

King Backward

"The people stood watching, and the rulers sneered at him. They said, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One." The soldiers also came up and mocked him. They offered him wine vinegar and said, "If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself." There was a written notice above him, which read: THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS." Luke 23:35-38 (NIV)

As you know, a king usually wears a crown made of gold, silver. And precious jewels but the king in our story wore s different kind of crown. Listen to the story of King Backward.

Once upon a time, a long time ago, there lived a King. He was no ordinary king. He was different from other kings because He did everything backwards from the way other kings did them. From

the very day he was born, you could tell this king was going to be different. Most kings are usually born in a palace, but this king was born in a stable surrounded by donkeys, sheep and cows. It wasn't a very big beginning for a king. In fact, very few people even knew that a king had been born. Only a handful of shepherds and some wise men got word that a king had been born.

As the infant king grew into a man, he continued to be different from other kings. While most kings spent all their time building up riches of silver, gold and jewels, this king owned nothing at all. And while most kings surrounded themselves with servants, He chose to be a servant. He could often be found helping others.

As time went on, people became very unhappy with their King because He just didn't act the way they thought a king should act. Instead of riding into town on a big white horse the way other kings usually did, their king rode into town on the back of a donkey. Was that any way for a king to

act?

And the people He chose to be his friends! His closest friends were a bunch of smelly fisherman and He could be seen visiting the poor and eating with sinners.

Finally the people decided that they had put up with this King long enough. If He couldn't act the way a king should act, then they didn't want Him to be their king any

more. They made a plan to have Him arrested and thrown into prison.

Their plan worked. When the day came for his trial, the King stood before the people. Instead of shouting "Hail the King, Long live the King!" they shouted, "Crucify Him! He is not our king! Crucify Him." So they crucified the King. They nailed Him to a cross; they put a crown made of thorns on His head; they poked at Him with sharp sticks and made fun of Him. What a way for a king to die! After He was crucified, they took His body and put it in a borrowed tomb.

continues on page 4







Better Not Drop that Egg



"The Easter story is nothing but a myth," Jimmy's high

school science teacher announced to his class a few days before Easter break. "Jesus not only didn't rise from the grave," he continued, "but there's no God in heaven who would allow his son to be crucified in the first place."

"Sir, I believe in God," Jimmy protested. "And I believe in the Resurrection!"

"Jimmy, you can believe what you wish to, of course," the teacher replied. "However, the real world excludes the possibility of miraculous events such as the Resurrection. The Resurrection is a scientific impossibility. No one who believes in miracles can also respect science."

"God isn't limited by science," Jimmy responded. "He created science!"

Engaged by Jimmy's outspoken faith, the teacher proposed a scientific experiment. Reaching into a refrigerator, he produced a raw egg and held it up. "I'm going to drop this egg on the floor," he stated. "Gravity will pull it toward the floor with such force that the egg will most certainly break." Fixing Jimmy with a look of challenge, he concluded his proposal. "Now Jimmy, I want you to pray a prayer right now and ask your God to keep this egg from breaking when it hits the floor. If he can do that, then you'll have proven your point, and I'll have to admit that there's a God." After pondering the challenge for a moment, Jimmy slowly stood to pray. "Dear Heavenly Father," he began. "I pray that when my teacher drops the egg...*it will break into a hundred pieces*! And also, Lord, I pray that when the egg does break, *my teacher will have a heart attack and die!* Amen."

After gasping in unison, the stunned class sat in silent expectation.

For a moment the teacher did nothing. At last he looked at Jimmy and then at the egg. Without a word he carefully put the egg back in the refrigerator. "Class dismissed," the teacher said and sat down to clear his desk.

The teacher apparently believed in God more than he thought he did. Many people, like that teacher, deny that God exists, yet they run from him, question him, and attack him whenever they get the chance. Jimmy knew God wouldn't strike his teacher dead, but he also knew that his teacher wouldn't bet his life on it.

As the old saying goes, "There are no atheists in foxholes." When your life is on the line, the idea of God suddenly makes a lot more sense.

Happy Easter!

Pastor Greg





Musical guest **Jermaine**



Mondaine

Come enjoy this talented and anointed musician and Man of God.

April 13 10:15 am





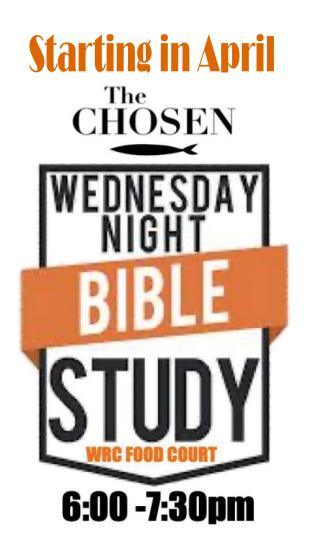


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continued from page 1

Wait, this isn't the end of the story. Remember... this King was different! King Backward rose from the grave to live forever. Now instead of being the Backward King, He is the Forever King. He is the King to anyone who chooses Him to be their King. Oh, there are still people who call Him "King Backward," but those who know Him don't call Him that...they call him King Jesus!

Jesus wants to be your king too, and if you choose Him to be your king, you will live happily forever, and forever after!



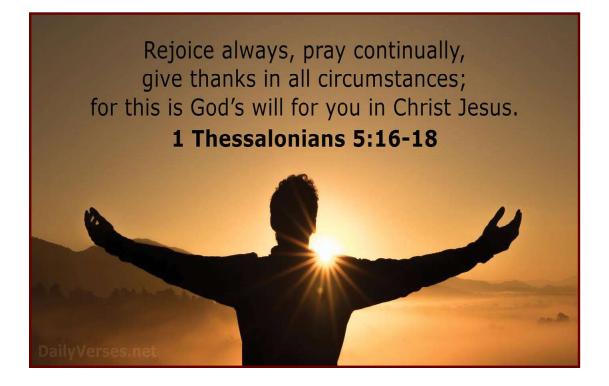




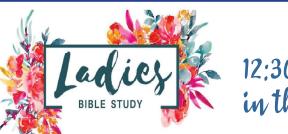
Daniel's secret sauce or his Superpower came from his prayer life. Take the CHALLENGE to pray like Daniel 3 times a day (morning, noon, night) for the next 40 or so days up to Easter Sunday.

Click on the Daniel Challenge link for further information at: www.wrctulsa.org









Mondays 12:30pm-2:30pm in the Food Court





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<u>OFFICE HOURS</u>: Monday - Thursday 9:00am - 12:00pm - 1:00pm - 4:00pm

Service times:

10:15am - Blended Worship Livestreaming Find link on Facebook or www.wrctulsa.org

9:00am - Sunday School