

2023

... he shall be great unto the
ends of the earth.
(Micah 5:4)

2023: UNDER THE STARS AND STRIPES

JIM, SUE & MATTHEW HOLMES

425 Roberts Road, Taylors, 29687, USA
Phone (864) 498 8957, jameswholmes@att.net



TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH

Micah's prophecy of the coming of Jesus in the incarnation provides some fascinating glimpses into the results of the work He would do. "He shall be great unto the ends of the earth" (Micah 5:4). In sending Jesus into the world, it was not God's purpose simply to bless His people the Jews; it was so that people from many nations would turn from unrighteousness and their empty way of life and trust in Messiah to be their Prophet, Priest, and King. Jesus as the Christ—God's Anointed One—came as a prophet to bring God's Word and teach needy sinners about Him and His grace; as a Priest to represent them to God, to sacrifice Himself for them, and to bless them; and as a King to rule over them as their Lord and to defend them from their enemies. This briefly describes what some people refer to as the threefold offices of Christ. This time of the year provides an excellent opportunity to consider God becoming a man so that we may be brought to God. Have you come to Him in repentance and faith? The invitation of Jesus is still open: "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light" (Matthew 11:28-30).

GENERAL REFLECTIONS FROM 2023

Greetings again from the Holmes family! Matthew continues his studies at college and is well over halfway through. He has enjoyed serving some of our clients in book rollout and promotional videos. Sue helps Jim in various editing and related book-production responsibilities as well as continuing her MA study program—with just one more year to go. Jim continues to serve Shepherd Press on a part-time basis as well as numerous other clients. Travels have included California, Ohio, the northeast (Boston and Philadelphia), and Michigan. Jim's sister, Janet, visited for two weeks in the fall, her first-ever visit stateside. As US immigrants, our states changed from permanent residents to citizens in February and we celebrated this in September at an event with several friends attending.

We send love and best wishes to you for 2024.



About Some of the Pictures: Main: Swearing-in Ceremony; Top right: Citizenship party with Dr. Megan Stapleton, BJU Voice Professor who sang the national anthem. Above: With Penelope Cansler at Thanksgiving. Lower right oval: With Jan on her visit. Right: Sue with ladies in San Jose at launch of *Walking with Grace*.

