



Come & See What God Has Done

O Bethlehem

Dec. 13

Small towns hold a special place in my heart. These are places where everybody knows most of the town's folk. For better or worse, everyone knows each other's business. There are few secrets in a small town. Bethlehem was such a place, and it's where the prophet Micah prophesied the birthplace of the Messiah. Micah was a prophet of Moresheth in the days of Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah. The words of the Lord regarding the birthplace of the Messiah are found in Micah 5:2-4. "But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has given birth; then the rest of his brothers shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth."

The Messiah, first promised by God, was to be born in Bethlehem. We know, from Luke 2:1-6 He was, in fact, born there. In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be registered, each to his own town. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. Once again, we see the promise made by God fulfilled. We can see that, true to His word, A savior was born to reconcile His people to Him.

Promises are meant to be kept. Unfortunately, in our day and age, we often see promises as unfulfilled or empty words. Promises by politicians and others who consider themselves among the elite offer these cheap promises. Their promises tend to poison our perception of what a steadfast commitment is meant to be. Alternatively, when God makes a promise, He follows through. In the Old Testament, we see many examples of God's promises fulfilled by showing His love for His people. The same holds today. Friends, in His promises fulfilled, we can see what the Lord has done for you and me. His promises are true.

Leaning on Jesus
Forest Holmes



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