

# ***The Unique God of the Bible***

## ***International Bible Lesson***

**Micah 7:14-20**

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*“Who is a God like unto thee, that pardoneth iniquity, and passeth by the transgression of the remnant of his heritage? he retaineth not his anger for ever, because he delighteth in mercy”*  
(Micah 7:18—KJV).

*“Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity and passing over the transgression of the remnant of your possession? He does not retain his anger forever, because he delights in showing clemency”*  
(Micah 7:18—NRSV).

From historical studies about the gods that people have worshiped around the world for thousands of years, we know the answer that Micah wanted to imply with his question. Answer: there is no other God like the God of the Bible. No one has been able to imagine a person, a thing, or a god with all of the character traits of God as revealed in the Bible. If millions of people were surveyed and asked to describe the characteristics of God, they might list traits that many gods have in common; characteristics such as power, authority, creativity, and wisdom. But carefully consider the traits that Micah emphasized which make the God of the Bible unique. The God of the Bible “delights in showing clemency.” God delights in forgiving others instead of punishing everyone who has defied Him, practiced wickedness, or treated others cruelly and unjustly. Most would admit that only a saint could delight in forgiving someone who had deeply hurt and mistreated them or the ones they love. However, we can best describe the God of the Bible as unlike all others because God so delighted in pardoning iniquity that He sent His only begotten Son to die on a cross so He could be just when He showed mercy to repentant sinners who believed in His Son. Furthermore, think about those who truly try to follow the God of the Bible—the Spirit of God within them inclines them to try to live like God’s children, forgive others, and not remain angry with anyone forever.

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## **Thinking Further**

1. What seems to be most important about “the days of old” that Micah mentions?
2. What would make the nations ashamed of their might?
3. Why would God’s people not need to be afraid when they returned from exile to the Promised Land?
4. In what ways does Micah say God is unlike all other gods?
5. What are the important character traits or qualities of God that Micah lists in Micah 7:18-20?