

TITLE AND NUMBER: 59. God's promises are for everyone

REFERENCE AND KEY VERSE(S): Micah 5:2-5a



'But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times.' Therefore, Israel will be abandoned until the time when she who is in labour bears a son, and the rest of his brothers return to join the Israelites. He will stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they will live securely, for then his greatness will reach to the ends of the earth. And he will be our peace.

LOOKING FURTHER: Isaiah 9: 6-7, Matthew 6: 25-34, 1 Peter 5:7, Psalm 94:19

What does this Bible passage tell us?

The impact of the Covid-19 crisis has meant that the last couple of years have been a time of great concern for our wellbeing and that of our loved ones. Many people have experienced periods of feeling down, and being in prison can add even more stresses and strains.

The good news is there is always hope! The reading from Micah was written 800 years before the birth of Jesus. I like this scripture because it shows two things. One, God is in control. His plans were formed more than 800 years before Christ's birth. Nothing surprises Him, He's in control. Secondly, in verse 4, God is promising that, although things look bad now, He will come bringing peace and security. God promises us the same in the Bible. We will go through tough times he says, but He promises that He will always be with us, with love, compassion and strength when we need it.

A wonderful thing to remember is that God's promises are for everyone, and nothing you can do excludes you from them. God always welcomes us back with open arms when we come back to Him.

Reflections:

- If you are concerned about anything, who can you go to that you trust?
- Have you thought of asking God to give you love, compassion and strength in a time of anxiety?
- Are there any other promises in the Bible which have helped you?
- Look at Isaiah 9: 6-7 and reflect on how Jesus can help you with the things you're going through at the moment.

Write or draw something you read in this Bible Study that stood out to you.



**LOVE
COMPASSION
STRENGTH**

Do you have any questions about this week's Bible Study?



How does this week's message apply to your life?



What can we learn about God from this week's passage?



What would you like to ask God this week?



Has God responded to your prayers this week in the way you had hoped for? It's okay to talk to God about this.

