

Advent Devotional - Day 18

December 18th

Scripture: Matthew 2:3-6 Verse: *“When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. When he had called together all the people’s chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. ‘In Bethlehem in Judea,’ they replied, ‘for this is what the prophet has written: ‘But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.’”*



Reflection:

The prophecy cited in Matthew 2:3-6, originally from Micah 5:2, foretold that the Messiah would be born in Bethlehem. This small town, seemingly insignificant, was chosen by God to be the birthplace of Jesus, the Savior of the world. The fulfillment of this prophecy in Jesus’ birth is a powerful testament to God’s faithfulness and His ability to bring His promises to fruition, no matter how unlikely they may seem.

In modern times, we often encounter situations that seem impossible or beyond our control. We might struggle with doubts and uncertainties about the future. However, the fulfillment of this ancient prophecy reminds us that God is always at work, even in the most unexpected ways and places. His plans are perfect, and His timing is impeccable.

Reflect on a time when you experienced God’s faithfulness in your life. How did He fulfill His promises to you, even when the circumstances seemed unlikely? As you navigate your daily challenges, remember that God is faithful and His promises are true. Just as He brought forth the Savior from Bethlehem, He can bring about His plans in your life, no matter how improbable they may seem.

As you go through your day, take comfort in the knowledge that God is in control. Trust in His promises and look for the ways He is working in your life. Let the fulfillment of prophecy in Jesus’ birth inspire you to have faith in God’s perfect plan for you.

Prayer: Heavenly Father, thank You for the fulfillment of Your promises and the reminder of Your faithfulness through the birth of Jesus. Help us to trust in Your plans for our lives, even when they seem unlikely or impossible. Guide us to see Your hand at work in our daily challenges and to have faith in Your perfect timing. Amen.



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