

Sermon Discussion Guide

Future Promises for Present Faithfulness

Micah 4:1-5

The promised presence of God (1-2)

Ex 25:9; Heb 8:5, 13; 9:26; 10:9; 12:18-29; Joel 3:1; Acts 2:17

- What bad news was given in 3:12?
- What does Micah's vision in verses 1-2 depict about the future presence of God?
 - Some principles for interpreting Old Testament prophecies:
 - The prophets use Old Covenant language to speak of future realities
 - The Old Covenant structures pointed to heavenly realities (example: Ex 25:9; Heb 8:5)
 - The Old Covenant images are often "supercharged" to convey the greatness of what is coming
- How have these things broken in upon us through the coming of Christ?

The promised peace of God (3-4)

1 Ki 4:25; Lev 26:6; Jer 30:10; Ezek 34:28; Zeph 3:13

- How do verses 3-4 describe the coming peace of God?
- How have these things broken in upon us through the coming of Christ?
 - (see also Rom 5:1; Matt 5:9; Rom 12:18; Phil 4:11-13; 1 Pet 1:3-5; 1 Jn 4:18)
- How does knowing the peace that is coming and the peace that we can have now help us in our daily lives?

Our present walk with God (5)

Rom 6:4; 8:4; 2 Cor 5:7; Gal 5:16; Eph 5:8; Col 2:6

- How do the faithful respond when they hear of the vision of God's coming peace and presence?
- How does this passage encourage us to walk faithfully even when things are difficult?
- Why do you think we sometimes struggle to do this, even though we have a great future hope and even more confirmation of God's faithfulness than they had?