

It is a wonderful prediction but a prediction which has not yet been fulfilled. The Christian preachers in the 2nd and 3rd centuries A.D. some of them tried to interpret this and they said, Rome has always been in war after war until about 15 B.C. Then Augustus the Emperor closed up the Temple--the god of war and we have had such peace as the world has never seen! Thus they said the Gospel cast its shadow before it and gave peace to the world even before Christ was born. Well, those ideas soon came to an end and the world was plunged into the war of misery that is the inevitable result of sin.

But here is a prediction that the time is going to come when there will be no war. Verse 4, Every man will sit under his own vine and under his own fig tree, and no one will make them afraid, for the Lord Almighty has spoken. A prediction that has not yet been fulfilled, and a marvelous prediction and such an important prediction that not only does Micah give this prediction but Isaiah too has these verses almost word for word. There are books that will tell you Isaiah's younger contemporary Micah copied what Isaiah had written! There is absolutely no reason to think Micah was a younger contemporary of Isaiah. And I don't think Micah took this from Isaiah. I feel quite sure he did not because look how they fit together.

Verse 12 of the previous ch. told what was going to happen to Zion and Jerusalem and to the central hill. Then 4:1 tells how the Lord's temple and Zion and Jerusalem would be raised up and established and be the headquarters from which the word of God would go forth. It fits right into Micah's prophecy. The prediction of the sin, the punishment that would come, the terrible punishment and then the wonderful deliverance God would bring at these very places. Whereas in Isaiah he just jumps right into this. Ch. 2 begins, This is what Isaiah son of Amos saw ~~eym~~ concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In the last days the mountain of the Lord's temple will be established as chief among the mountains, etc. It does not fit in Isa. to put that, while in Micah it goes right straight along.

People who study the book of Isaiah often find it a strange thing --Isaiah has a beginning in 1:1 of this is what Isaiah saw at a certain time and ch. 2 begins "this is what Isaiah son of Amos saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem." Why does Isaiah begin his book twice? We don't anywhere else in the book find a heading like that! I'm convinced this heading here in Isaiah 2 is simply a heading to the first 5 verses. Isaiah is saying, Now I'm going to tell you a vision that I saw. This is a vision Isaiah saw. He says, This vision I saw is very evidently exactly the vision Micah saw and I'm going to tell you about it and I'm even going to use the words Micah used because it is exactly the same vision. So the words are not ~~entirely~~ identical, but they are almost exactly the same as what he gives here. And Micah ends the ~~x~~ vision with the statement: "All the nations may walk in the name of their gods..." ~~Isaiah~~ KJV has "all the nations will walk in the name of our God . . ." That used to puzzle me. Why did he predict that all the nations will walk, are going to keep on walking in the name of their god? NIV changed it to "may walk," and it does not give you the impression it might be a prediction that heathenism will continue forever which it certainly is not. It is an exhortation to recognize that when the heathen follow their gods, so many of them, so faithfully, should not we who have a God who really exists follow Him? A God who can give such a wonderful vision as this and predict that He is going to do these wonderful things in the future.