

This Ruler then is Jehovah, and addressing the Jewish people in their strength ("daughter of Zion" and "tower of the flock") He says further: "Unto thee shall it come, yea, the former dominion shall come, the kingdom of the daughter of Jerusalem" (verse 8).

After the parenthesis of Micah ~~4:9~~ 4:9 to 5:1, the birth (and the human nature of this ~~the Messiah of the Old Testament~~ Divine King) is prophesied in that remarkable passage of Micah 5:2, declared in Matthew to have been fulfilled in the birth of the Son of Mary (Matt.2:1-6). Wise Men had come from the East to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is He that is born King of the Jews, for we saw His star in the East and are come to worship Him. And when Herod the king heard it, he was troubled and all Jerusalem with him. And gathering all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ should be born. ^{They} ~~And~~ said unto him, In Bethlehem of Judea; for thus it is written through the prophet, ~~through the prophet~~

"And thou, Bethlehem, land of Judah,
Art in no wise least among the princes of Judah;
For out of thee shall come forth a governor
Which shall be shepherd to my people Israel."

This plain literal fulfilment of Micah 5:2 (as all are compelled to admit) ought to be warrant enough to interpret all prophecy in a similar manner. Such exegesis justifies itself. In the light of Matt. 2:1-6 we are clearly informed that Messiah is King of the Jews and that He was born in Bethlehem in fulfilment of the prophecy in Micah. The high Divine character of the Messiah is also indicated in these words: "Whose goings forth are from of old, from everlasting" (5:1). In the light of the fuller revelation of the New Testament these words evidently refer to the Messiah's eternal godhead, for He is from everlasting to everlasting.

Micah 5:2 records the wonderful prophecy concerning the birth of the Messiah which occurred about seven centuries after Micah's time.