

Micah 5 – The Coming Warrior: Why Herod Understands the Bible Better than We Do

Opening Illustration: Facebook – Wasn't an early adopter – Do you like me – Sweet Baby Jesus

Love the Sweet Baby Jesus – and it seems this is the picture many in our culture, and perhaps the church have of Christ – just consider pictures of him, never out of place hair, straight white teeth, immaculate robe, usually nuzzling sheep or like Santa with children on his lap

- **We domesticate, minimize, and misunderstand that the coming of Jesus is about the coming of a warrior** – a fact that Herod does not miss, or at least he listens to the teachers enough when they read Micah to him that he sends soldiers to cut off this Messiah understanding that it is said of this “sweet baby Jesus” **He has come to establish a Kingdom that is unrivaled**
- **And so if we are to understand Jesus rightly, we have to understand that Bethlehem is not a tranquil**, peaceful scene of a child that doesn't cry... instead it is a war declaration on the rulers of this world and those that would oppose the coming Messiah
 - o **This reminds me of CHRONICLES-** *Susan asks "Safe?" said Mr. Beaver; "don't you hear what Mrs. Beaver tells you? Who said anything about safe? 'Course he isn't safe. But he's good. He's the King" AND LATER he's "...Not like a tame lion." AND GOOD AND TERRIBLE*

Main Idea: *There is a coming world ruler from Bethlehem who will establish a Kingdom for His brothers and sisters that is unrivaled by cutting off all His and their enemies – A coming shepherd who seeks out the lost sheep bringing them back into the fold, and who fights off the wolves that threaten them*

Transition to the Text: Now don't misunderstand me, the babe in a manger is also kind and humble and meek, and is coming to save His people, but at the same time this a prophecy written 700 years before the coming of Christ about Him ruling as a conquering King!

READ 4:6-13

The Background and surrounding passage: So in this context of a coming warrior, we have to understand what Micah is saying to the nation!

- **Micah has been hammering the nation for their wickedness and disobedience, which could be an indictment on us as well**, displayed in idolatry, leadership failures, corruption, empty ritualism, corruption by the wealthy (even during this prosperous time), bribery, injustice and more.
- **Micah 6:8 the best known verse probably of Micah says that The Lord expects His people, "to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly"** and the people have been doing the opposite – in response to God's saving love out of the Exodus the people were to do these things and by so doing be a light to the gentiles about Yahweh.
 - o Micah is reminding of the something that we have known **since Eden that punishment for disobedience is exile** (SEPERATION FROM GOD), enemy occupation and judgment, and now **Babylon and Assyria loom as instruments of God's Judgment to bring exile** – Assyria for N. Kingdom Israel and eventually Babylon for Southern Kingdom
- **In chapter 4, what I just read we see an oracle with a mixture of warning and hope (judgment and salvation)** – we will see that Israel will in fact go off into exile, but will have final victory as God is gracious to keep His covenant promises to Abraham and David. **He will in fact judge them and cut them off from the land, but he will restore His people – "those whom I have afflicted... I will make the remnant."**
 - o **Such Grace** – **God will regather the lame**, cripple, out of outcasts he will make a remnant of faithful sons and daughters – This is exactly the ministry of Jesus causing lame to walk!

- **However, v. 9-10 lets the people know they will suffer before redemption**, though they are injured by His judgment, He will gather and restore them, but only after Exile in Babylon will there be a new Exodus
- **And we see in the text the nations will gather against Israel and look to her defilement** – seeking to see her humiliated and yet this gathering of the nations will be toward their own demise
- **As is always true with God, He flips the tables** – he defeats the strong with the weak – and those gathered to destroy Israel’s faithful remnant will end up being “*beat to pieces*”

Question: So, in the midst of looming captivity, how will all of this take place? Micah 5 tells us a new David will come and defeat the enemies and regather a faithful, penitent people from exile and slavery – **it will be those who are not merely committed to religious ritual, but instead are devoted to this Messiah King**

Text Breakdown

- I. (V. 1) – **The Nation Needs a Warrior** (a continuation of chapter 4 the nations are raging)
- II. (V. 2 – 5a) – **The Coming of a Rescuing Warrior**
- III. (V. 5b – 9) – **The Warrior’s Undershepherds and People**

Now we see how God will accomplish the promises of chapter 4, blessing out of judgment, and salvation from exile.

[5:1] Now muster your troops, O daughter of troops; siege is laid against us; with a rod they strike the judge of Israel on the cheek.

Notes:

- *Now muster your troops, O daughter of troops; siege is laid against us* – Micah returns to the judgment to come with a play on words meaning gather yourself as a Troop! The author is ironically saying you cant, though ultimate victory will come chapter 4, your military might will not get this done, only the Lord can deliver – Gather yourself as a troop shows their puniness among the powerful nations
- *With a rod they strike the judge of Israel on the cheek* – In the midst of this faulty attempt by Israel to save themselves with a troop, the ruler of Israel will be humiliated
 - **It seems that Micah is talking about the last ruler in Judah before exile to Babylon who is humiliated by a foreign army with eyes gouged out**
 - And the language here is striking, the King who was to rule with the Rod or Scepter is now in a humiliating reversal struck with the Rod – ***"The venerable judge has become but a whipping boy."***

Now Comes the Message of Hope – Imagine getting hope in this warning - Bush on 9/11: And now in the midst of this chaos, and oppression, comes an oracle of hope – in order to know the good news, you have to know the bad, you have to know your situation

II. The Coming of a Rescuing Ruler (2-4)

[2] But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days.

Notes:

- But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah* – And here in the midst of chaos an oracle from Yahweh focuses in on a little town called Bethlehem and the region of Ephrathah
- **We are alerted that a ruler will come from a tiny, insignificant town** – a theme throughout the Scriptures of Yahweh, He will bring about victory from an unlikely place, from this unlikely town will come the one to deliver from siege, captivity, and exile! The Weak shaming the Strong

- **Davidic Covenant** – And this calls to mind the everlasting covenant given to David, that one of His sons would establish an eternal kingdom – **and just like the unlikely choice of David as King** from Bethlehem, this new son of David will come from lowly, unlikely beginnings
- **And in the names Bethlehem/Ephratah speak of the career of this coming Messiah** – House of Bread and Fruitful letting us know this coming one brings provision and life for His people
- **Prophecy not a Magic Trick:** 700 years before the coming of Christ in Bethlehem the promise is given – *this is to illuminate the people to know the one they are looking for is here when they seem Him!* Herod does, the Pharisees do not. **Do we see Him?**

From you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel – In this verse the speaker changes from Micah to YAHWEH Himself, saying one will come forth FOR me to accomplish the Mission of return from exile and peace/shalom

- **And this ruler standing in stark contrast to the one in v. 1 (though ironically not)**

Question: Who will this one be? **IN contrast to the insignificance of Bethlehem this one will be great!**

Whose coming forth is from of old, from ancient days.

- **There is debate what this means** – if it is meant to say from **Davidic line or from Eternity** – in some ways it doesn't matter, because even the promise to David implies eternity – but I think the text is intending to prophesy the incarnation of the Son of God
- **The language could be translated from “days of eternity” or “Everlasting”** – so we are called to the eternal Davidic covenant but to an incredible promise that the one to come will be Yahweh Himself – from Eternity!
 - o **So we see here both divine and human origin**, his human origin a new David in Bethlehem, his divine, eternity, no beginning. This is how 2 Samuel 7 is possible, only with a King like Col. 1
- **Consider the magnitude of the Incarnation, this is staggering** - the Eternal God with us (not some distant clock maker) – God does not stay distant from His people, but enters in.
 - o Yahweh will so humble himself during the incarnation that the Creator of the universe will need milk to live, **the Sovereign of all creation will have to have His diapers changed – entering in for the rescue of His people**

"Christ who in eternity rested motherless upon the Father's bosom and in time rested fatherless upon a woman's bosom, clasping the Ancient of Days who had become the Infant of Days...What deep descent—from the heights of glory to the depths of shame; from the wonders of Heaven to the wickedness of earth; from exaltation to humiliation; from the throne to the tree; from dignity to debasement; from worship to wrath; from the halls of Heaven to the nails of earth; from the coronation to the curse; from the glory place to the gory place at the cross! In Bethlehem, humility and glory in their extremes were joined. Born in a stable. Cradled in a cattle trough. Wrapped in swaddling clothes of poverty. No room for Him who made all rooms! No place for Him who made and knows all places! Oh, deep humiliation of the Creator—born of the creature, woman! But in His descent was the dawn of mercy. Because we can not ascend to Him, He descends to us." RG Lee

Infinite, and yet an infant. Eternal, and yet born of a woman...Supporting a universe, and yet needing to be carried in a mother's arms (Spurgeon)

'I do not think of Christ as God alone, or man alone, but both together. For I know that he was hungry, and I know that with five loaves he fed five thousand. I know that he was thirsty, and I know that he turned water into wine. I know that he was carried in a ship, and I know he walked upon the sea' (Chrysostom).

And no wonder Queen Lucy can say in the Last Battle “Yes, In our world too, a stable once had something inside it that was bigger than our whole world.” (p. 140)

- **Oh I hope our affections are drawn to this Eternal Son who stepped into History taking on all it means to be human:** “*Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery.*”

[3] *Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has given birth; then the rest of his brothers shall return to the people of Israel.*

Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has given birth – Now Yahweh will give Israel over to their judgment until the appointed time. He is in control

- **Connection with Chapter 4 on labor, eventually from God's chosen race will come the one prophesied about to make things right.** This context of labor here is connected to the calamity, the loss of land and King (struck on the cheek).
- **Some scholars say in mind here is the virgin birth - that this is similar to the Isaiah 7:14 passage** (which came 30yrs earlier), that Israel will be given over to her foes until the coming of the Son of David from a Virgin
- **Whatever we say here, the one is labor is Israel or Mary, either way it works from the chosen people will come the Messiah** - Regardless the Messiah comes at the designated time – **Galatians 4:4:** "*when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman*" – which will signal in the beginning of the reversal of exile, which we see in the next verse

Then the rest of his brothers shall return to the people of Israel – Israel will be abandoned by God for her sins until the coming of the Messiah and at this point there will be a great return from exile and to the land, there is a foretaste of this in return from Babylon, but the fullness of this promise will not come until the Messiah comes.

- **Exile is pictured as death in Micah 1:10, and so it is in the entire bible, God promises in Eden that when you eat this fruit you will surely die, which is seen being exiled from Eden and the presence of God** – so it is here Israel cut off from their land of promise, scattered among the nations, exiled and held captive by a foreign army
- **But through this judgment will come salvation/Exodus led by a new David whom makes the outcasts a people — fulfillment and victory begins with the birth of the coming One**

We often see two stages of Advent joined together among the prophets – some in 1st and 2nd coming – we will see elements of this below

- You see Israel will survive Babylon, but they will not survive their greatest enemies of sin and slavery and even in the first century they will still be occupied, so this **cycle of oppression from the judges** till now continues until the birth of the Coming One
- **The beginning of fulfillment seen at the day of Pentecost** as Jews from every nation under heaven are re-gathered to the nation under the rule of the Messiah King

[4] *And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth.* [5] *And he shall be their peace*

Notes:

And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God – This coming warrior rules like a shepherd not a tyrant. He loves and cares for his people, as He gathers the lame, and wounded, and outcast, **those who He himself has wounded in judgment he now lovingly welcomes in!**

- **He is the Shepherd of Psalm 23** – And this is good news today, **that this coming warrior is a shepherd**, he's about making war on His people's enemies – He will put your accusers to death if you are His!
 - o **Don't be confused about shepherds**
- **Question:** So is He your King? Is He your Shepherd? Do you see the real Messiah?

This King will rule with Yahweh's Power and Majesty bringing lasting Peace – for the one sent For Yahweh rules with Yahweh's power because as we have seen He is Yahweh Himself!

And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth – **And His Kingdom will be unrivaled, His sheep will be secure and his reign is to the ends of the earth**, not an isolated Kingdom, but a universal one with all of his enemies under His feet and no pocket of resistance left

- **Herod clearly understood that verses 3-4 followed the prophecy of verse 2** – he understood that this coming one was coming to bring peace by defeating enemies and that's why he in **terminator-like** fashion tried to cut off the child before He came to power – *do we understand this? Or is our Jesus safe and cuddly and controllable? He has come to bring war on our internal and external enemies!*

Have to understand the already/not yet – it is going to come to past, but it is taking place currently - Great Commission calls similar language, this will be accomplished at 2nd coming – Acts 1:8 as we reclaim the rule of the Shepherd King to the ends of the earth from Jerusalem onward!

And he shall be their peace – What a statement – **Ephesians 2**

- **Though just verses before the ruler of Israel will be struck on the cheek**, now This Israelite ruler will rule to the ends of the universe in a reign that brings Shalom/Rest brought about by the COMING – when this true King comes there will be an **end to injustice, poverty, pain, and suffering**

Illustration: Getting on Amtrak – do we ever really feel peace or feel safe? At this return we will! Never nervous! Not worrying about enemies

Question: How beautiful is this line – He will not just bring Peace, He will be there Peace, this one who is a warrior is also a peacemaker – and we love this theme at Christmas

- **Here we see the good news, that God Himself has come to put us at Peace/Rest/Wholeness, first and foremost with Him**, those who had warred against Him, and then defeating our enemies (internal and external), and restoring us to each other – **We see the shaming of human wisdom – This Lion doesn't devour, he rescues if they will humble themselves and submit to Him!**

Paul picks up this language in Ephesians 2:14 – He is our peace – And this helps understand Verse 3 more clearly as well – Paul sees this return of the brothers as **ultimately being fulfilled in a New Israel made up of Jews and Gentiles/Nations/Ethne from all nations finalized in the nations gathered around the throne of this Shepherd Lamb!**

III. The King's (Messiah) Undershepherds and People

[5b]...When the Assyrian comes into our land and treads in our palaces, then we will raise against him seven shepherds and eight princes of men; [6] they shall shepherd the land of Assyria with the sword, and the land of Nimrod at its entrances; and he shall deliver us from the Assyrian when he comes into our land and treads within our border.

Notes:

[5b]...When the Assyrian comes into our land and treads in our palaces, then we will raise against him seven shepherds and eight princes of men; [6] they shall shepherd the land of Assyria with the sword, and the land of Nimrod at its entrances – Now Micah talks about the people that will follow this Shepherd and identifies them

with His reign by identifying them as shepherds, though the work is done by the Messiah, they will rule under Him as He establishes security to the ends of the earth!

- **Here we see twin idea of Babylon (Nimrod) and Assyria**, both representative of enemies of Israel throughout all ages (know this because Assyria is used even after they fall and because true fulfillment doesn't come till later) – so though true fulfillment doesn't come till after Assyria, Micah sets in this context for His people to understand that there will be salvation from exile and judgment and enemy armies
- **And God will raise up ample undershepherds to defend His people** – though in verse 6 it is clear that only He will deliver! It is said that this phrase is a song or formula to denote complete ruling under the authority of this Messiah (**one more than the #7 which means complete**) – the triumph over the nations is accomplished as his rule extends through his people led by undershepherds who rule with the Sword
- **We see this in NT Fulfillment (Eph. 4):** As Christ **raises up Apostles, Prophets, and Shepherd-Teachers** to lead His people by feeding and **protecting them with a two-edged sword (The Word of God)**. And this Sword is taking into battle against the principalities and powers in our **Great Commission**, in which we take part of the work of this Messiah in extending His reign among the very nations that once warred against Israel and Her Messiah – **This kingdom advancing** among the nations as these **outposts of the Kingdom**, the church, extend Christ's reign all the way to the very gates of Hell!

HIS PEOPLE – Our call! SPEED UP!!!

[7] Then the remnant of Jacob shall be in the midst of many peoples like dew from the LORD, like showers on the grass, which delay not for a man nor wait for the children of man. [8] And the remnant of Jacob shall be among the nations, in the midst of many peoples, like a lion among the beasts of the forest, like a young lion among the flocks of sheep, which, when it goes through, treads down and tears in pieces, and there is none to deliver. [9] Your hand shall be lifted up over your adversaries, and all your enemies shall be cut off.

Notes:

- **We see that the True Israel, the Obedient Son (faithful in wilderness), will be both a blessing (Dew on Grass) and a curse (Lion among Lambs) to the nations** – recalling the Abrahamic covenant – and we His body on earth will have the same effect
 - o **This has to be seen in the context of the last verses of chapter 4, the nations have gathered to defile Israel and now it is turned on its head (Gen. 3:15)** - we see here that they are heading to their own demise (Satan at the cross?) - the aggressors have become the prey
 - o **And now we His people, just like Him, will start small and lowly and become great to the ends of the Earth through Him (Acts 1:8)** – we who were the victims becoming the victor as we are no longer scattered among the nations but in the midst of the nations

Application – So we are not to be idle in this Mission of the coming Shepherd but seek His rule to the ends of the Earth (GC) – We are to preach the Gospel of the Kingdom and to be about the Ministry of our King who came so that Oppression and injustice would cease (*beat to pieces*)

- And here is the promise – to some the church (People of God) will be **an aroma of life unto life and to some an aroma of death unto death – Gospel does something**, it either melts or hardens –
 - o For those that hear the message – Blessing
 - o For those that refuse the rule of this King – Curse and cutting off

So what do we make of this?

- **We are to be on Mission of telling the World about the Prince of Peace** – and realize that we will face suffering but in the midst of this we know that our King wins! And so don't be afraid – **but don't be confused he is calling us not to a safe comfortable life, but to one of warfare against Powers!**
 - o **What a mission, telling good news of a King who rescues even those that rebel against Him**, rescuing the captive from the captor, because we want others to experience what we have!

- Also, We should also welcome His warfare in our lives against our internal enemies – He must bring friction, turn over tables in your life – if He isn't is your view of Jesus like Ricky Bobby?
- [He has come to wreck shop – both of your internal and external enemies](#)

Here is what we are called to – "*Christianity is the story of how the rightful King has landed... in disguise... calling us to take part in His great sabotage*" CS LEWIS – **Kingdom language in enemy territory (v. 6)**

- **Question:** are you a part? For some this might mean moving to Chapel Hill, or Providence, or Toronto, or China, or Turkey? We have been called into this great Mission, are you a part of this sabotage?

And in this we have supreme confidence – *Our call to war, to love the captive soul, But to rage against the captor; And with the sword that makes the wounded whole We will fight with faith and valor. When faced with trials on ev'ry side, We know the outcome is secure, And Christ will have the prize for which He died— An inheritance of nations. Getty's*

GO FAST

Christocentric conclusion - How could Christ be this Warrior, How Does He Rescue and Why Is He Worthy?

- This one **from Bethlehem**, the True Israel who is obedient to Yahweh, **will have the nations gather against Him**, and this time even His brothers of Israel would gather against Him, **and the nations will strike the judge of Israel** on the cheek as they gather seeking His defilement
- **And just as in the past the punishment for rebellion and disobedience against Yahweh would be exile and abandonment** – He the true Israel, God of eternity takes exile and abandonment and a rod to the cheek not for His own sins, but for the sins of others (abandoned and exiled so we could be brought in) **THE CROSS SO THAT WE WONT BE ABANDONED, AND STRUCK!**
- **On that day, He defeats OUR GREATEST ENEMIES**, that Accuser, the crafty serpent from Eden who just like the nations **has come after the Son for His defilement** and ends up having what He thinks is sure victory flipped on its head as **on that Sunday Morning Christ defeats His greatest weapon that he holds DEATH!** FIRSTFRUITS – We will be raised
- **And what Does Christ say to Mary that morning?** **Go get my brothers** – the beginning of the faithful remnant being restored, beginning here at and at Pentecost pointing us to a day when all the nations will gather around True Israel – the Lamb of God's Throne!
 - o **And why could He do this? How could He stand in our place bearing the exile we deserve?** Because He is the only one who **TRULY WAS ABLE to do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly** – to perfectly obey His covenant father and so **He can take the exile from God's presence and come out on the other side** leading freed sons and daughters **back into the presence of God, back in to Eden!**
- **Here he is the Great Shepherd** who brings in the wounded sheep, rescuing the very ones that would strike him on the cheek – are you wounded today?
- **And so we cant have Christmas without a Cross** – the Babe came to Die and Rise and gather His people as He defeats the curse and brings them into the presence of God!

So How do we Respond? GO QUICKLY

Unbeliever – Those not following this King the only answer is to humbly fall at His feet and say count me as one of your children – Cry out in Repentance and Faith admitting you haven't done justly, loved mercy, walked humbly, and always been obedient to God – He is not a cuddly baby to control, **He's not a God you appease with religious devotion, He is a terrifying King who isn't safe, but is Good!**

- CS Lewis "*Do you eat girls?*" she said. "*I have swallowed up girls and boys, women and men, kings and emperors, cities and realms,*" said the Lion. It didn't say this as if it were boasting, nor as if it were sorry, nor as if it were angry. It just said it. "*I daren't come and drink,*" said Jill. "*Then you will die of*

thirst," said the Lion. "Oh dear!" said Jill, coming another step nearer. "I suppose I must go and look for another stream then." "There is no other stream," said the Lion.

- **And we want you to know that He is a good shepherd saying Come, COME AND DRINK FROM THE WATER OF LIFE WITHOUT PRICE – Will you come?**

Believer – Our first response should be adoration and worship of this Great King who became Man – and we love Him because of the incarnation right – *His wrath does not stop His love, and neither does His compassion stop His justice, His glory is mixed with humility, because He is all-powerful and yet allowed Himself to be abandoned by His father so that we would not be!*

- **And we should trust that we can face any of our enemies because whether in this Life or the Kingdom to come they will cease – loss of job, infertility, strife, marital struggles, persecution (heads back on), demonic opposition Jesus has come to give us victory – Do you believe you live in a world where it always winter and never Christmas? **Do you have confidence in what the World will look like when the King returns?****
- **And We should be about Him warring against our internal enemies of lust, worry, greed, anxiety, timidity, as we seek to live under the rule of this King – we should welcome the friction because **it is His kindness that leads us to repentance****
- **And we should be unmatched in our commitment to the mission of this Kingdom extending to the ends of the Earth – even as we wait for Him to come and make all oppression and evil cease**

Conclusion

So Believer and Unbeliever today, do you see Christ, the Babe in the Manger for Who He has come to be? He has come to be our Peace!

I think this message is particularly needed in light of recent evil in Newtown of a King who is both good and terrible at the same time – so I close with an article:

*Jesus was not born into a ...sentimental winter wonderland...He was born into a war-zone... Herod vowed to see him dead, right along with thousands of his brothers...Satan hates children because he hates Jesus. When evil destroys...the most vulnerable among us, it destroys a picture of Jesus himself, of the child delivered by the woman who crushes the head of our reptilian overlord (Gen. 3:15). The demonic powers know that the human race is saved, and they're vanquished, by a child born of woman (Gal. 4:4; 1 Tim. 2:15). And so they hate the children who bear his nature...Children are a blessing, and that enrages the horrifying nature of those who seek only to kill and to destroy (Jn. 10:10). The satanic powers want the kingdoms of the universe, and a child uproots their reign. Let's not offer pat, easy answers to the grieving parents and communities in Connecticut. We don't fully understand the mystery of iniquity. We don't know why God didn't stop this from happening. But we do know what this act is: it's satanic, and we should say so. Let's grieve for the innocent. Let's demand justice for the guilty. And let's rage against the Reptile behind it all. As we do so, let's remember that Bethlehem was an act of war. Let's remember that the One born there is a prince of peace who will crush the skull of the ancient murderer of Eden. Let's pray for the Second Coming of Mary's son. And, as we sing our Christmas carols, let's look into the...eyes of Satan as we promise him the threat of his coming crushed skull. The mystery of evil is a declaration of war on the peace of God's creation. The war goes on, but not for long. And sometimes the most warlike thing we can say, in an inhuman murderous age like this one, is "It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas." – **And now we want to consider Him, as we turn to His Table and as we do let's do so with joy and hope because THIS BABE IN A MANGER, THIS MAN ON THE CROSS IS COMING BACK TO MAKE ALL THINGS RIGHT. He certainly isn't safe, but He's Good!***