**SERMON OUTLINE**

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| **SERMON TITLE:** | Christmas in the Old Testament |
| **SERMON REFERENCE:** | Micah 5:2; John 5:39 |
| **LWF SERMON NUMBER:** | #1969 |
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1. INTRODUCTION
	1. The book of Micah is a small book that speaks of a small town – Bethlehem.
		1. In that small town, a small human being would come into the world – Jesus.
		2. Zechariah 4:10
	2. Micah 5:2
		1. Jesus had His birth at Bethlehem, but He did not have His beginning at Bethlehem.
			1. He has been from everlasting.
	3. There is a master key that will help us to understand all of the Bible, both the Old Testament and the New Testament.
		1. That master key is a person.
			1. His name is Jesus.
	4. All of the Bible is about the Lord Jesus Christ.
		1. Jesus is the theme of the Bible.
		2. Jesus is the hero of the Bible.
		3. Jesus is the message of the Bible.
		4. Jesus is the author of the Bible.
		5. The Bible is a “Him” book.
			1. It is about Him, the Lord Jesus.
	5. Sometimes, people mistakenly get the idea that the Old Testament is about Israel and the ceremonies, and the New Testament is about Jesus.
		1. But all of the Bible is about Jesus.
			1. John 5:39
				1. At the time when Jesus said this, the New Testament had not yet been written.
	6. In today’s message, we will look at the following three things:
		1. The portraits of Jesus in the Old Testament.
		2. The prophecies of Jesus in the Old Testament.
		3. The presentation of Jesus from the Old Testament.
2. the portraits of jesus in the old testament (john 5:39)
	1. God the Holy Spirit inspired the writers of the Old Testament.
		1. They shaped and formed their writings so that you see the face of Jesus Christ.
	2. Without the Lord Jesus, we do not have the master key that unlocks the Old Testament.
		1. Without the Lord Jesus, the Old Testament would simply be a bundle of unfulfilled prophecies, unexplained ceremonies, and unattainable laws.
		2. When we bring Jesus into it, He unlocks the whole thing.
	3. The Old Testament was finished 400 years before Jesus was born in Bethlehem.
		1. The Jewish people divided it into the following three sections:
			1. The Law
			2. The Prophets
			3. The Writings
				1. Sometimes, this would be called the Psalms.
	4. After the resurrection, Jesus began to explain the Old Testament Scriptures to two of His disciples on the road to Emmaus.
		1. Luke 24:44
		2. The Old Testament Scriptures (the Law, the Prophets, and the Psalms) was their Bible.
		3. Jesus explained how He is found in the Scriptures.
			1. Jesus is the fulfillment of all of these things.
	5. In the monarchy and the theocracy when Israel was a nation, there were three officials who received an anointing: the king, the priest, and the prophet.
		1. All of these figures or types were emblems of man’s greatest longing.
			1. What does man need more than anything else?
				1. He needs a prophet who can speak the Word of God with truth and finality.
				2. He needs a priest who can deal with his sin and bring him to God.
				3. He needs a king who is a righteous ruler and can rule with authority.
		2. In the Old Testament, the prophets, priests, and kings always pointed to someone greater.
		3. All three of these come together in one person; His name is Jesus.
			1. In the New Testament Gospels, we see Jesus the anointed Prophet preaching.
			2. In Acts and the Epistles, we see Jesus the anointed Priest interceding, saving, and bringing us to God.
			3. In Revelations, we see Jesus, God’s anointed King, reigning because He is the fulfillment of these prophecies.
	6. The Old Testament and the New Testament are all about Jesus.
		1. The Old Testament says, “Behold, He comes.”
		2. The Gospels say, “Behold, He dies.”
		3. The book of Acts says, “Behold, He lives.”
		4. The Epistles say, “Behold, He saves.”
		5. Revelation says, “Behold, He reigns.”
	7. Not only do we see Jesus Christ in persons, but we also see Him in ceremonies in the Old Testament.
		1. For example, there is one who will fulfill all of these unexplained ceremonies and all of these people in the Old Testament:
			1. Jesus is the last Adam, whom the first Adam prefigures.
			2. Jesus is a prophet like Moses.
			3. Jesus is a priest like Aaron.
			4. Jesus is a champion like Joshua.
			5. Jesus is an offering like Isaac.
			6. Jesus is a king like David.
			7. Jesus is a counselor like Solomon.
			8. Jesus is a beloved, rejected, exalted Son and Heaven’s bread supplier like Joseph.
			9. Jesus is the Ark of the Covenant.
			10. Jesus is the Mercy Seat and the Sanctuary.
			11. Jesus is the water from the rock.
			12. Jesus is the manna from the sky.
			13. Jesus is the brazen serpent lifted up for our sins.
			14. Jesus is the Passover Lamb.
			15. Jesus is the scapegoat that carries away our sins.
			16. Jesus is the Lion of Judah.
			17. Jesus is the Good Shepherd.
			18. Jesus is the Lily of the Valley.
			19. Jesus is the root out of dry ground.
			20. Jesus is the faithful branch.
			21. Jesus is the one without form nor comeliness, yet altogether lovely.
	8. If you read the Bible and do not see Jesus, then you need to reread it because you have missed the message.
		1. “Scriptures” in John 5:39 means the Old Testament.
			1. Without Jesus, all these things become a dead-end road leading to nowhere.
		2. Jesus is the theme of the Bible.
3. the prophecies of jesus in the old testament
	1. Fulfilled prophecy is the great proof of the inspiration of the Bible and the great proof of the deity of Jesus Christ.
	2. There are more than 300 direct prophecies that prophesy the coming Messiah.
		1. He would be from the human race.
			1. Genesis 3:15
				1. This first evangelistic message is that God is going to send the seed of the woman to be the Messiah to bruise the serpent’s head.

A birth, a bruising, and a blessing are in this one verse.

* + - * 1. This verse speaks of the Messiah who will come.

No angel or animal can redeem us.

He must be the seed of the woman.

Generally, when seed is spoken of it speaks of the seed of the man, not of the woman.

* + 1. He would be from a section out of that race.
			1. The human race had corrupted itself, and God sent a flood.
			2. Out of that flood came three families:
				1. Ham
				2. Shem
				3. Japheth
			3. Genesis 9:26
				1. God chose that the Messiah would come from Shem.
		2. He would be from a nation out of that section out of that race.
			1. Genesis 12:1-2
			2. He would come through Abraham’s lineage.
		3. He would be from a tribe out of that nation out of that section out of that race.
			1. Isaac was born to Abraham.
			2. Isaac had two sons:
				1. Jacob
				2. Esau
			3. Numbers 24:17
				1. Abraham’s grandson Jacob is the one from whom the Messiah would come.
			4. Jacob had twelve sons.
				1. Genesis 49:10
				2. The Messiah would come from the tribe of Judah.
		4. He would be from a family out of that tribe out of that nation out of that section out of that race.
			1. He would come from the family of Jesse of the tribe of Judah.
				1. Isaiah 11:1
				2. Judah was a part of the family of Abraham.

Abraham was a Shemite.

A Shemite was a human being, born of woman.

* + 1. He would be from a household out of that family out of that tribe out of that nation out of that section out of that race.
			1. The household was the house of David, who was the son of Jesse.
				1. 2 Samuel 7:8, 16

It was not by accident that Jesus was born in the city of David; Bethlehem.

* + - * 1. Jesse had eight sons, but only one son was chosen.
		1. He would be from a woman out of that household out of that family out of that tribe out of that nation out of that section out of that race.
			1. God chose a woman, but not just any woman, from the family of David.
			2. Isaiah 7:14
				1. A virgin would be the mother of the Messiah.
		2. Messiah would be the Son of that woman out of that household out of that family out of that tribe out of that nation out of that section out of that race.
			1. Micah 5:2
			2. His name is Jesus.
				1. This Son, the Messiah, is born.
		3. This did not happen just by chance.
			1. It is a mathematical impossibility.
			2. The Messiah came according to prophecy in the Old Testament.
	1. The Messiah had to be a Son of a woman out of a household out of a family out of a nation out of a section out of a race, but not just any Son.
		1. He had to be born in Bethlehem.
			1. Micah 5:2
		2. He had to be rejected by His people, the Jews, and accepted by the Gentiles.
			1. Isaiah 53
		3. He had to be betrayed for thirty pieces of silver.
			1. Zechariah 11:12-13
		4. He had to be crucified by the piercing of His hands and His feet.
			1. Psalm 22:16
		5. He had to be raised from the dead.
			1. Psalm 16:10
		6. He is the virgin-born Son of God who lived a perfect life, who lived, who died, who bled, who was buried, who rose, and who ascended.
		7. His name is Jesus, and He was born in Bethlehem.
1. the presentation of jesus in the old testament
	1. Jesus Christ is presented to you and to me.
	2. What will you do with Jesus?
		1. You crown Him, or you crucify Him.
		2. You believe Him, or you disbelieve Him.
		3. You accept Him, or you reject Him.
			1. But you cannot be neutral.
				1. Matthew 12:30
2. CONCLUSION
	1. You can believe the Bible.
		1. There is no possible way that this portrait could have been drawn by many people over different centuries.
		2. There is no possible way that these prophecies could have been fulfilled apart from divine inspiration.
	2. You can trust the Savior because the Bible presents Him.
		1. John 5:39
	3. Because you can trust the Savior, you can trust the Scriptures.
		1. They fold into one another.
		2. The same Bible that prophesied Jesus’ first coming is the same Bible that prophesies Jesus’ Second Coming.
		3. The Scriptures were so minutely fulfilled in His first coming, and they will be fulfilled when He comes again.
	4. The Savior who came the first time as Messiah is the one who is coming the second time as the King of kings and the Lord of lords.
		1. It is the one who has come who is getting us ready for the one who is coming.
			1. Jesus is Prophet, Priest, and King.
	5. Micah 5:2
	6. Do you know Jesus personally? If not, you can pray to Him today by asking Him to come into your life.
	7. Call upon Jesus today. Repent (turn) from your sins, and turn to Jesus. Ask Him to forgive you of your sins, and acknowledge Him as Lord of your life.
		1. Romans 3:23
		2. Romans 10:9-10
		3. Romans 10:13
		4. Acts 16:31
		5. John 3:16