

"On the Way" 365 Bible Reading Plan

Micah 5

Micah 5

Micah chapter five is best known for being the passage quoted in the New Testament having to do with the "wise men" from the east. ***"After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the One who has been born King of the Jews? We saw His star in the east and have come to worship Him." When King Herod heard this, he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. And when he had assembled all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he asked them where the Christ was to be born. "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied, "for this is what the prophet has written: 'But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah, for out of you will come a ruler who will be the shepherd of My people Israel.'"*** (Matthew 2:1-6)

This was Micah giving the promise of a redeemer that would save His people Israel. This is a perfect example of a prophesy that speaks to the day in which it was given and to a day yet to come sometime in the future. Micah knew the Assyrians were coming and that the judgment of God

was coming with them. The Assyrians were going to destroy the northern kingdom of Israel, which they did in 722 B.C. and immediately, drunk with success on the battlefield, they marched south to Judah and surrounded the capital city of Jerusalem. You will recall that Sennacherib, the king of Assyria sent his servants to the walls and gates of Jerusalem, and they called out cursings to the guards on the walls in Hebrew, the language of the people. They also sent a letter to king Hezekiah warning if he did not surrender, what happened to the northern kingdom would happen to Judah. Godly King Hezekiah took the letter and laid it before the LORD in prayer and repentance and God sent Isaiah to tell him his prayers had been heard. (II Chronicles 32:1-33). Micah's dire warning of coming judgment was heeded by King Hezekiah and disaster was avoided for another one hundred years. The prophecy of a Savior being born in Bethlehem did come true six hundred years later in Jesus.

Prayer and Action Steps

*Thank you, God, that your promises always come true.
Amen*

Date _____ Scripture _____

- *Read the chapter. If you have time, read it again.*
- *Highlight, underline or circle the Key Verse or Verses of the chapter.*
- *Ask yourself these questions as you read through the chapter.*

Is this historical narrative, analogy, metaphor, allegory, or some other element of speech or communicating truth?

What is the Context? Old Testament? New Testament? What is the writer speaking or writing about? To whom is he writing?

Is this a clear passage of Scripture (can only be interpreted one way)? Or could the passage be interpreted legitimately, in two or more ways, according to grammar and context?

Does the passage teach a Biblical Precept; that is, tells you something to be, do or act?

Are there principles in this chapter that if followed, would require me to change my attitudes or actions?

Does the passage give a Biblical Pattern that is followed here and other places in the Bible?
