

the Promise of God's Presence

1 Now muster your troops, O daughter of troops; siege is laid against us; with a rod they strike the judge of Israel on the cheek. 2 But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days. 3 Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has given birth; then the rest of his brothers shall return to the people of Israel.

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4 And 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. 5 And he shall be their peace. When the Assyrian comes into our land and treads in our palaces, then we will raise against him seven shepherds and eight princes of men;

Micah 5:1-5

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2. 1. Shepherd in Our Siege
2. The Shepherd Who Calls Us to Trust, Not Control
3. The Shepherd Who is Our Peace

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1. Shepherd in Our Siege

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Sieges expose our weakness and awaken our need for a Shepherd

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1 Now muster your troops, O daughter of troops; siege is laid against us; with a rod they strike the judge of Israel on the cheek.

Micah 5:1

Promise of Presence

10 Who among you fears the Lord and obeys the voice of his servant? Let him who walks in darkness and has no light trust in the name of the Lord and rely on his God. 11 Behold, all you who kindle a fire, who equip yourselves with burning torches! Walk by the light of your fire, and by the torches that you have kindled! This you have from my hand: you shall lie down in torment.

Isaiah 50:10-11

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“Isaiah places before us two ways of living. One is the way of the true believer who, though he walks in darkness with no light of his own, chooses to trust in the Lord and rely wholly on his God. This is the faith that rests on God’s character when there are no visible proofs of His favor. The other is the way of the self-reliant, those who cannot bear the dark and therefore kindle their own fire, creating a light of their own making.

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But such light is deceptive, for it is born of pride and ends in sorrow. The contrast is sharp: the Lord sustains the one who trusts Him in the dark, but the one who walks by the sparks of his own fire will lie down in torment. Self-made light cannot save; only trust in God endures.”

- Alec Motyer

Promise of Presence

1 2. The Shepherd Who Calls Us to Trust, Not Control

Promise of Presence

3 Our Shepherd dismantles our formulas and invites us into God’s mysterious work of redemption.

Promise of Presence

2 But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days. 3 Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has given birth; then the rest of his brothers shall return to the people of Israel.

Micah 5:2-3

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8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. 9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

Isaiah 55:8-9

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"Recipe theologians tell us how to make life work by simplifying things and relieving confusion. Transcendent theologians know there is a darkness of confusion that can only be entered by knowing Christ, by abiding in him, by trusting him to supply supernatural power to hover over whatever darkness we face, and then by moving into that darkness with words that bring life." - Larry Crabb

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"If Jesus Christ really was raised from the dead—if He really got up, walked out, and was seen by hundreds of people, talked to them—if He was raised from the dead, you know what? Everything is going to be alright. Whatever you are worried about right now, whatever you are afraid of, everything is going to be OK." - Tim Keller

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3 3. The Shepherd Who is Our Peace

Promise of Presence

Jesus is the Shepherd that makes His majesty personal.

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4 And 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. 5 And he shall be their peace. When the Assyrian comes into our land and treads in our palaces, then we will raise against him seven shepherds and eight princes of men;

Micah 5:4-5

Promise of Presence

Jesus Our Shepherd

Knows His sheep personally — *John 10:3-4, 14*

Calls us by name — *John 10:3*

Seeks the wandering and lost — *Luke 15:4-6*

Gathers the scattered — *John 10:16*

Carries the weak — *Isaiah 40:11*

Protects sacrificially — *John 10:11, 15*

Promise of Presence

4 And 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.

Micah 5:4

Promise of Presence

5 And he shall be their peace.

Micah 5:4-5

Promise of Presence

**No God,
no peace.**

**Know God,
know peace.**

Promise of Presence

1 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters 3 He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Promise of Presence

4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. 5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. 6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Psalm 23

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