

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

Micah 5:2; Lk 2:1-7

Series: “The Prophets Foretold”

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INTRODUCTION

“O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie! ...The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.”

I. GOD CAME TO A HUMBLE TOWN

A. The prophet Micah had said...

[Mic 5:2 NIV] 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."

B. God orchestrated the events of history. (See Prov. 21:1)

[Luk 2:1-5 NIV] 1 In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. 2 (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) 3 And everyone went to their own town to register. 4 So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. 5 He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child.

C. God uses little, humble towns, still today.

II. GOD CAME THROUGH HUMBLE PEOPLE

A. Mary and Joseph couldn't afford better accommodations.

[Luk 2:6-7 NIV] 6 While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, 7 and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

B. God often chooses those the world labels insignificant to do His will.

III. GOD CAME IN A HUMBLE FORM

A. He chose to come in the humblest of ways, as a helpless baby.

Gal 4:4-5 NIV] 4 But when the set time had fully come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, 5 to redeem those under the law, that we might receive adoption to sonship.

B. Still today He usually comes humbly, quietly, "in a still small voice."

CONCLUSION:

These truths are illustrated in the humble story behind the writing of the song "O Little Town of Bethlehem."