

Bethlehem
Micah 5:2-4

- I. Meaning And Location
 - A. “House of bread”
 - B. About six miles south of Jerusalem
- II. The Significance of Bethlehem in the Old Testament Period
 - A. Rachel gave birth to Benjamin, died, and was buried in route to Bethlehem (Genesis 35:16-19)
 - B. The false priest of Micah was from Bethlehem (Judges 17:7-9)
 - C. The degraded concubine of the Levite was from Bethlehem (Judges 19:1-2)
 - D. The entire story of Ruth took place in Bethlehem (Ruth)
 - E. David was born in Bethlehem; Samuel anointed him king here as well (1 Samuel 16)
 - F. David poured out a “drink offering” from the well of Bethlehem (2 Samuel 23:14-16 & 1 Chronicles 11:16-18)
 - G. Rehoboam credited with fortifying the city of Bethlehem (2 Chronicles 11:6)
 - H. The Messiah prophesied to be born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2)
- III. Jesus As The Fulfilment of the Significance of Bethlehem
 - A. Rachel “weeping” for her children (Matthew 2:18 as a fulfillment of Jeremiah 31:15 and the picture of Genesis 35)
 - B. Jesus came to be a better priest than any other
 - C. Jesus’ mother was accused of harlotry – like the concubine
 - D. Jesus came to be our kinsman redeemer
 - E. Jesus was born there – and proclaimed to be king there (by the wisemen)
 - F. Jesus is the living water, poured out for us to drink from
 - G. Jesus is our strength, our fortification against sin
 - H. Even Bethlehem means “house of bread” – and Jesus is our bread from heaven