

**A change for the better (Micah 5:1-2)**

**Introduction**

- List some of the low points in the history of the people of Judah.
  - (i)
  - (ii)
  - (iii)
- What did Simeon know was about to happen?

**i High or low?**

- When did Micah live?
- What is not very promising in v1?
- What hope does the Lord give through Micah in v2?
- What is one thing about ourselves which should make us feel low?
- Why is it so serious?
- What is almost certainly true of you if you have never felt low about sin?
- How is Jesus the Saviour?
- What do you need to do about this?
- What does God sometimes do when the church is very low?
- What should we pray for, then?

## **ii Rich or poor?**

- How important was Bethlehem before 1000 BC?
- Why did it become prominent then?
- What happened after that?
- Why is it surprising that the Messiah would be born there?
- How did this set the scene for Jesus' life?
- Which verse sums that up brilliantly?
- Why did he do that?
- How should we respond at Christmas?

## **iii True or false?**

- What made it unlikely that Jesus would be born in Bethlehem?
- What did God do to make it happen?
- What is true of God and his promises?
- How should we regard God's promises, then?