



A Most Amazing Prophecy

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 NKJV*).

And when [King Herod] had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. (5) So they said to him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the prophet” (*Matthew 2:4-5 NKJV*).

Micah the prophet foretold that the Messiah, the eternal One, would come forth from Bethlehem.

Why is this prophecy so amazing?

1) It is amazing because of the long time span between the prophecy and its fulfillment.

Micah penned these words about 700 years before Christ was born. He was guided by the God who knows the end from the beginning. This is comparable to someone living 175 years before Christopher Columbus predicting that President Donald Trump would be born in Queens, New York. ***Incredible!***

2) It is amazing because of the great odds against choosing the correct birth town.

Bethlehem was an insignificant shepherding village, just one town out of thousands in the Holy Land, and yet Micah pinpointed the exact birthplace.

3) It is amazing because of what had to happen in order for Christ to be born in Bethlehem.

Mary and Joseph did not live in Bethlehem, but in Nazareth. To get them to the right place at the right time required nothing less than a decree from the Roman Emperor, resulting in Joseph traveling to his ancestral town (Luke 2:1-4).

4) It is amazing because it is so simple to understand.

There is nothing complicated about this prophecy. Seven hundred years after the prophecy was given certain Hebrew chief priests and scribes were asked where the Messiah would be born (Matthew 2:4-6). Even though these men were unbelieving, yet they knew the correct answer based on Micah's simple and clear prophecy.

5) It is amazing because it is so ignored today.

Jewish scholars rarely speak of Micah's stunning prophecy, nor does it receive much attention from the Gentile world. This spectacular prophecy gives undeniable evidence of the Divine inspiration of the Scriptures, and yet it is largely ignored by an unbelieving world.

Yet to us, “**This is the LORD's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes**” (Psalm 118:23).



~George Zeller, 2016
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