

The Sovereign Birth of Christ  
Sunday Morning, December 13, 2015  
Luke 2:1-20; Micah 5:1-5a

- I. God's Sovereign Plan Announced. Micah 5:1-5a; 7:14, 19-20
  - A. Messiah Would Be the Eternal One
  
  - B. Messiah Would Come as a Good Shepherd
  
  - C. Messiah Would Be from Bethlehem
  
- II. God's Sovereign Plan Implemented. Luke 2:1-6
  - A. God's Plan in the *Timing* of the Census to Get Mary to Bethlehem
    - 1. The Timing of the Emperor of the Census
    - 2. The Timing of Herod's Taking of the Census:
  
  - B. God's Plan in the *Details* of the Census to Get Mary to Bethlehem
  
  - C. God's Plan in the *Motives* in this Census to Get Mary to Bethlehem
    - 1. Mary Was Not Going to Bethlehem for Pleasure
    - 2. Mary Was Not Going to Bethlehem for Duty
    - 3. Mary Was Not Going to Bethlehem for God
    - 4. Why Was Mary Going to Bethlehem?
  
- III. God's Sovereign Plan Accomplished
  - A. Eternal God Luke 2:8-11; Micah 5:2; Phil 2:6,7
  
  - B. Born in Bethlehem Luke 2:6
  
  - C. To Save His People Luke 2:11; 2:14; Micah 5:4a

*Quote*

SOURCE OF ALL GOOD, What shall I render to Thee for the gift of gifts, Thine own dear Son,  
begotten, not created, My redeemer, proxy, surety, substitute, His self-emptying  
incomprehensible, His infinity of love beyond the heart's grasp.

Herein is wonder of wonders: He came below to raise me above, was born like me that I might become  
like Him.

Herein is love; when I cannot rise to Him He draws near on wings of grace, to raise me to Himself.  
Herein is power; when Deity and humanity were infinitely apart He united them in indissoluble unity,  
the uncreated and the created.

Herein is wisdom; when I was undone, with no will to return to Him, and no intellect to devise  
recovery, He came, God-incarnate, to save me to the uttermost, as man to die my death, to shed  
satisfying blood on my behalf, to work out a perfect righteousness for me.

O God, take me in spirit to the watchful shepherds, and enlarge my mind; let me hear good tidings of  
great joy, and hearing, believe, rejoice, praise, adore, my conscience bathed in an ocean of  
repose, my eyes uplifted to a reconciled Father;

Place me with ox, ass, camel, goat, to look with them upon my Redeemer's face, and in Him account  
myself delivered from sin;

Let me with Simeon clasp the new-born child to my heart, embrace Him with undying faith, exulting  
that He is mine and I am His.

In Him Thou hast given me so much that heaven can give no more.

(From The Valley of Vision - a collection of Puritan Prayers and Devotions, Banner of Truth)