

The *King* of *Christmas*



KNOWING **THE RULER** WHO
SERVES HIS PEOPLE



Our Daily Bread Ministries®

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No time in history has ever offered everyday people such access to witness the world's leaders at work.

Major announcements, fallouts, plans, debates and breaking news—from every corner of the globe—come to us as they happen!

The world stage is in our homes and on our screens. We can 'be there' as the most powerful men and women make decisions that impact millions, sign trade agreements that reach into our own communities, and have arguments that reverberate halfway across the world.

Yet as much as we seem to see more of the world's leaders, they are no more accessible than in any other era of history. Hidden behind security guards and the high gates of fancy buildings, the people shaping our world and our lives remain unreachable.

Perhaps this is what should make the Christmas story stand out the most. Not that it is a nice story about a baby



being born, but that is a remarkable unveiling of a king. This world leader wasn't born in a palace, but a barn. He wasn't raised in luxury but as a refugee, fleeing from harm. Growing up under the influence of a carpenter, he wasn't well educated or trained in public speaking. And his journey through life never involved private transportation, bodyguards or rubbing elbows with the rich and powerful.

Over 2,000 years ago baby Jesus was laid in a feeding trough for cattle to give us one unmistakable message: the king of the world is here—with his people. ***"Immanuel"*** was one of the names given to Jesus. It literally means: ***"God with us"***.

God with us. Among us. Present.

Imagine it. The ultimate world leader was born and raised in everyday places that anyone could have found. And they did. Shepherds and wise men, opposite ends of the social spectrum, all found King Jesus in his early years.

Imagine it. The ultimate world leader growing up to live a life where he could be encountered on any old street corner or dirt road. Travelling everywhere by foot, crowds from every town flocked to meet him—and he welcomed them, cared for them, loved them and gave them heavenly wisdom for their lives.

Imagine it. The ultimate world leader encouraging everyday people, ***“I am gentle and humble in heart. I will give you rest for your souls.”*** Gentle. Humble. A leader offering true rest for the weary, the worried and the suffering.

Jesus, as the true God of this world, displayed his kingly authority over it. He healed the sick, opened the eyes of the blind and raised the dead. He rules, yet he came to save. He has all power, yet he uses his strength to lift us up, not put us down.

“I haven’t come to be served, but to serve,” Jesus explained. ***“And to give my life as a ransom for many.”***

In his power, he even defeated death when he rose from the grave after his execution, opening the way for all who trust him to enter his eternal kingdom. Now we can all become citizens of heaven. We don’t have to earn it or apply for it. It is Jesus’ gift to us; anything that would have counted against us entering his perfect kingdom is paid for in his death.

Our world leaders are in sight, yet out of reach. But the true ruler was born and then lived in a way that shows he is here to be grasped by all. Jesus’ kingdom is defined by the king who walks beside his people. With him, we are never alone.



Find out more

Everyone who places their trust in Jesus enters a lasting and secure relationship with God. Having Jesus with us every day doesn't mean that everything will be perfect, but it means we can bring it all to him, no matter what life throws at us. And he will provide for us and care for us each day, walking with us all the way to his home in heaven.

We want to encourage you to attend a local church during the festive season to find out more about the Christmas story and the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.

You can also sign up for our free email reading plans. Get to know Jesus better over Christmas or begin your New Year with these short, easy-to-read reflections. You'll discover the happiness and peace that come from knowing the God who cares deeply about even the smallest stuff in your life. He is right here to journey with you through everything.



Our Daily Bread Ministries is here for you. For over fifty years we've been helping people in the UK open up the Bible to meet the God who cares. Follow **@ourdailybreadeurope** on Facebook, Instagram, YouTube and TikTok for daily encouragements. And visit **odbm.org** to see all the resources we have available to help you get to know Jesus for yourself.



***Bible quotes are taken from Matthew 1:23;
Matthew 11:28-29; Mark 10:45***

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