

# Our Sovereign God

The king's heart is like channels of water in the hand of the Lord;  
He turns it wherever He pleases."  
Proverbs 21:1 (NASB)

"But as for you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, Too little to be among the clans of Judah,  
From you One will come forth for Me to be ruler in Israel.  
His times of coming forth are from long ago, From the days of eternity."  
Micah 5:2 (NASB)

"Now in those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus,  
that a census be taken of all the inhabited earth.  
This was the first census taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria.  
And all the people were on their way to register for the census, each to his own city.  
Now Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea,  
to the city of David which is called Bethlehem,  
because he was of the house and family of David..."  
Luke 2:1-4 (NASB)

**M**any friendly—and some not so friendly—arguments have been had about the sovereignty of God. Certain people believe that God is simply a spectator looking on from the sidelines while history unfolds. Some think that the Creator occasionally intervenes in world affairs. Others are persuaded that the Lord makes everything happen.

Scripture seems to portray our great God as involved in His creation in incidental ways such as recorded in Matthew 9:20-22. There an ill woman merely touches the hem of Jesus' garment and is instantly healed.

When it was time for Jesus to be born, God moved in an earth-shaking way.

Micah prophesied, long before the Messiah's birth, that this eternal One would come from Bethlehem. But Mary and Joseph were living far north of Bethlehem (about 75

miles) in a town called Nazareth in the province of Galilee. It would take 5-6 days for Mary and Joseph to walk the distance.

So, in order for the prophecy to be fulfilled, our Sovereign God moved the heart of Caesar to call for a census to be taken of the whole world. Everyone had to return to their home town to register. Joseph and Mary thus needed to travel to Bethlehem to register.

So, God moved a nation to fulfil His promise. Our Sovereign God is thus able to fulfil His promises to you using that same amazing power. He is worthy of your trust. So come with a promise from Scripture that addresses a personal need you have and, in faith, call on our Sovereign God to fulfil it today.

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

Yet in the dark street shineth  
The everlasting Light  
The hopes and fears  
of all the years  
Are met in thee tonight

For Christ is born of Mary  
And gathered all above  
While mortals sleep,  
the angels keep  
Their watch of wondering love  
O morning stars, together  
Proclaim the holy birth  
And praises sing to God, the King  
And peace to men on earth

How silently, how silently  
The wondrous Gift is given!  
So God imparts to human hearts  
The blessings of His heaven  
No ear may hear His coming  
But in this world of sin  
Where meek souls  
will receive Him still  
The dear Christ enters in

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