

# The Christmas Carol

Part Three: *proper perspective*

December 18, 2022

***In Stave Three of A Christmas Carol...*** The Ghost of Christmas Present shows Scrooge how the people living around him are celebrating Christmas. First, the spirit takes Scrooge to a busy market. Then, the spirit shows Scrooge Bob Cratchit's home. There, Scrooge sees crippled Tiny Tim and hears his desire for people to remember on Christmas Day, who made the lame beggars walk, and the blind men see. Next, the phantom shows Scrooge Christmas in a miner's cottage, a lighthouse, on a ship at sea, and at his nephew Fred's home. Before expiring, the Ghost of Christmas Present shows Scrooge two neglected children, which he has named Ignorance and Want, and he mocks Scrooge for his lack of concern for their welfare.

- The purpose of the Ghost of Christmas Present is to show Scrooge that his wrong view of Christmas is keeping him from celebrating Christ's birth.
- Scrooge needed to be like the shepherds that celebrated Christ in Bethlehem. Luke 2:6-20

Scrooge worshipped his work; The shepherds left their work to worship Christ. Scrooge was unchanged by Christ; The shepherds were forever changed by Christ! Scrooge didn't share Christ with others; The shepherds couldn't stop sharing Christ with others.

## ***What do you need to do to celebrate Christmas like the shepherds?***

1<sup>st</sup> – You must see the Christ of Christmas.

The shepherds were more than happy when they saw Christ; they were intoxicated with joy! You must see Christ this Christmas if you want to be intoxicated with joy!

2<sup>nd</sup> – You must let the Christ of Christmas change you.

To celebrate Christmas, you must slow down and allow Jesus to do a work in your life. You must take the time to think about what Jesus did and is doing for you and ask Him what He wants you to do for Him.

3<sup>rd</sup> - You must share the Christ of Christmas with others.

You are going to share food, presents, movies, games, and stories with family, friends, coworkers, and neighbors. But if you really want to celebrate Christmas, you must share Christ with the people next to you.

## ***What is the life lesson you need to take home today?***

- **You must have a proper perspective to prosper in the present.**

Dickens uses the third stave in his book to show us how Scrooge's wrong view of Christmas kept him from celebrating the joyous holiday. He wants us to see Christ, be changed by Christ and share Christ with others!

## ***Some Personal Questions:***

*This Christmas...*

1. *Are you seeing Christ?*
2. *Are you allowing Christ to change you?*
3. *Are you sharing Christ with others?*