

# Thought for the Day

Sunday December 22, 2024

## Today's Scripture:

**And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth, and he shall be the one of peace.**

~ Micah 5: 4-5a

## Thoughts on Today's Verse(s):

At this "most wonderful time of the year" we tend to focus upon the gospel story of the Lord's birth. Luke 2 is mentioned and referenced again and again, as it should be. However, it is very interesting to examine the works of the prophets, in this case the prophecies of Micah as he was predicting the nature and effect of The Christ Child/Man/Holy One. In today's passage, the "rural prophet" offers us two poignant truths that remind us of the divinity of Jesus. These tenets are well worth our attention as we celebrate Christ's first appearance in our world and help us anticipate His second with joyful expectation.

First, Micah asserts that The Shepherd will feed His flock in "the name of The Lord".

Jesus did that, didn't He? His life and ministry were all about The Father, His goodness and His grace. Jesus was Immanuel, God with Us and He was the exact representation of God in our midst. The Word became flesh and walked among us (John 1:14). God reduced Himself in His Son and became one of us that He might save us from ourselves - and He did.

Second, Micah prophesied that The Shepherd would be great "to the ends of the earth". And He is. There is no one, no person, no philosophy or religion greater than Jesus. No name is better known nor more reputed than The Lord Jesus Christ.

Christianity still stands as the single most powerful "movement" the world has ever seen or will see. It is all a testament to The One who came, was born in humble circumstances, lived a perfect life, died in our sins and rose from the dead that we too may live with Him forever. There is no greater news or truth than that.

In these two great realities we can find peace - the peace of God that transcends all understanding (Philippians 4:7). Is there any better way to celebrate Christmas than to put all our hope and trust in God's peace through Jesus Christ our Lord?

## Prayer:

***O God, Father Almighty, thank You for sending Your prophet Micah to tell us about Your Son Jesus who was in You and You were in Him. No greater story nor truth has ever been told than His divine nature, His good shepherding of the flock and His greatness. As we turn our hearts to Him in celebration of His marvelous birth in humility, we exalt and praise You for Your wonderful goodness and grace. Your servants, Your prophets, tell us mighty things that we claim as truth and find peace in their righteousness. May it always be so. May the story of Jesus continue to spread to all corners of the globe that more and more people may come to Him in faith and Your kingdom grows as You desire. We pray today in The Name Above all Names, Jesus Christ Your Beloved Son, Amen.***