

O Little Town Of Bethlehem!

Luke 2:1-7

*Sermon Series: Behind The Music, Pt. 1
December 7, 2014*

“O Little Town Of Bethlehem”

*O little town of **Bethlehem**, How still we see thee lie
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep, The silent stars go by.*

“O Little Town Of Bethlehem”

- **To This Little Town**: Rachel died in childbirth near there while traveling through Canaan. (Genesis 35:19)
- **To This Little Town**: A hungry Moabitess named Ruth came seeking bread, but found more than she ever dreamed. (Ruth 4:1)
- **To This Little Town**: A prophet named Samuel came, searching for a king for Israel. (1 Samuel 16:1-14)
- **To This Little Town**: David longed for water from a Bethlehem well while hiding out from the Philistines. He grew homesick while hiding out from the Philistines. (2 Samuel 23:13-17)
- **To This Little Town**: Micah’s prophecy points to Bethlehem as the birthplace of the King. (Micah 5:2)

Micah 5:2, “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.”

Proverbs 19:21, Many are the plans in a man’s heart, but it is the LORD’s purpose that prevails.

1) The GOVERNMENT Had A Little Plan

Luke 2:1, In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world. ²(This was the

*first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.)
³And everyone went to his own town to register.*

2) JOSEPH Had A Little Plan

Luke 2:4, So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David.

3) GOD Had The Ultimate Plan

Luke 2:5, He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, ⁷and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped Him in cloths and placed Him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

“O Little Town Of Bethlehem”

*Yet in thy dark streets shineth, The everlasting **Light**
The **hopes** and **fears** of all the years, Are met in thee tonight.*

What Does God’s Word Have To Say About...

- **Doing God’s Will INDIVIDUALLY**
Joshua 1:9, Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.”
- **Doing God’s Will CORPORATELY**
Deuteronomy 31:6, Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the Lord your God goes with you; He will never leave you nor forsake you.”
- **Our Daily NEEDS**
Matthew 6:25-27; 33-34, “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than

clothes? ²⁶Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? ²⁷Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life? ... ³³But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. ³⁴Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself.

- **Our Life's CIRCUMSTANCES**

Philippians 4:6-7, Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.