

"Ancient Majesty"

Micah 5.1-5a

1. Reactions to the King

- a. *Search* Matt 2.1,2,9-12 Jeremiah 29.13 James 1.5-8
- b. *Slaughter* Matt 2.3,7,8,16-19 Jerem 17.9,10 2 Peter 2.1,12
- c. *Slumber* Matt 2.4-6 Galatians 4.4 Revelation 3.15,16

2. Description of the King

- a. *Seasoned* v. 2 2 Sam 7.16 Daniel 7.13,14 Revelation 1.8
- b. *Sovereign* vs. 2,4 4.2,3 1 Timothy 3.16
- c. *Shepherd* v. 4 Psalm 23.1 Ezek 34.11-16 John 10.11,14

3. Messenger of the King

- a. *Faithful* 2.6-11 2 Timothy 2.4-5
- b. *Fearless* 3.5-12 4.9 Mark 8.34-38
- c. *Fruitful* 4.1-5 2 Kings 18.3,4 Jeremiah 26.2,4-8,17-19
- d. *Forgiven* 1.8,16 7.18-20 Galat 6.14 1 Tim 1.15-17

"Ancient Majesty"
Micah 5.1-5a

IF JESUS CAME TO HILO, WHERE WOULD HE GO TO GET STARTED?
WHO WOULD HE SEEK TO SUPPORT AND CARRY ON HIS MISSION?
Churches and Religious Leaders??
WE'D LIKE TO THINK SO - Haili, Me as Pastor, Deacons??

WHEN HE CAME - TEMPLE BUILT - HUNDREDS OF PRIESTS ESTABLISHED
JESUS TEMPLE - hillsides, lakes, slum areas, rich sinners homes
LEADERS - none were from religious establishment - OPPONENTS
ADVENT MESSAGES - Christ who came, who comes, who will come again
LION OF JUDAH - royal line, Kings - David, Solomon, Jesus
FINAL WORD - greatest OT prophet Moses, Final Word made Flesh
KINGS OF JUDAH - Vice Presidents, ruling on God's Behalf
GOD HAS COME TO TAKE UP HIS THRONE - PROMISED COMING FULFILLED
CAME AS BABY - GOD AS MAN - TO BETHLEHEM

1. Responses to the King

a. Search SCHOLARS OF THE STARS - called by God of the Skies

Matthew 2:1,2 After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him."

Matthew 2:9-11 After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. {10} When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. {11} On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold and of incense and of myrrh.

SCIENTISTS AND SCHOLARS - KNOWLEDGE NOT TO BE FEARED

SINCERE SEARCH LEADS TO GOD - HIS WORLD unlock secrets of Truth

"No scholar who follows the light given him, *by God*
will fail to kneel in worship before the Lord Jesus Christ"

SO-CALLED OPEN-MINDED LIBERALS- DO NOT WANT TO LISTEN -FEAR TRUTH

Jeremiah 29:13 You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart.

James 1:5-8 If any of you lacks wisdom, he should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to him. {6} But when he asks, he must believe and not doubt, because he who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. {7} That man should not think he will receive anything from the Lord; {8} he is a double-minded man, unstable in all he does.

GENTILE KINGS - seeking the living God

Genesis 49:8 Judah, your brothers will praise you; your hand will be on the neck of your enemies

b. Slaughter SHOCKING REACTION OF JEWS KING "and all Jerusalem"

Matthew 2:3 When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him.

Matthew 2:8 He sent (the MAGI) to Bethlehem and said, "Go and make a careful search for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him."

2:16-19 When Herod ~~realized~~ that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi.

BY POSITION HE WOULD APPEAR CLOSE TO GOD - Pastor, church leader

WARREN WIERSBE "Herod was a cruel and crafty man who permitted no one, not even his own family, to interfere with his rule or prevent the satisfying of his evil desires. A ruthless murderer, he had his own wife and her two brothers slain because he suspected them of treason. He was married at least nine times in order to fulfill his lusts and strengthen his political ties."

WE NEVER KNOW WHAT IS IN A PERSON'S HEART
ONLY 2 PEOPLE WHO KNOW OUR HEARTS - us and God

Jeremiah 17:9,10 The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it? "I the LORD search the heart and examine the mind, to reward a man according to his conduct, according to what his deeds deserve."

WHAT TRIGGERED HIS RAGE?? - HEROD WAS CONTROL FREAK
JEALOUSLY CLUNG TO POSITION - NAMED "KING BY ROMAN GOV'T - USURP
NO PROBLEM AS LONG AS NO RIVALS - RIVAL APPEARS VOLCANO EXPLODES

Church - People get on a Power Trip - I am the Pastor here

WHO WAS THE REAL KING OF ISRAEL?? - God!! we are His servants
WHO IS THE HEAD OF THE CHURCH?? - Jesus, we are His servants

EVERYTHING BELONGS TO HIM - buildings, assets, people, program

SO JEALOUS FOR POSITION - EVEN KILLED PEOPLE WAS CALLED TO SERVE

c. Slumber WORST REACTION OF ALL - APATHETIC RELIGIOUS PEOPLE

Matthew 2:4-6 When (HEROD) called together all the people's
chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the
Christ was to be born. {5} "In Bethlehem in Judea," they replied,
"for this is what the prophet has written

*Monks
Passed
Some
Lemon*

WORSE REACTION OF ALL - KNEW ALL ALONG WHERE THE CHRIST WAS

PROMISED SINCE GARDEN OF EDEN - THOUSANDS OF YEARS ANTICIPATION

Galatians 4.4 - TIME WAS FULFILLED when the time had fully come,
God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under law

ENTIRE LIFE WAS SET APART FOR THE SERVICE OF GOD - STUDIED WORD
COULD QUOTE MICAH 5 - PUT COULD NOT OBEY IT

WERE FIVE MILES FROM THE SON OF GOD- NO INTEREST IN SEEING HIM

PEOPLE WALK RIGHT PAST - Bible Study, Prayer Meeting, Worship

COME AND WORK IN NURSERY BUT FAIL TO COME AND WORSHIP

MIGHT FIND WAY INTO CHURCH ON XMAS EVE - DRIVE PAST ALL YEAR

Are you a FAN of Jesus Christ? lit. FANATIC

"unreasonably enthusiastic, overly zealous, devotion to cause"

GOD IS FANATICAL ABOUT US - stays up all night protecting us

POURED OUT HIS OWN BLOOD TO GIVE US ABUNDANT LIFE

Revelation 3:15,16 I know your deeds, that you are neither
cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! So,
because you are lukewarm--neither hot nor cold--I am about to
spit you out of my mouth.

2. Description of the King

MICAH RECEIVED WORD OF THE LORD - about 740 B.C.
DURING REIGNS OF KINGS of Judah - Jotham, Ahaz, Hezekiah
CONTEMPORARIES - prophets Isaiah and Hosea

STRONG MESSAGE TO LEADERS OF JUDAH - priests, prophets, king
GOD'S MERCY FOR THOSE WHO REPENT

a. Seasoned

Micah 5:2 "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."

GOD'S PROMISE TO KING DAVID HUNDREDS OF YEARS EARLIER

2 Samuel 7:16 Your house and your kingdom will endure forever before me ; your throne will be established forever."

EVEN OLDER - FROM ALL ETERNITY

Daniel 7:13,14 "vision...like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all peoples, nations and men of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.

Revelation 1:8 "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty."

NOTHING WRONG WITH TRADITION - GODLY HERITAGE - GREAT THING

SEEDS OF RIGHTEOUSNESS IN HAILI - pray here, saints, Spirit
"since 1824, proclaiming the historic gospel for Hawaii today"

LARGEST CHURCH IN WORLD - praying for fresh outpouring of Spirit

b. Sovereign NO GREATER POWER - ABSOLUTE CONTROL

Micah 5:2 "one who will be ruler over Israel"

Micah 5:4,5 "his greatness will reach to the ends of the earth. And he will be their peace."

Micah 4:2,3 Many nations will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob. He will teach us his ways, so that we may walk in his paths." The law will go out from Zion, the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. He will judge between many peoples and will settle disputes for strong nations far and wide. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore

c. Shepherd

ISRAEL'S 2 GREATEST LEADERS WERE SHEPHERDS - Moses and David

Micah 5:4 He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they will live securely, for then his greatness will reach to the ends of the earth. ~~out~~

→ Psalms 23:1A psalm of David. The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not be in want. ~~b~~

OT Promise
Ezekiel 34:11-16 "For this is what the Sovereign LORD says: I myself will search for my sheep and look after them. {12} As a shepherd looks after his scattered flock when he is with them, so will I look after my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places where they were scattered on a day of clouds and darkness. {13} I will bring them out from the nations and gather them from the countries, and I will bring them into their own land. I will pasture them on the mountains of Israel, in the ravines and in all the settlements in the land. {14} I will tend them in a good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel will be their grazing land. There they will lie down in good grazing land, and there they will feed in a rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. {15} I myself will tend my sheep and have them lie down, declares the Sovereign LORD. {16} I will search for the lost and bring back the strays. I will bind up the injured and strengthen the weak, but the sleek and the strong I will destroy. I will shepherd the flock with justice.

GOD HIMSELF BECOMES THE SHEPHERD - way OT prophets never imagined

1) John 10:14 "I am the good shepherd; "good" -
HE ALONE IS FULL OF GOODNESS - "THE good shepherd"

LIT. "attractive" / "genuine" / "true"

2) John 10:14 I know my sheep and my sheep know me--

"KNOWS His sheep" - NOT AN ANONYMOUS HERD
NEAR EASTERN SHEPHERDS NAMED AND CALLED THEIR SHEEP - knew them

NOT CUT OUT OF COOKIE-CUTTER MOLD to be made a Christian
GOD KNOWS AND DESIGNS OUR UNIQUENESS, CIRCUMSTANCES

WE HAVE DEEP HUNGER TO BE KNOWN - much of life spent hiding self
FEAR PEOPLE WILL NOT ACCEPT US AS WE ARE - Dating Experience

HUNGER TO KNOW GOD AND BE KNOWN BY HIM

St. Augustine "Our hearts are restless until they find their rest
in thee"

KNOWING US HE STILL LOVES US...

3) 10:11 "The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

EVEN THOUGH HE DIED IN HIS EARLY 30's - WAS NO TRAGEDY, ACCIDENT
John 10:18 No one takes (MY LIFE) it from me, but I lay it down
of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority
to take it up again.

MISSIONARY TO INDIA VERY FRUSTRATED - working with sincere Hindus
ONE HINDU MAN - very kind, religious, loving, and good
FASTED, WENT ON PILGRIMAGES, GAVE ALMS, DEVOTION AND SACRIFICE

GAVE VERY LARGE EXPENSIVE PEARL to Miss'y - PRESENT OF FRIENDSHIP
MISSIONARY "this is too precious, let me pay you for it"
HINDU "it is priceless, my own son died, diving for this pearl"
ONLY THEN DID MISS'Y HAVE WAY TO HELP HINDU UNDERSTAND GOSPEL
PRICELESS SAVING GRACE - purchased at Infinite Cost

Romans 5:6-8 You see, at just the right time, when we were still
powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. {7} Very rarely will
anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone
might possibly dare to die. {8} But God demonstrates his own love
for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

3. Messenger of the King

MICAH OF JUDAH IS EXAMPLE FOR US

a. Faithful REMAINED TRUE TO GOD AND HIS MESSAGE

EVERYONE TALKED ABOUT GOD - BUT FEW REALLY KNEW AND OBEYED *if MASH*
// CHRISTMAS SEASON IN AMERICA

MANY OTHER PROPHETS - MORE POPULAR WITH PEOPLE

Micah 2:6-11 "Do not prophesy," their prophets say. "Do not
prophesy about these things; disgrace will not overtake us." (11)
If a liar and deceiver comes and says, 'I will prophesy for you
plenty of wine and beer,' he would be just the prophet for this
people!

EAST HAWAII TODAY YOU CAN HEAR ANY MESSAGE YOU WANT
ESPECIALLY IF IT IS FLATTERING, MAKE YOU BETTER, SELF AND GREED

APOSTLE PAUL ABOUT TO BE EXECUTED FOR HIS MESSAGE TELLS TIMOTHY
2 Timothy 4:2 Preach the Word; be prepared in season and out of
season; correct, rebuke and encourage--with great patience and
careful instruction. For the time will come when men will not put
up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they
will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what

their itching ears want to hear. They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths. {5} But you, keep your head in all situations, endure hardship, do the work of an evangelist, discharge all the duties of your ministry.

WE WILL NEVER BE GREAT UNLESS GOD IS GLORIFIED

b. Fearless MICAH AND TRUE PROPHETS RISKED THEIR LIVES

Micah 3:5-12 This is what the LORD says: "As for the prophets who lead my people astray, if one feeds them, they proclaim 'peace'; if he does not, they prepare to wage war against him. {6} Therefore night will come over you, without visions, and darkness, without divination. The sun will set for the prophets, and the day will go dark for them. {7} The seers will be ashamed and the diviners disgraced. They will all cover their faces because there is no answer from God." {8} But as for me, I am filled with power, with the Spirit of the LORD, and with justice and might, to declare to Jacob his transgression, to Israel his sin. {9} Hear this, you leaders of the house of Jacob, you rulers of the house of Israel, who despise justice and distort all that is right; {10} who build Zion with bloodshed, and Jerusalem with wickedness. {11} Her leaders judge for a bribe, her priests teach for a price, and her prophets tell fortunes for money. Yet they lean upon the LORD and say, "Is not the LORD among us? No disaster will come upon us." {12} Therefore because of you, Zion will be plowed like a field, Jerusalem will become a heap of rubble, the temple hill a mound overgrown with thickets.

HE EVEN TAUNTS THEM WITH THE EVIL RESULTS OF THEIR CHOICES

Micah 4:9 Why do you now cry aloud-- have you no king? Has your counselor perished, that pain seizes you like that of a woman in labor?

PASTOR DONALD GREY BARNHOUSE - talked to neighbor about Christ
MAN HAD NO NEED OF CHRIST - GOOD PERSON - BELONGED TO LODGE
DAY CAME - man in sickbed, near to death
NO MEMBER OF LODGE ALLOWED TO DIE ALONE - members with him
BARNHOUSE "You do not mind my staying here a few minutes and watching you, do you? I have wondered what it would mean to die without Christ, and I have known you for several years now as a man who did not need Christ, because his lodge obligations were enough. I would like to see a man come to the end of his life that way to see what it is like"
MAN SLOWLY GASPED "you wouldn't mock a dying man would you"
BARNHOUSE TOLD THE MAN ABOUT SALVATION THROUGH CHRIST
MAN CRIED AS HE EXPLAINED THAT WAS WHAT HIS MOTHER HAD BELIEVED
MAN RECEIVED CHRIST - CALLED FAMILY TO BEDSIDE - TESTIFIED - DIED

Mark 8:34-38 JESUS called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. {35} For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me and for the gospel will save it. {36} What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, yet forfeit his soul? {37} Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul? {38} If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels."

c. Fruitful MOST OF PROPHETS WERE IGNORED - JUDGMENT FELL
WE READ OF KING HEZEKIAH - 3rd KING DURING HIS MINISTRY
2 Kings 18:3 He did what was right in the eyes of the LORD, just as his father David had done. He removed the high places, smashed the sacred stones and cut down the Asherah poles.

BROUGHT SMASHING END TO FALSE WORSHIP IN JUDAH

ABOUT 100 YEARS AFTER MICAH - JEREMIAH PREACHED IN JUDAH
Jeremiah 26:2 "This is what the LORD says: Stand in the courtyard of the Lord's house and speak to all the people...I will make this house like Shiloh and this city an object of cursing among all the nations of the earth." {7} The priests, the prophets and all the people heard Jeremiah speak these words in the house of the LORD. {8} But as soon as Jeremiah finished telling all the people everything the LORD had commanded him to say, the priests, the prophets and all the people seized him and said, "You must die!"

Jeremiah 26:17-19 Some of the elders of the land stepped forward and said to the entire assembly of people, {18} "Micah of Moresheth prophesied in the days of Hezekiah king of Judah. He told all the people of Judah, 'This is what the LORD Almighty says: "'Zion will be plowed like a field, Jerusalem will become a heap of rubble, the temple hill a mound overgrown with thickets.' {19} "Did Hezekiah king of Judah or anyone else in Judah put him to death? Did not Hezekiah fear the LORD and seek his favor? And did not the LORD relent, so that he did not bring the disaster he pronounced against them? We are about to bring a terrible disaster on ourselves!"

MICAH'S MEMORY - 100 YEARS AFTER DEATH - BROUGHT REVIVAL
600 YEARS LATER REMEMBERED MICAH IN PROPHECY OF CHRIST

WHAT WILL PEOPLE REMEMBER ABOUT OUR LIVES- what do they think now?

HEZEKIAH 3rd King - Micah had preached for 20 yrs. - THEN REVIVAL

HAVE WE GIVEN UP PRAYING FOR FAMILIES?? father saved after 47 yrs

Galatians 6:9 Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

d. Forgiven IF HE WAS HARD ON THE PEOPLE - HE WAS ON SELF

TO PREACH REPENTANCE - HE MUST LIVE REPENTANCE

Micah 1:16 Shave your heads in mourning for the children in whom you delight; make yourselves as bald as the vulture, for they will go from you into exile.

Micah 1:8 Because of this I will weep and wail; I will go about barefoot and naked. I will howl like a jackal and moan like an owl.

NAME "Micah" Lit. means "who is like the Lord" INCOMPARABLE

Micah 7:18-20 Who is a God like you, who pardons sin and forgives the transgression of the remnant of his inheritance? You do not stay angry forever but delight to show mercy. {19} You will again have compassion on us; you will tread our sins underfoot and hurl all our iniquities into the depths of the sea. {20} You will be true to Jacob, and show mercy to Abraham, as you pledged on oath to our fathers in days long ago.

THOSE WHO ARE GREAT SERVANTS - MOTIVATED BY GREAT SAVIOR

Galatians 6:14 May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world

1 Timothy 1:15-17 Here is a trustworthy saying that deserves full acceptance: Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners--of whom I am the worst. {16} But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his unlimited patience as an example for those who would believe on him and receive eternal life. {17} Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.