk in humility. These are much more than words. They are calls to us as humans to know what they mean AND to put into practice.

This week, we are listening to a folk song written by the famous Pete Seeger in much the same way as Isaiah, Micah and others wrote to encourage their listeners. We are to use whatever is at our disposal to become active in our congregation, community and nation to turn ourselves from destruction named by the prophets of old and modern. And, while acting with just behavior and loving mercy and walking in humility isn’t a new idea, it is very much out of vogue and needing a comeback.

Let’s spend a bit less time this week naming the world’s ills and more time focusing upon the habits and behaviors offered us in scripture and discipleship to live a different way. Because this world needs to know of the love that can happen with brothers and sisters of all nations, creeds, colors and language, but only if we follow God’s commands.

Peace to you all,

Pastor Brian



DO JUSTICE ...

love kindness ...

WALK HUMBLY

with our God.

MICAH 6:8

