

When, What, Where, Who, and How?

by John Isaac Edwards

Answers to these five questions are found in Micah chapter four. Let's take a look at the first two verses.

When? - “In the Last Days”. Micah prophesied, “But in the last days it shall come to pass...” (Micah 4:1). The last days did not just start last week, nor are they a long way off! Peter made known that the events of the first Pentecost following the resurrection of Jesus occurred “in the last days” (Acts 2:16-17). This is when!

What? “The House of the Lord Shall Be Established”. What shall come to pass? “...the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established...” (Micah 4:1). Sometimes the house of the Lord has reference to the Old Testament temple built and dedicated by King Solomon (1 Kings 6-8). This passage looks forward to a future house to be established in the last days. What is this house? Paul wrote Timothy, “...the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth” (1 Timothy 3:15). This is what!

Where? - “Jerusalem”. Where is this going to take place, Micah? “...in the top of the mountains...” (Micah 4:1); “the mountain of the Lord...Zion...Jerusalem” (Micah 4:2). Zechariah revealed, “...Jerusalem shall be called a city of

truth; and the mountain of the Lord of hosts the holy mountain” (Zechariah 8:3). The Lord said, “...I am returned to Jerusalem with mercies: my house shall be built in it...” (Zechariah 1:16). Likewise, this is where the foundation would be laid (Isaiah 28:16). Thus, any church that was not established in Jerusalem cannot be the Lord's house, and must rest on an unsure foundation! When you read Acts chapter 2, you will come across the words “...at Jerusalem...” (Acts 2:5). This is where!

Who? “People” / “All Nations”.

Micah foretold that when the Lord's house is established in the last days in Jerusalem, “...people shall flow unto it” (Micah 4:1). Now read Isaiah 2:2, a parallel passage, to learn the identity of these people - “...all nations...” By the way, notice where those present on Pentecost, in Jerusalem, in the last days, as recorded in Acts 2, were from: “...out of every nation” (Acts 2:5). This is who! The Lord made provisions for **you** to be part of His spiritual family!

How? - “The Word of the Lord”. How is this possible? Through *his ways, his paths, the law, the word of the Lord* (Micah 4:2). The Psalmist said, “The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul...” (Psalm 19:7). The phrase “...and he will teach us...” shows that one enters the house of the Lord as He is taught the law of the Lord, the word of the Lord.

How, Beginning on Pentecost: Peter said, “Ye men of Israel, hear these words...” and preached “Jesus of Nazareth” (Acts 2:22-36). “Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost” (Acts 2:37-38). “Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls” (Acts 2:41).

How, Repeated Throughout Acts:

Acts 8: “Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them....But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized both men and women” (Acts 8:5, 12). “Then Simon himself believed also: and when he was baptized...” (Acts 8:13). Philip “preached... Jesus” to the man of Ethiopia and upon the confession of his faith, “I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God”, “...they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him” (Acts 8:35-38).

Acts 9, 22, 26: The Lord instructed Saul of Tarsus, “Arise, and go into the city, and it

shall be told thee what thou must do” (Acts 9:6). In the Damascus city, Saul was told, “And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord” (Acts 22:16). Saul “...arose, and was baptized” (Acts 9:18).

Acts 10 & 11: Peter, a Jew, was sent to Cornelius, a Gentile, to tell him “...words, whereby thou and all thy house shall be saved” (Acts 11:14). “And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord...” (Acts 10:48).

Acts 16: Lydia “heard” and “attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul (verse 14). Verse 15 reports, “And when she was baptized...” Paul and Silas “spake unto him [the Philippian jailor] the word of the Lord...And he took them the same hour of the night...and was baptized...” (verses 30-34).

Acts 18: “...and many of the Corinthians hearing believed, and were baptized” (verse 8).

Acts 19: “When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus” (verse 5).

“For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body...” (1 Corinthians 12:13), “which is the church” (Colossians 1:24). You are invited to enter the Lord’s house today!

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