

The mention of Assyria in Micah 5:4 and again, would seem to ~~e~~ compel all these things to have taken place while the Assyrian empire was still a historical fact. However, in Scripture the future is ~~o~~ often pictured after conditions and situations in other days. Hence the Assyrian can easily symbolize the great army of the End-time with which Israel will yet have to deal. Pusey comments on Micah 5:5 as follows: "Assur stands for the most powerful and deadliest foe, 'ghostly and bodily', as the Assyrian then was to the people of God. For since this plainly relates to the time after Christ's coming, and (to say the least), after the captivity in Babylon and deliverance from it (4:10), which itself followed the dissolution of the Assyrian empire, the Assyrians cannot be the literal people who had long since ceased to be. In Isaiah, too, the Assyrian is the type of Antichrist and of Satan (Isa. 10, and including Babylon, Chapter 14).

"The prophecy of Micah closes with a sublime and exalting appeal to God's gracious character, and an assurance that the covenant people should experience the full accomplishment of the sacred engagements into which He had entered with their progenitors" (Henderson).