

2. Son of Mephibosheth

Mica (MT *Mikā*; LXX *Μύχα*) is the only known son of Mephibosheth, son of Jonathan, son of Saul. He is mentioned in a short note in 2 Sam 9:12a and in the context of the Benjaminite genealogy in 1 Chr 8:34; 9:40. In both cases, the name is spelled Micah (*Mikā*). Second Samuel 9:12 records that, from the beginning of his reign, David had the opportunity to take care of Mica as a grandson of his friend Jonathan, a note which is difficult to bring into line with David's and Jonathan's age according to 1 Sam 16–2 Sam 5. This observation led Veijola to the idea that Mephibosheth in 2 Sam 9 originally would have been a son of Saul (64). According to Rudnig, however, the note in question in 2 Sam 9:12a is “clearly an explicating gloss” (203). While the half verse indeed looks like a gloss, one may ask what it might be intended to explicate and from which source this piece of information might originate. One should not rule out the possibility that Chronicles' list is the older witness to Mica ben Mephibosheth, and that his appearance in 2 Sam 9 derives from there (see further “Micah 3. Son of Mephibosheth”).

Bibliography: ■ Rudnig, T. A., *David's Thron* (BZAW 358; Berlin/New York 2006). ■ Veijola, T., “David und Meribaal” [1978], in id., *David: Gesammelte Studien zu den Davidüberlieferungen des Alten Testaments* (SESJ 52; Helsinki/Göttingen 1990) 58–83.

3. Father of Mattaniah

Another Mica (*Mikā*; LXX *Μύχα*) is mentioned in 1 Chr 9:15 among the Levitical inhabitants of Jerusalem. In the parallel list contained in Neh 11, his name is spelled *Mikā* (Neh 11:17) and *Mikā* (Neh 11:22). Furthermore, Neh 12:35 uses the long version of the name, *Mikāyā*, in what is most likely a reference to the same character. In all of these cases, Mica is called the father of Mattaniah (*Mattanyā*), while slightly different names are attributed to Mica's own father. In 1 Chr 9:15, Mica is listed as the son of Zichri (*Zikri*) son of Asaph. In Neh 11:17, he is referred to as son of Zabdi (*Zabdi*). In Neh 12:35, meanwhile, Mica is described as son of a certain Zakkur (*Zakkūr*). A comparison with the LXX and the other accounts does not simplify matters (see Knoppers: 497).

Mica's descent from the sons of Asaph qualifies his descendants for musical service as temple singers

(Neh 11:22), as well as trumpeters during the dedication ceremony of the wall (Neh 12:35). The latter instance most likely belongs to a redactional insertion between Neh 12:32 and 12:37 (Schunck: 361), as does Neh 11:22–23 (*ibid.*: 331–32). It is difficult to determine which version of the list contained within 1 Chr 9 and in Neh 11 is the older of the two. The question of whether both derive from a common source is a matter of continuing debate (see Willi: 283–86). (Cf. also “Micah 6. Father of Mattaniah” and “Micaiah 5. Father of Mattaniah”)

Bibliography: ■ Knoppers, G. N., *1 Chronicles 1–9* (AB 12; New York 2003). ■ Schunck, K.-D., *Nehemia* (BKAT 23/2; Neukirchen-Vluyn 2009). ■ Willi, T., *1 Chronik 1,1–10,4* (BKAT 24/1; Neukirchen-Vluyn 2009).

4. One of the Signatories of the Document

Finally, a third Mica (*Mikā*) appears in Neh 10:11 (Neh 10:12, LXX *Μύχα*; cf. “Micah 8. One of the Signatories of the Document”). This Mica belongs to the Levites who sign the treaty (*ʿāmānā*, Neh 10:1) after its proclamation by Ezra. Some scholars regard the core of this list as stemming from the early Persian era (Boda: 41–44). However, similar to Neh 11:22–23 and 12:33–36, the entire list in Neh 10:2–29 can most likely be characterized as a redactional work (Williamson: 325–26; Wright: 216) that consists of a patchwork of names identified in different passages of Ezra and Nehemiah (Schunck: 289–90; 294). Consequently, this Mica can be considered a direct literary descendant of Mica, father of Mattaniah (see above).

Bibliography: ■ Boda, M. J., “Redaction in the Book of Nehemiah: A Fresh Proposal,” in *Unity and Disunity in Ezra-Nehemiah: Redaction, Rhetoric and Reader* (ed. M. J. Boda / P. L. Redditt; HBM 17; Sheffield 2008) 25–54. ■ Schunck, K.-D., *Nehemia* (BKAT 23/2; Neukirchen-Vluyn 2009). ■ Williamson, H. G. M., *Ezra, Nehemiah* (WBC 16; Waco, Tex. 1985). ■ Wright, J. L., *Rebuilding Identity* (BZAW 348; Berlin/New York 2004).

Hannes Bezzel

See also → Micah; → Micaiah