

Your Family's Ultimate Christmas Hero

I. The King

- Philippians 2:6
- Jesus Christ is God. He is the 100% supernatural, King of all creation.
- As the Creator of all things, He knows what's best for everything. If you invented the can-opener, it's completely appropriate for you to decide whether or not it should be used to spread peanut butter!
- But this act takes a quick and depressing turn. Mankind decided they weren't going to follow The King's plan.
- We rebelled. That rebellion is called sin. Sin is anything and everything that doesn't line up with God's plan for us.
- And our sin has earned us the consequences of our choices. Romans 5:12 tells us, "*Sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned.*"
- Romans 6:23 proclaims, "*For the wages of sin is death.*"
- And since we have sinned against on eternal King — in order to pay for our rebellion — we owe an *eternal* debt.
- But here is where the story begins to shine. This Sovereign King had another plan. Though our debt is an eternal one, and though He is perfectly just — meaning He *will* require that the debt be paid — this King didn't want for *us* to have to owe Him for all eternity.
- So He decided to become a Slave.

II. The Slave

- Philippians 2:7
- Why did Jesus have to be born to a virgin? Why did the star and the manger and the shepherds and the wise men have to happen?
- As *God*, He could *not* pay a human's debt. Only a human could do that. God had to become a man so that He could *justly* pay our sin debt. Jesus was born so many years ago so that He could be the perfect substitute for all mankind.
- Imagine that. If that's the stuff of heroes, I have no idea what is.
- The King became The Slave so He could pay the Price.

III. The Price

- Philippians 2:8
- Some people think it's sad or depressing or disgusting that we try to mar the sweet and innocent nativity with the torture and death of the cross.
- This is why we must remember why He had to come in the first place. The King's creation rebelled against Him by sinning. And because of our sin, we've earned eternal death in a place called Hell.
- But, remember, the King loved us so much that He created a plan. And that plan involved Him becoming a Servant so that He could pay our debt for us.
- Jesus submitted to *death on the Cross* so His creation could reign with Him forever.
- And for this reason the King is the most amazing, humble, giving, loving, powerful, merciful, wise, gracious Hero to ever live!
- And this leads us to the fourth and final act of this infinite spectacle.

IV. The Hero

- Philippians 2:11
- Philippians 2:9-11 says, *“Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”*
- Should we adore and reverence the baby in the manger? Most definitely!
- But we should also realize that the manger was just one important step in the whole story.
- Before He was a baby in a manger, He was God.
- And when He became a baby in a manger, He was God putting into motion the most amazing redemption story in the history of mankind.
- And when He perfectly paid our debt by dying on the cross, He was God — which made it possible for every human to be reconciled to their King.
- And now, as the greatest Hero in the universe, He is still the God who loves you and desperately wants to have a relationship with you.
- And one day *“every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”*