

Sermon Discussion Questions  
**A Prophecy Partially Fulfilled**  
Micah 4:1-7; 5:10-15  
September 18, 2016

1. Micah 5:2 is the prophecy that the chief priests and scribes quoted (Matthew 2:6) (they quoted from the Greek translation of the Hebrew Bible so it is slightly different). Go to Micah 5:2 and make 7 observations of that verse.
  - a. (FYI: “Ephrathah” In ancient time, back to Rachel, they would know the location being Ephrath(ah), and the contemporaries of Micah would know it as Bethlehem. There is no mistaking the location.)
2. Micah 4:1-7 speaks of a future reign of the Lord. And Micah 4:5 tells us how it ought to impact us today. So why are so many people not living out Micah 4:5? Read 2 Peter 3:3-4 and discuss how we might speak to people who have that view in order to challenge them to be devoted to Jesus.
  - a. “To walk in the name of the Lord our God” – what does that look like in practical terms?
    - i. Read Colossians 3:5–17 and discuss this in further detail.
3. Micah 4:6 – does it sit well with you that the Lord afflicts people? Why or why not (beyond the answer “Because He is God and He can do what He wants”)?
  - a. Read Exodus 4:11 and John 9:1-3 and figure out why God afflicts people.

FYI: These two chapters (Micah 4-5) are structured like this: Micah 4:1-8 and Micah 5:10-15 are brackets on the front and back of the center section (Micah 4:9-5:9). The brackets speak to the reign of the Messiah in the kingdom to come. The center section speaks to the hardships Israel will face until they get to the kingdom to come and the deliverance by the Messiah. And Micah 5:2 is at the heart of the entire prophecy.

4. Micah 4:10 has come to pass in its entirety. The Jews were taken into captivity into Babylon. This was prophesied over 100 years before Babylon came on the scene (605-586 B.C.). And they came out of their exile in 458 B.C. (read Ezra and Nehemiah). So this prophecy was fulfilled 200-280 years after it was given.
  - a. Can you think of a modern day equivalent (or an analogy) that would help us see how profound it is that this specific prophecy was fulfilled?
  - b. If this prophecy was specifically fulfilled, how ought that to impact our thoughts, feelings, and actions?
5. We are to walk in the truth of this prophecy (Jesus coming as King) today. How are we doing at treating the lame, outcast, and the afflicted with justice today?
  - a. What are ways we can improve on this?