

GOD'S GREATEST GIFT...NOT FOR SALE

Micah 4:3, 5:4-5, 7:18-19, Luke 2:11-14

- The prophet Micah speaks of Jesus and Christmas.

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. And He shall be their peace. **Micah 5:4-5 NIV**

- He shall be great to the ends of the earth.
- He is the everlasting Father, the Prince of peace, King of kings and Lord of lords.
- He will be our peace.

And He shall judge between many peoples and shall decide for strong nations afar off, and they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. **Micah 4:3**

AMPC

- A day is coming when all this will become a reality. Amen!
- Peace between nations will be miraculous but it must be preceded by peace in the hearts of people...peace between God and man.
 - This peace is God's gift to us individually, personally at Christmas.

¹⁸ Who is a God like You, Who forgives iniquity and passes over the transgression of the remnant of His heritage? He retains not His anger forever, because He delights in mercy *and* loving-kindness. ¹⁹ He will again have compassion on us; He will subdue *and* tread underfoot our iniquities. You will cast all *our* sins into the depths of the sea. **Micah 7:18-19 NASB**

- Micah tells us that Jesus is coming and that He would pay the price and defeat the deadly enemy of sin and judgement.
- So at Christmas time we read these verses from the Bible:

Now in those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus, that a census be taken of all the inhabited earth. ² This was the first census taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ And everyone was on his way to register for the census, each to his own city. ⁴ Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, ⁵ in order to register along with Mary, who was engaged to him, and was with child. ⁶ While they were there, the days were completed for her to give birth. ⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son; and she wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. **Luke 2:1-7 NASB**

¹¹ for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹² This *will be* a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." ¹³ And suddenly there appeared with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, ¹⁴ "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among men with whom He is pleased." **Luke 2:11-14 NASB**

- Jesus really came; He came on a real day in recorded history.
 - He was born in a real city; not in Whoville or Bedford Falls, or in a galaxy far far away.
 - He was born in a real city over 7,000 km from Kansas City.
- Jesus, the real Savior, was really born.
 - He was born a savior...a savior...who really needs a savior?
 - Who needs a savior? Anyone who has ever sinned really needs a savior.

²⁰ But when he had considered this, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife; for the Child who has been conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a Son; and you shall call His name Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins." **Matthew 1:20-21 NASB**

- Jesus has real genuine authority to forgive.

⁶ For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; and the government will rest on His shoulders; and His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. ⁷ There will be no end to the increase of *His* government or of peace, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness from then on and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will accomplish this. **Isaiah 9:6-7 NASB**

On a real day in a real city, the Jesus, the real Son of God, really was born so He could truly take ALL of our sins, our guilt, and our shame away so that everyone who would really believe in Him could be redeemed and filled with life and peace...peace with God and the peace of God...yours today for the asking...REAL PEACE OF MIND results from a heart at peace with God.

Merry Christmas