

December 3, 2023

The Bethlehem Candle - Love

C&C CARD



Advent

Luke 2:1-8; Micah 5:1-2;

John 1:29; John 3:16-17

Pastor Art Beasley

GIVING



_____ is the Lamb?

"Isaac spoke to Abraham his father and said. . ."Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?" -Genesis 22:7

_____ the Lamb!

*"The next day John the Baptist saw Jesus coming to him and said, '**Behold, the Lamb of God** who takes away the sin of the world!'" -John 1:29*

_____ is the Lamb!

"Worthy is the Lamb that was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessings." -Revelation 5:12

Bethlehem has a rich history in the Old Testament:

- **Rachel** gave birth to Benjamin and died. She was “buried on the way to Ephrath (That is Bethlehem). –Genesis 35:19
- The Levite priest to Micah lived here. –Judges 17:7-13
- The concubine of the Levite priest was from Bethlehem. –Judges 19:1
- The **book of Ruth** takes place in and around Bethlehem. –Ruth 1:1-2, 19, 22; 2:4; 4:11
Elimelech, Naomi, Mahlon and Chilion lived here before they moved to Moab (1:1-2)
Naomi and Ruth returned to Bethlehem (1:19, 22)
Boaz was from Bethlehem (2:4)
The elders/leaders of Bethlehem blessed Ruth (4:11)
“We are witnesses. May the LORD make the woman who is coming into your home like Rachel and Leah, both of whom built the house of Israel; and may you achieve wealth in Ephrathah and become famous in Bethlehem. Moreover, may your house be like the house of Perez whom Tamar bore to Judah, through the offspring which the LORD shall give you by this young woman.”
- **Obed**, who was the father of Jesse who was the father of David, was born here (4:17)
- Bethlehem was the birthplace of **Jesse and David**, his son and the place where **David was anointed**. –1 Samuel 16:1-13; 17:12-15
- **Micah** gave a prophetic word about the coming Messiah and the place of His birth – Bethlehem Ephrathah. Micah gave this prophecy about 745 BC, eight centuries before the birth of Jesus!
“But as for you Bethlehem Ephrathah, too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you One will go forth for Me to be ruler of Israel. His goings forth are from long ago from the days of eternity.” -Micah 5:2
- The **three wisemen** came from the East to worship the new born King of the Jews. They asked Herod where this king was to be born. The **Jewish religious leaders told Herod**, the Messiah was to be born in Bethlehem according to Micah 5:2.
- Bethlehem was a **Philistine outpost** during David’s early reign. Three of David’s mighty men brought David water from the well of Bethlehem near the city gate.
–2 Samuel 23:14-17
- Bethlehem was the home of **Elhanan**, one of David’s mighty men. –2 Samuel 23:24
- Bethlehem was a fortified city **for Rehoboam**. –2 Chronicles 11:1-6
- A group of people **fleeing Judah for Egypt stopped in Bethlehem**. –Jeremiah 41:16-17
- **123 men from Bethlehem returned to Jerusalem** at the end of the Babylonian captivity led by Zerubbabel in 536 BC. –Ezra 2:21

New Testament references about the Lamb:

John 1:35-37 / Act 8:32 / 1 Peter 1:18-19 / Revelation 5:2, 4-5, 6; 5:8; 5:12; 5:13; 6:1; 6:16; 7:9-10; 7:14; 7:17; 12:11; 13:8; 13:11; 14:1; 14:4; 14:10; 15:3; 17:14; 19:7,9; 21:9; 21:14; 21:22,23; 21:27; 22:1,3

Jesus is the Word of God - John 1:1-3, 14
Jesus is the Eternal Word - John 1:1-2
Jesus is the Creative Word - John 1:3
Jesus is the Incarnate Word - John 1:14
Jesus is the Light of the World - John 1:4-13
Jesus is Son of God - John 1:15-28, 49.
Jesus is Lamb of God - John 1:29, 36
Jesus is the Messiah - John 1:35-42
Jesus is the King of Israel - John 1:43-49
Jesus is the Son of Man - John 1:50-51