

his head bowed in prayer in a public conveyance in our country, or even reading his Bible. There is often a feeling that these things should not be displayed publicly. Of course we do not wish to be like the Pharisees and show off our religion as something to boast about, but I am afraid that all too often it goes far beyond that. I have even heard of missionaries who would say on the boat as they travelled to the country where they were going to work, that they were going into educational work, rather than to state that they were going as ambassadors for the Lord Jesus Christ. Micah says, "See the loyalty of these people to their false religions. See how they walk everyone in the name of his god. Surely we, who have a God who can predict and can bring to pass such wonderful things as are described in this vision of the future, should walk in the name of our God for ever and ever." It is an exhortation rather than a prediction.

In this connection we might note the parallel passage in the second chapter of Isaiah. Isaiah uses words almost identical to those of Micah, in his vision of the coming Millennial Kingdom. In Verse 5 he closes the passage with the words, "O house of Jacob, come ye, and let us walk in the light of the Lord." Our English translation of Isaiah's statement permits no doubt that it is an exhortation. Micah says the same thing in slightly different words.

Sometimes there is a danger that we will become so wrapped up in the joy of knowing God's wonderful plan that we will fail to stop and think of its relation to our lives. It is wonderful to know of the great things that God is going to do in the future. But all of this is of no value to us unless it leads us to a greater loyalty and a more earnest consecration to Him now.

8. The Regathering of Israel — 4:6-8

The parallel passage in Isaiah stops at this point. Micah, however, continues and gives one more characteristic of the Millennial Kingdom. Verses 6 to 8