

Christmas Hope Micah 5:1-5

The BIG Idea ... Jesus is our _____. Matthew 2:5-6 ...

The Writer

- Micah is a _____ from the little town of Moresheth.
- He prophesies in _____, the Southern Kingdom in Israel.
- He isn't one of the well-known prophets—like Isaiah or Jeremiah or Daniel—but according to Jeremiah 26, his ministry had a _____ upon King Hezekiah.

Applications:

- The story of Christmas is all about God using _____ people in _____ ways (1 Corinthians 1:26-29).
- Here on earth, you may never see the fruit of your labor—so don't measure success in terms of _____, but in terms of _____ (Galatians 6:9).

The Town

- It's _____. It's a familiar town—not because of its size (only 500 people live there) but because of its _____.
- Bethlehem is the hometown of King David ... and _____.
- Bethlehem is where a group of men ravaged a young woman until she was dead (Judges 19).

Application:

- Perhaps your history mirrors the kinds of tragedy experienced in Bethlehem. Micah wants you to know that if God can rewrite _____ history, then He can rewrite _____ history (Romans 8:28).

The Crisis

- Micah is prophesying that as an act of God's judgment on His people, the _____ army will swoop in and lay siege to Judah—including _____.
- God will use the Assyrian invasion to set the stage for the coming of Jesus, who will rise from the ashes of death and defeat to _____ and secure His people—not just now, but forever.

Application: God places us in situations that are beyond us ...

1. So that we feel our _____.
2. So that we sense our _____ for Him.

Application: As _____ of Jesus, God calls us to show _____ like Jesus (Romans 12:14).

The Deliverer ... The One who is born in Bethlehem will be ...

1. God's _____: He will come from God and He will rule for God, to deliver the people of God.
2. God's _____: He will rule over God's people, not like Stalin did in Russia—with an iron fist and an Iron Curtain; but as the Psalm 23 kind of shepherd (John 10:10-11).

The Takeaways

1. Jesus came, not only to _____ you, but to _____ you—forever (John 10:27-28).
2. Jesus came, not only to _____ you peace, but to _____ your peace—forever (Isaiah 26:3).
3. Jesus came, not only to _____ you hope, but to _____ your hope—forever (Psalm 42:5).