Language

Micah 6:8 “8He 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.” What is the context of this verse, Micah, a prophet

What does this verse mean?  
Before verse he talks about things God has done for us, then moves to things we can do for God, then finally things God “require’s” of us!

Context  
This section is set up as a court trial against Israel, God being the one bringing the complaint against them! God is saying “what have I done to you?” Followed by different mircales He has performed for Israel, yet they are rejecting and rebelling against Him. Micah’s “courtroom” implies that Israel is at the witness stand, and as God is saying how much good He did, Israel is saying “what would be good enough from you. If we brought thousands of rams, ten thousands rivers of oil or even firstborn children you would not be satisfied.” Following this, God informs them that what He wants is not a mystery, but rather all he wants is “to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God”  
What do these three things mean?  
Do Justly: “Act in a just, fari towards others. Treat them as you would want to be treated.”  
Love Mercy: “Don’t just show mercy, but love to show it. Give others the same measures of mercy you want to recieve from Me”  
Walk humbly with your God: “Remember who I am = your God. If you keep that in mind, you will walk humbly before Me”  
Humbly, lets talk about that, I personally feel that humility is something that we as a generation lack so much of. You CANNOT force yourself to be humble, rather it is something that flows from the heart. To pride yourself of humility is not humility and extremely hypocritical. C. H. SPURGEON makes a fantastic point in a sermon titled “micah’s message for today” he states that if you ever think you have reached the highest point of Christianity or Christian grace, you are probably at your lowest. The more grace a man has, the more he feels his deficiency of grace.  
Think of the most influential Christian leadership/influence in your life, have you ever heard them boasting about a game, about a service/sermon, or boasting about anything! The answer is most likely NO, those that pursue God with all their heart are not focused on there performance, or how they did, rather there gaze is upon God. The same thing is true when you compliment them or tell them good job, almost always in some way or another they will redirect that glory to the One who deserves it! To take any such glory would be talking glory away from the Creator and the Designer! When we walk humbly we start walking in awe in everything around us, awe of the sunset, of the trees, of the beautiful ways the leaves fall. Things in our lives are no longer focused on us, rather focused on God, and when we focus on God, things change!  
Humility is evident in all of our actions, how are we praying, how are we worshiping, all throughout Jesus’ ministry he calls out the pharisees. They are praying on the street corners, yelling out to God, praising Him for different things, using big fancy words and grammer so that they would be perceived differently. Jesus then talks about the tax collector who goes into the corner, away from people, bows his head and lifts up a prayer. Jesus says that the tax collector is the one who left redeemed and forgiven because of his humility. This is the same case in our lives, are we so caught up in how we are being perceived by our classmates that we loose sight on the reason we are hear?   
I am not preaching this sermon to call someone out, but rather because this is something I constantly struggle with and deal with, I consistenly find myself looking around as I am serving to see who’s watching. I make sure I mention the times I was their to be perceived as such a humble guy.   
So now that I have called myself and probably some of you out, how do we become humble so we can humbly walk with the Lord?  
Here are BLANK steps to walking humbly with the Lord

1. Why are you doing what your doing?

What is your motivation to completing that project, or participate in that event. Are you doing it to be seen, or are you trying to worship you Heavenly Father? Like I mentioned before with the pharisees who were preaching on the corner and proclaim how “holy” they are, instead be like the tax collector who went by himself and prayed. He wasn’t trying to be seen, wasn’t trying to exalt himself, and so he left being made right with God.

What do I want to talk about

1. Break down verse
   1. God isn’t a mystery and He shows us what he wants
   2. Act Justly
   3. Love mercy
   4. Walk humbly with God

Sermon

Let me set the setting, You have a courtroom, Israel (you) are the defendant, and the accuser is God. The Lord is asking Israel, what he has done to them saying I saved you, redeemed you, yet you repay me with rebellion and rejection! God is calling you out, saying that HE didn’t do ANY evil, instead all He did was good yet they are ignoring and insulting Him. Israel respons with bitterness and resentment saying “What do you want from me?” Israel then starts listing things to the Lord saying things like would the Lord be satisfied with rivers of oil, thousands of rams, or even our firstborn, YOU ARE UNREASONABLE! God stops in His tracks, looks at the defendant, and says that he has shown you what HE wants, to do justly, love mercy, and to walk humbly with Him! So what does this mean in the context of the scripture, and the context of today!

Act justly, this one isn’t always easy to identify, so some of the things it means it to be impartial, make fair decisions in business and personal lives, not showing favoritism, but treat people equally. Another way to explain it is accurate, be truthful, don’t be exaggerating to make you look better, and don’t deceive yourself with rationalize decisions or behaviors. You could explain it as lawful, following the rules placed in authority above us! Overall being justly is treating others how you want to be treated, be fair, don’t cheat or lie, and listen to those in authority.

Love mercy, mercy is such a beautiful thing, on how we got so much mercy, a fantastic example of mercy is the story of the king and the servant. This king had someone that owed him a ton of money, the servant cant pay the king orders him and his family into slavery. After the servant begged, the king had mercy, canceled the debt and let him go. The same servant went from their, found a fellow servant that owed him a fraction of the money and demanded payment. When the fellow servant said he could pay, the servant refused and had the man thrown into prison until the debt could be payed. When the king found out he had the servant handed to the jailers and tortured. The morale of this parable was how the King, even though he was owed so much money, forgave the debt and had mercy, when the servant had someone that owed him a fraction of that money, he had them thrown into jail and took no pity or mercy. As God is in the courtroom and asking Israel to love mercy, he is not just saying have occasional mercy for others, but rather LOVE having mercy for others! When we Love mercy, we help those around us!

Walk humbly with you God. What does it mean to walk humbly in today’s world, humility is something that we as a generation lack so much of. In fact in many different articles you see examples on how self-centered we are, even being called the selfie generation! Look on social media, Instagram people edit their photos, and crop them so you only see the good. You see so many people chasing those likes and comments. So how do we become humble?

You CANNOT force yourself to be humble, rather it is something that flows from the heart. To pride yourself of humility is not humility and extremely hypocritical. C. H. SPURGEON makes a fantastic point in a sermon titled “micah’s message for today” he states that if you ever think you have reached the highest point of Christianity or Christian grace, you are probably at your lowest. The more grace a man has, the more he feels his deficiency of grace.

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