Micah

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Date: 26 October 2010 Preacher: Relf, John

[0:00] Good evening to the prophecy of Micah and chapter 5 and verse 5.

Verse 5 in the 5th chapter in the prophecy of Micah. And this man shall be the peace.

You may wonder how we get air text. I never choose them.

We wait on the Lord for them. I've been speaking on the Lord's Day. Believing on the Son of God should be saved. And coming home I felt in some urgency for a word for you tonight.

And then there was an accident on the road. We were stopped for over half an hour. And my mind began to get anxious. Should I still wait for a further hour?

Or should I try and find another way I didn't know? And this word came. And this man shall be the peace. And it kept coming.

And it's been with me ever since that Sunday night. This man shall be the peace. So I venture in this word tonight.

Now what a blessing. If you can say with me. We know this man.

We know him by faith. We know a little in the exercise of faith. Believing that we can sing such hymns as you've just sung.

about the love of Christ. That is rich and free. And as the hymn writer felt to express love.

[2:10] Christ under the person of love. In all the aspects of his love. Well some of them. Precious hymns we sing. And this is a very precious word.

That we are directed to tonight. And as I look on you few. I think well. You are well acquainted.

With the doctrines of scripture. Gracious exhortations. And precepts of scripture. You're well acquainted with them. Your long association with them.

Must have had some fruit. And I'm sure that you feel. Yes it is. But a little here. And a little there. That the Lord has dropped a word into my heart.

And into my mind. To ponder. And I've had. What has seemed to be a work of grace. And may it be. Proved to you. That it is a work of grace.

[3:12] A real work. A work begun. And a work carried on. And a work wherein Christ. Is revealed. To us further.

And why is it we keep coming. It's because. The doctrines of the word. Are precious to us. And says the apostle Paul.

Unto you that believe. He. Is precious. He's in honor. That's what the word means. But in that honor.

And all honor belongs to Jesus Christ. He is precious. And that word means something very rich. Compared to our understanding of preciousness.

Unto you that believe. He is precious. And I want to look at this truth. As the Lord helps me. And has in my meditation.

[4:15] And this man. Shall be. The peace. And when we think of this. Dark world of sin.

And it's enmity against God. A holy God. What is the basis of peace. What is the ground. For peace.

When by nature. We are rebels. When all the world. Are sinners before God. Born in sin. Shapen in iniquity.

Death. Deceitful heart. What is the very ground. Of God's peace. God's peace. Why this man.

This dear man. There are 37 references. I find in my concordance. To the prehistoric Christ.

[5:15] In the old testament. References. That could be connected. To our dear redeemer. You know a few of them.

Unto us a child is given. And a son is born. The government shall be upon his shoulder. And in Psalm 22. When it speaks.

Of the dear redeemers. They look upon me. They cast their teeth at me. They stare at my bones. And in Isaiah 53.

The chastisement. Of our peace. Was upon him. And with his stripes. We are healed. And there are so many. References in the old testament.

Of course in the new. He is gloriously revealed. And again. We go to the old testament. Who hath believed every part.

[6:12] Who hath believed. Their report. As though the Lord is saying to Isaiah. Our report. Your report. From my mouth.

Who hath believed. Their report. God. The Lord. The Lord. The Lord. This man. Says. The Lord. By his prophet.

Shall be the peace. When peace is made. Twixt man and God. Holy doctrines. Aren't they?

Solid truths. There is peace made. Through Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ. The apostle says. To the believers.

He has made peace. By. The blood of his cross. Made peace. And another scripture says.

[7:09] He is our peace. Who has made both one. Broken down. The middle wall of petition. He is.

Our peace. And in this. Chapter. Where we read. And you must have felt. As I did. Some of the mysterious. Expression.

And men. From the original scriptures. Have. Had their opinions. Upon them. But faith says. I see my savior here. If you look.

At. Verse. Three. You read. Out of. These. Shall he come forth. Unto me. That is to be.

Ruler in Israel. Whose goings forth. Have been. From. Of old. From everlasting. And your faith says. Yes.

[8:07] There is a spiritual Israel. There are. There are true believers. In the gospel day. Whose circumcision. Is of the heart.

Not of the flesh. The true people of God. And faith sees. That Jesus Christ. Is our Lord. And our master.

As well as their savior. Whose goings forth. Have been. From of old. From everlasting. Casting. And faith. Would say. Yes. Our blessed Lord.

With the father. Of the father. In him was, Life. The life was,

In him was life. And. We know. How John. Describes. Jesus Christ. As one. With the father. And how the apostle. To the Hebrews.

[9:04] Describes him. As the brightness. Of his glory. The express. Image. Of his person. Upholding. All things.

By the word. Of his power. When he had. Purged. Our sins. Sat down. On the right hand.

Of the majesty. Of God. On high. This man. This dear man. Of whom. We speak. We sing.

Don't we. There is a man. In heaven. Now reigns. This dear man. That suffered. For our sakes.

With wounds. Still. Open wide. Not bleeding. Open wide.

[9:58] To the eye of faith. By faith. To measure a little. Of what the Lord. Suffered. To make peace.

An enduring peace. And an eternal peace. For if we understand. Peace. It is without danger. It is without threatening.

It is more than just. A peaceful feeling. When God spoke. To his people. He will keep them. In perfect peace.

He was speaking. Of a people. Under affliction. A people. That were being. Hounded. From one place. To another. He was speaking.

Of perfect peace. That is. A peace. That is mature. And complete. That is what the word. Mean. They would be. Free from danger. And would be.

[10:56] In their own. Habitation. Well. If we look. At some of these. Blessed truths. For a moment.

Whose goings forth. Have been. Have been. From of old. From everlasting. And. It is so often. Quoted in religious.

Circles. God so loved the world. It is said to be. The most popular. Verse in scripture. Well so it may be. And so it is.

For God did so love. And God did. So send his son. But in this chapter. We read a little of that. That faith understands.

I can put my. Eye upon it. Verse three. Therefore will he give them up.

[11:57] Until the time. That she which travaileth. Has brought forth. Of the world. And surely faith. Would see there. The virgin Mary.

The child. That is born of thee. Shall be conceived. Of the Holy Ghost. Called. The son of God. And faith. Would say yes.

Is going. In the councils. Of Jehovah. Have been. Ever of old. Father. Son. And Holy Spirit. And God had prepared.

For him a body. And he was willing. To take that body. To do the will of God. In it. In a work. To be finished. Of redemption. Faith sees a little.

Of these holy mysteries. And sees Jesus. As the very center. Of these things. This man. Should be the peace. Peace with God.

[12:53] That I need. Peace made with me. Through. The blood of his cross. Peace. That I may enjoy. This man.

Is the very center. Of his glory. The center. Of the purposes. Of God. And I thought. Today. Feeling like I do. We are so older.

We can't do what we did. When we were young. We had a purpose. We were going to. Buy a house. And we were going to. Do it up. As best we could. We got the strength.

To do it. The mind to do it. Now we come to the stage. Where we have to purpose. What we can do. Within our limits. Pray for grace.

To do. With strength. To do what's within our limits. But God is not like that. Our God. God is a God. God of eternal purposes. And his purposes.

[13:50] Is to bless his people. With salvation. By his own. Free love. And free grace. Oh.

These doctrines. Are precious. Aren't they? Can anything. Thwart the purposes. Of God. The purpose. Of God. In the counsel. Of Jehovah.

Was that Jesus Christ. This man. Should be the surety. For his people. For his bride. That he should come. To this world. Take a body.

In a sacred humanity. Make peace. With a holy God. For sinners. That the chastisement. Of our peace. Would be laid on him.

And with his stripes. We're all healed. This is. Zion's rejoicing. Isn't it? This man.

[14:45] Should be the peace. He was born. Of a woman. He grew up. He took a sacred manhood. Holy. Sinless.

And harmless. You say. This is the saviour. I begin to know. And do know. And love. I would love him more. Because in him.

Are all the fullness. Of the Godhead bodily. And all the riches of grace. And from his fullness. All believers receive.

Grace for grace. You say. My religion. Seems a poor religion. It doesn't seem to have. Some seem to have. A great show.

But I'm a little one. That I believe. Great things. Of a great. And glorious God. I at times. Can say. This God.

[15:41] Is my God. He has raised me. From the pit of hell. He has lifted me. Up upon a rock. He's put a new song. In my mouth.

This God. Is my God. And you go back. Then to the eternal. Counsels of God. When. His blessed son. Was being revealed.

In all the prophecies. Of the old testament. They all. Spake of Christ. They spake of judgments. And mercies. And I mentioned.

In prayer of Habakkuk. Habakkuk just. Was at a loss. To understand. The judgments of God. Upon the wicked. And upon the house of Judah.

And he was at a loss. And then we read. That beautiful expression. But the just. Shall live by faith. His faith.

[16:36] Said. Although I can't understand. God's dealing. I trust God. That he is righteous. In all his ways. And just. And holy.

And that is how you and I. Must live. In this life. There are many things. Which we just. Do not understand. They are not revealed to us.

They are clouded in holy mysteries. God will make them plain. In his own time. God knows. What he is purposed to do. In and through his beloved son.

And this man. Is the peace. He is the ruler. He came to be the saviour. Not to rule. As they wanted a king.

To rule over them. But. To preach the gospel. Of the kingdom. And call people. To follow him. And be children of light.

[17:33] Children. Of the kingdom of heaven. Indeed. A saviour. And a ruler. Of spiritual Israel. Israel. And I.

Been thinking of a hymn. We used to sing it. Around the organ at home. With others. And it was lovely. To sing these hymns. And the words.

Seemed so sweet. And beautiful. But did we know much. About them. Peace. Perfect peace. In this.

Dark world of sin. The blood of Jesus. Whispers peace within. Yes.

It sounded sweet. To a seeker. But what did we know. Then. Of the whispers. Of his love. When he whispered within.

[18:34] But I trust you. Come to know. What we sing again. Of the spirit. Whose whisper divine. Mine. Seals. Mercy. And pardon.

And righteousness. Mine. And you say. All this. In a dark world of sin. The hymn writer. What they knew.

We don't know. But they obviously knew. By. Did deep experience. Something. Of this perfect peace. Peace. Peace. Peace. Not perfect. In our sense.

Of the word. But perfect. As God gives you. That rest. From all anxiety. That rest. From all fear.

And doubt. Peace. And to you. It is perfect. Peace. It's not an idle. Nest. It's not. Let me have a little. Peace. When you're handed. By Satan. Because you are.

[19:31] A child of God. And not otherwise. When God gives you. A little peace. In this dark world. Of sin. Then you're led.

To know. That you only have. That peace. Through this man. That has made. Peace. With God. He came.

To fulfill. The law. Every jot. And tittle. Of it. And the law. Is there. To schoolmaster. To bring us. To Christ. Who fulfilled.

That law. And satisfied. The law. Satisfied. God's justice. Made peace. With an offended. God.

A holy God. This man. Has done all that. And we wouldn't have. Peace. Except through.

[20 : 26] The blood. Of his cross. He took a nature. That he could die. The death. Solemn. The sacred love. The love of God.

To so give his son. That we might live. He gave his only begotten son. What a precious gift. Is that.

To God. To give. His only son. Who lived with him. In eternity. With the Holy Spirit. In those eternal counsels. To fulfill.

To fulfill. The purposes of God. That he has found a ransom. And the ransom. His own precious blood.

Says the apostle again. We have peace. Through. Our Lord. Jesus Christ. I've been preaching.

[21:23] Recently. On. Come now. Let us. Reason together. You know. The setting. Judgment. The Lord. Encouraging.

A remnant. That felt. Their sins. Were scarlet. And crimson. And felt. They'd. Committed. Sins. Beyond. They couldn't.

Find strength. Of faith. Or courage. To come back. To the Lord. The Lord. Is saying. To them. Come now. Let us. Reason together.

And I said. Then. What is the ground. Of a sinner. Reasoning. With God. It's not like. The rich young. Ruler. That said. All these things.

Have I done. From my use. He was reasoning. According to. The law. Of works. No. We can only. Reason with God. On the ground.

[22:18] Of his mercy. And you know it. Rejoice in it. The only way. I've been able. To reason. With a holy God. As a sinner.

Is God. Be merciful. To me. A sinner. And isn't that. What Jesus. Taught. When the Pharisee. Father.

Whether it's a parable. Or so. We're not told. But Jesus. Sets a parable. As praying. With himself. He wasn't reasoning. With God. He was praying.

Thus. With himself. The poor publican. Couldn't stand. A fire off. A fire off. Draw near. He stood a fire off. And smote upon his breast.

And his only reasoning. With God. Was. Be merciful. To me. A sinner. Know your sins.

[23:14] Be as scarlet. They should be as white. As snow. Red like crimson. Double dyed. They should be as white. As war. What beautiful teaching. We have.

In the word of God. And it's. Through this man. That we can. Reason with God. We can plead.

A righteousness. We can plead. His precious. Virtuous. Sin atoning blood. Blood. And.

We have. Peace with God. Says the apostle. Through. Him. Through his blood. Because. That's the way.

Of peace. That is. God's. Way of peace. He was. Punished sin. You say. Oh. I know that. What a mercy. I was made.

[24:10] To feel it. What a mercy. I was to come. To pray. God. Be merciful. To me. A sinner. What a blessing. If I've known. Peace. That comes. Through the whispers.

Of his love. This man. Should be the peace. Then think of. Not only.

That he made peace. But think of. The peace. That he made. Betwixt. God. And sinners. That vast. Difference. That vast. Golf. That Jesus.

Taught of. Between him. And you. The depths. Of mercy. To a sinner. But when we think.

Of peace. I go again. Back to that. Hymn. Really. It's on my mind. Been on my mind. Today. We. If you know.

[25:06] Something of its language. It's with sorrows. Surging round. We've known sorrows. That surge round.

That make our minds. As numb. As they can be. The questions we ask. The questions. Unanswered. The unease.

We feel. What does the hymn say. With sorrows. Surging round. On Jesus. Bosom. Nought. But peace is found.

Have you experienced it? Sorrow. Surging round. Think of the picture. The man is writing off. On Jesus.

The breast. Nought. God. But peace is found. I shall never forget. A dear deacon. Lived opposite us.

[26:06] His young lad. Of his. Ten. Was knocked down. By an army lorry. And killed. And he was walking. The streets. Comforted by the Lord. Sustained by the Lord.

Somebody said. Aren't you sad? He said. I am sad. But I can't be sad. I can't be sad. And he said to me.

I am enjoying the support. And peace of God. You know. That is perfect peace. Isn't it? Sorrow. Surging round.

Young son. Crushed. Almost before their eyes. Supported. Well. They never forgot their son. They never forget the tragedy.

But. They will never forget the support either. Because this man. Is peace. Has made peace. And can convey peace.

[27:06] And again. The hymn says. With loved ones far away. How many parents are anxious. For their loved ones. Maybe in this country.

They may be in a foreign country. They may be in a friendly country. Far away. But. The hymn writer says. In Jesus keeping.

They are safe. And we. It's given peace. To say. Lord. We. We cannot defend them. We leave them in thy hand.

Dear Lord. We pray for them. And we. Sometimes the Lord. Gives us that faith. To say. Lord. We have to leave them there. Sometimes.

Our wandering children. We wonder where they are wandering. Wonder what they are doing. We have to leave it. Don't we. And find peace. There is a wonderful piece.

[28:04] In many. Of the hymns. That we sing. In our Gadsby's hymn book. Sacred hymns. Of sacred truth. One has said recently. In Gadsby's hymn book.

There is the whole. Of scriptural theology. And we believe him. In the experience of it. As the hymn writers. Tasted and knew. Of it. Well.

Again. Again. The apostle speaks. Of the patience. And comfort. Of the scriptures. The word patience.

There means. Continuance. Aren't we. Thankful. For the. Continuance. Of the holy. Scriptures. And the comfort.

Of them. We wouldn't have much. Comfort. If we never had a bible. Or if we lost it. Or if we forbidden. To read it.

[29:04] The apostle. Thanked God. For the. Patience. That's a continuance. And comfort. Of the holy scriptures.

Jesus. And it's. Through this man. That we have. The continuation. Of the word of God.

And think of what. Comfort we have. In the word of God. In this world. Said Jesus. Ye shall have. Tribulation. But in me.

You shall have peace. Peace. When we were young. We couldn't see. How peace. Could be. In the person. Of anyone.

And now. In believing. We see. There's peace. In the person. Of Jesus Christ. Peace. And what is peace.

[30:02] But a solid peace. That we're speaking of. Solid joys we sing. And lasting treasures. Pleasures.

None but Zion's children. No. But it's solid peace. Isn't it? There's a witness.

When there's peace. In the heart. For a comfort. If I were to. Show a family. Where there's no faith. In God. And troubles.

Comes into that family. What do you hear? Why has God allowed this? He cannot be just. And no doubt.

There's many angry feelings. And murmurs. As to why. God has allowed these things. But one who is blessed. With this peace. When there's trouble.

[30:58] Comes into the family. And it does. There's quietness. There's a witness. Of the quietness. Of the peace. That God gives. By way of comfort.

Because air peace. Is in him. The peace he gives. Is not as the world gives. Peace. And we have that comfort. Yes. We are quietened.

We ask questions. We seek grace. To be resigned. We seek self-denial. That we're protected. From giving vent. To feeling. How different.

That family. That possesses. The fear of God. To the family. That doesn't. Peace. The comfort of peace. And it's through this man.

It's through faith. In the Lord Jesus Christ. We have comfort. And take the words. Of Jesus Christ. Many times. My peace.

[31:55] I. Give unto you. You've heard it many times. You've pondered it many times.

Sought to understand it more deeply. What is it? To know Jesus giving us. His peace. So that we come to a sacred trust.

In him. In this man. And what a sacred trust that is. When we know. The peace of God. Which is keeping our hearts and minds.

Through. Our Lord Jesus Christ. Am I speaking of things that you know. And want to know more of. In me.

Ye shall have peace. Not as the world give it. How does the world give peace. Well good luck. Be. Hoping to be alright with you.

[32:55] I'm sure it'll be alright with you. It's a poor sort of peace. Isn't it? Poor sort of peace. But when Jesus gives peace.

It's so often. Peace. Be still. And you know. That he is in control. That he has all power.

And. You've sung that hymn. Beautiful verse in it. Love cannot. From. Its post.

Withdraw. Nor sin. Nor death. Nor hell. Can make the saviour. Withdraw his love. It's peace. Isn't it?

Well. What do. I believe. That hymn. I've quoted. Speaks of. What it must be at last. Perfect. Peace.

[33:51] When we're gathered home. And why will it be perfect peace. Because we shall see our saviour. And look at that beautiful description.

That there's no condemnation. To them. That are in Christ Jesus. And there's a beautiful. Picture for faith.

To realise. The saints. Are chosen in him. Redeemed in him. Blessed in him. And now are one with him.

And they cannot. Be condemned. Could be. Every deserving. Every right to be. But through. The peace made.

By the blood of his cross. Our sins. Are all forgiven. And we are justified. In his sight. Again.

[34:50] I've been speaking of. Sanctification. And this must be my last thought. There were some. And still are possibly. That believe in. Being justified.

By faith. That's an act imputed. And once justified. Whether we die in the dark. Under torment.

Being justified. By God. We shall be saved. To heaven. And some believe. That sanctification. Is imputed. Sanctification. Is imputed.

To you. They believe. When you have. The blessing. And favour. Of Christ. On you. That you are. Made holy. And sinless. The scriptures.

Don't teach us that. The scriptures. That we find. Comfort in. Teach us. That it is here a little. And there a little. God. And God.

[35:47] By his spirit. Giving us that desire. And grace. To be. And live a holy life. And that's what every true believer.

Wants to live in faith. And true humility. But. And that sanctification. Of the spirit. Is because. God sees us.

As those that have been washed. Those that have been forgiven. Those that need grace. Pray for grace. And that are dependent. Upon that grace.

They are sweet followers. Of Christ. And the more we are sanctified. The more we love. Our beloved redeemer. And the more we rejoice.

In this man. Who is the peace. Well can you bless God. With me tonight. That there is. A blessed redeemer. That he did come.

[36:43] Willingly to this earth. That he did. Offer himself. A willing sacrifice. That he did die. A sinner toning death.

That at Calvary. He did shed. That precious blood. As a ransom. And the virtue. Of it being divine. Is a divine virtue.

That we sing of. It flows. From Emmanuel's veins. It will never lose. It will never lo

Is saved. To sin no more. So I've been directed. To the Old Testament. To realize.

The most blessed truth. That this dear man. Should be the peace. Do you know this dear man? Do you know that peace?

[37:38] Then may we go home rejoicing. And praying. Unto him. For the Lord add his blessing. Amen.

Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.

Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.

Amen. Amen. Amen.

Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. In number 580, Amen. Amen. Amen.

[38:36] Amen. Amen. far too deep for human reason, fathom that it never can. Love eternal richly dwells in Christ the Lamb.

Love, love, and issues none can measure, nor can its dimensions know. Tis a boundless, endless river, and its waters freely flow.

O ye thirsty, come and taste its streams below. In number 582.

O ye thirsty, come and taste its streams below. O ye thirsty, come and taste its streams below.

O ye thirsty, come and taste it. The young imagination is the love of God to man.

[40:14] How too già for hear the reason of the never life is good.

Richly dwells in Christ the Lord.

Not like Jesus none can measure, nor can its dimensions know.

Chaser above Christ and earthunciation in stronger of 2 **STREE** single bottle of silver The rain has made us.

Jesus loved and much before, except for that place that dyes flow in your allow Please amen All is settled, all is settled And my insuff Julian.

[43:26] Lord, may the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be always acceptable in thy sight.

O Lord, my strength, and my Redeemer. We are poor, Lord. O, but what a precious God thou art.

What a precious Saviour to exalt. We are dumb at best, Lord, to express thy glory. We've sung of thy love.

We've sung of thy glorious purposes. We are come again, Lord. And thirsty souls will come again unto thee. Take us home.

Take us home to pray. In safety, Lord, we pray. And may the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God our Heavenly Father, the communion of the everlasting Spirit.

[44:50] Amen.