



December 10, 2017
Pastor Bruce Adrian

HOPE REVEALED

An Old Testament Christmas

Lesson Two • Micah 5:2-5

O Little Town of Bethlehem

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The hope of Jesus is revealed by God as a great RULER from the little town of Bethlehem.

But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of you shall come forth to Me the One to be ruler in Israel, whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting. Micah 5:2

The Connection between Bethlehem and Jesus

The religious leaders and people knew that Micah 5:2 PREDICTED the Messiah's birth in Bethlehem.

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him." When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him. And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. So they said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the prophet: 'But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are not the least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you shall come a Ruler who will shepherd My people Israel.'" Matthew 2:1-6

A Great Ruler from a Little Town

1. Bethlehem Is a Little Town PRAISED by God!

But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of you shall come forth to Me the One to be ruler in Israel... Micah 5:2

A Little Town of Divine Praise

The greatest PRAISE gathering in the history of the world took place in the little town of Bethlehem when Jesus was born.

Luke 2:1-20

Lessons from a Little Town

- God always KEEPS His promises.
- God delights to use the UNLIKELY to better display His glory.
- The true HOPE of Christ-followers lies in God's sovereign grace.

2. Jesus Is a Great Ruler PROMISED by God!

But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are little among the thousands of Judah, yet out of you shall come forth to Me the One to be ruler in Israel, whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting. Micah 5:2

Therefore He shall give them up, until the time that she who is in labor has given birth; then the remnant of His brethren shall return to the children of Israel. Micah 5:3

And He shall stand and feed His flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord His God; and they shall abide, for now He shall be great to the ends of the earth; and this One shall be peace. Micah 5:4-5

A Great Ruler Promised

- This promised Ruler is great in His DIVINITY.
- This promised Ruler is great in His MINISTRY.
- This promised Ruler is great in His AUTHORITY.

Is Jesus Your Ruler?

The issue is not merely whether Jesus is a great ruler over Israel, but whether Jesus is a great ruler over your life.

The question is: Have you bowed your knee to Him in worship and confessed Him as your King?

Therefore God has highly exalted Him and bestowed on Him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Philippians 2:9-11