

The Coming King

The culmination of God's promised peace came through a baby born in Bethlehem



GOD'S STORY
THE TRANSFORMATION FOR ADULT LIFEGROUPS

Micah 5:1-15

August 9, 2020

(Micah 5:1-15) ¹ Marshal your troops now, city of troops, for a siege is laid against us. They will strike Israel's ruler on the cheek with a rod. ² "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times." ³ Therefore Israel will be abandoned until the time when she who is in labor bears a son, and the rest of his brothers return to join the Israelites. ⁴ He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they will live securely, for then his greatness will reach to the ends of the earth. ⁵ And he will be our peace when the Assyrians invade our land and march through our fortresses. We will raise against them seven shepherds, even eight commanders, ⁶ who will rule the land of Assyria with the sword, the land of Nimrod with drawn sword. He will deliver us from the Assyrians when they invade our land and march across our borders. ⁷ The remnant of Jacob will be in the midst of many peoples like dew from the Lord, like showers on the grass, which do not wait for anyone or depend on man. ⁸ The remnant of Jacob will be among the nations, in the midst of many peoples, like a lion among the beasts of the forest, like a young lion among flocks of sheep, which mauls and mangles as it goes, and no one can rescue. ⁹ Your hand will be lifted up in triumph over your enemies, and all your foes will be destroyed. ¹⁰ "In that day," declares the Lord, "I will destroy your horses from among you and demolish your chariots. ¹¹ I will destroy the cities of your land and tear down all your strongholds. ¹² I will destroy your witchcraft and you will no longer cast spells. ¹³ I will destroy your idols and your sacred stones from among you; you will no longer bow down to the work of your hands. ¹⁴ I will uproot from among you your Asherah poles when I demolish your cities. ¹⁵ I will take vengeance in anger and wrath on the nations that have not obeyed me."

COMMUNITY – CONNECTING WITH ONE ANOTHER

- When have you waited a long time for something (a first date, college graduation, marriage, first home, children, a family member's salvation, etc.)? What was the hardest part about the waiting?
- Did the end result make the waiting worth it? Explain.

CONTENT – EXPLORING GOD'S STORY

Have a volunteer read Micah 5:1-6

- Take a closer look at verse 1. What are some ways Christians suffer as a result of living in a culture that ignores or rejects God?
- What hope do we have in Jesus in the midst of suffering?
- What signs of desperation do you see in our world today that should make people long for the security God offers? Why do people ignore that security for a dangerous and uncertain future?
- What do you know about Bethlehem? What type of place was it? How did Micah prophesy God would use Bethlehem in the future?
- How is Jesus described in these verses?
- How would Jesus compare to the previous rulers of Israel?
- What do these verses teach us about the divinity and eternality of Jesus?
- Compare the seeming insignificance of Bethlehem with the incomparable worth of Jesus. How does God often work in surprising ways?

Have a volunteer read Micah 5:7-15

- What facts about the Lord do we understand from these verses? How were these promises fulfilled in Jesus' life on earth? What parts of this prophecy remain to be fulfilled at Jesus' return and rule over the earth?
- God abandoned Israel when they rebelled against Him, yet provided a great promise to give them hope for the future. How did Israel experience freedom from captivity? In what ways will we enjoy the rest of this promise?
- What promise of hope is there in the eternal, personal relationship we will have with God the Father? How did Jesus make this possible?

COMMISSION – ENGAGING IN GOD'S STORY

- In a world filled with darkness, how should promises of peace and security in God's kingdom affect the way you live today? How will you live with hope, yet still work effectively for the Lord today?
- Who in your life needs to know about the great hope you have in Christ? What plans can you make to share this truth with him or her this week?

PRAYER: Thank God for exhibiting His power, grace, and glory in surprising and unexpected ways. Praise God for saving you. Pray that God would open your eyes to see clearly how He is working in the world around you.

CONTINUE TO JOURNEY THROUGH GOD'S STORY

Bible Reading Plan:

DAY 1 – 2 Kings 17-18
 DAY 2 – 2 Kings 19-21
 DAY 3 – 2 Kings 22-23
 DAY 4 – Jeremiah 1-3:5
 DAY 5 – Jeremiah 25, 29

KEY VERSE: Jeremiah 3:12-13

H.E.A.R. Method:

Highlight a verse or two.
 Explain what the text means.
 Apply the verse to your life.
 Respond to God.

Our team has put together Bible study resources to encourage and inspire you as you engage in God's Story. Visit chetscreek.com/gods-story for videos, study guides, and more.

OUR VISION

To be a church
 for the unchurched,
 here and around the world.

ADULT LIFEGROUPS

Gospel-centered communities that aim to KNOW
 GOD together and BE CHANGED by Him in a
 way that will CHANGE THE WORLD.