# Micah's Ruler from Bethlehem

"But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah,
Though you are little among the thousands of Judah,
Yet out of you shall come forth to Me
The One to be Ruler in Israel,
Whose goings forth are from of old,
From everlasting."

- Micah 5:2

### A. Micah's First Message (Chapters 1-2)

Message summary: Near term: chastisement from God is coming for Israel.

Long term: restoration is coming for Israel.

What did Micah predict concerning the future restoration of Israel? (2:12-13)

1) The LORD will gather a remnant of Israel, and they will multiply. (2:12)

2) The LORD will be their king. (2:13)

# B. Micah's Second Message (Chapters 3-5)

Message summary: Near term: Jerusalem and the temple will be destroyed due to Israel's sins.

Long term: The LORD, by means of an eternal ruler, will restore the nation.

What did Micah predict concerning the future glory of Israel? (Ch. 4-5)

- 1) Jerusalem and the temple would be restored and exalted (4:1)
- 2) The LORD will bring world peace and end all wars (4:2-3)
- 3) The LORD will reign over Israel from Jerusalem (4:6-8)
- 4) Though other nations appear to be superior, the LORD will cause Israel to receive the wealth of the nations on His behalf. (4:11-13)

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- 5) Even though Isreal's leader is humiliated in the immediate future, one day a special ruler will come to the little town of Bethlehem. (5:1-2)
- 6) The Eternal Ruler will shepherd His people in the strength and majesty of the LORD. (5:4)
- 7) The Eternal Ruler will destroy all of Israel's enemies. (5:5-9)
- 8) The Eternal Ruler will eliminate all military establishments and all false worship. (5:10-14)
- 9) The Eternal Ruler will punish all other nations who do not serve Him. (5:15)

# C. Micah's Third Message (Chapters 6-7)

Message summary: Near term: We have no reason to resist the LORD.

Big Picture: We have a wonderful God.

What kind of God does Micah remind us that we serve?

- 1) A God who wants us to walk with Him (6:8)
- 2) A God who wins (7:16-17)
- 3) A God who forgives (7:18-19)
- 4) A faithful God (7:20)

### **Discussion Questions:**

- 1. Did any verses in Micah stand out to you?
- 2. What predictions in Micah do you sense the need for?
- 3. What about God's character does Micah help you see?