



An Unexpected Christmas

An Unexpected Ruler

Micah 5:1-5



Marshal your troops now, city
of troops, for a siege is laid
against us. They will strike
Israel's ruler on the cheek
with a rod. - Micah 5:1



The Prophecy

1. The Background



1. The Background

- Troubling Times



1. The Background

- Troubling times
- God gives an unexpected promise in a time of distress



“But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans^l 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.” Therefore Israel will be abandoned until the time when she who is in labor bears a son, and the rest of his brothers return to join the Israelites.



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. And he will be our peace when the Assyrians invade our land and march through our fortresses. We will raise against them seven shepherds, even eight commanders



The Prophecy

1. The Background
2. The Promise



2. The Promise

- The ruler would come out of Bethlehem



2. The Promise

- The ruler would come out of Bethlehem
- God uses what is small in the eyes of the world



27 But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. 28 God chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are,



²⁹ so that no one may boast before him. ³⁰ It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption. ³¹ Therefore, as it is written: “Let the one who boasts boast in the Lord.” – 1 Cor. 1:27-31



2. The Promise

- The ruler would come out of Bethlehem
- God uses what is small in the eyes of the world
- God welcomes the humble



3. The Call to Have Faith

- Waiting for the promise to arrive



3. The Call to Have Faith

- Waiting for the promise to arrive
- Trust in God, not in others



3. The Call to Have Faith

- Waiting for the promise to arrive
- Trust in God, not in others
- Hope in confidence



4. The Unexpected Ruler



4. The Unexpected Ruler

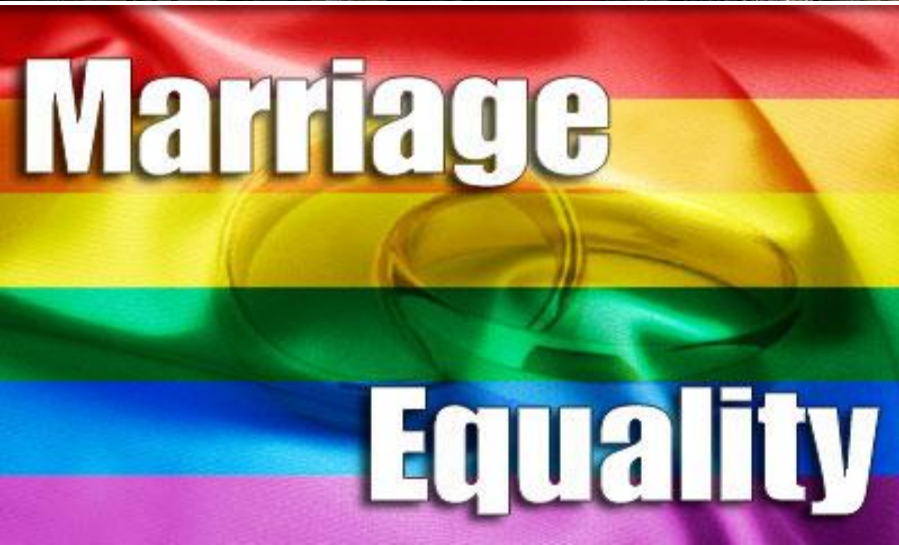
- Prince of Peace



4. The Unexpected Ruler

- Prince of Peace
- Good Shepherd





4. The Unexpected Ruler

- Prince of Peace
- Good Shepherd
- Faithful





An Unexpected Christmas