

St. Paul's *Notes*

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

HISTORY

Author:

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Music:

Bethlehem means – “_____.”

*“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.”*

Micah 5:2

Church of the Nativity

MEANING

**O little town of Bethlehem
How still we see thee lie
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting Light
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee tonight**

Reflection:

**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**

Reflection:

**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.**

Reflection:

**O holy Child of Bethlehem
Descend to us, we pray
Cast out our sin and enter in
Be born to us today
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell
O come to us, abide with us
Our Lord Emmanuel**

Reflection:

APPLICATION

Is that your prayer today?

Do you understand all the implications of Jesus' birth?

Have you asked him to enter into your life and cast out your sin?

Have you been born anew?