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O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM * * *

The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight. A child came from thee and lived most of his life in Galilee. He worked with his father in his first thirty years, but dreamed of the day when he would do the works of his heavenly Father, healing people and quelling fears. The night he was born, there were others that dreamed.

- * A man born blind, who lay awake that night
dreamed of a day that he had sight.
- * A crippled boy in bed, tossed and turned in thought
dreamed of a day when he could walk.
- * A lonely leper, who lived each day in quarantine
dreamed of a day when he was clean.
- * A prostitute, whose life was spent the men to lure.....
dreamed that night that she was pure.
- * A multitude of Israel's peasants, burdened by Roman taxation and
and oppression, felt weary and broken.....
dreamed of a Savior Messiah of whom the prophets had spoken.
- * That night a child was born to virgin Mary. He was the Father's
eternal Son, sent from above. His main message was a kingdom
of righteousness, peace and love. To enter, one must be born
from above.

Jesus grew to be a man and fulfilled the dreams of many. He still fulfills dreams today. He took all the bad we had to die on a tree. It was prophesied 700 years before in Isaiah 53. All who put their trust in him will be with him for all eternity.

God's gift to man is not found under a Christmas tree, but was crucified on a tree at Calvary. Three days later the gift was unwrapped at the resurrection of Jesus at the empty tomb. At Christmas, people stoop down at a tree to get get their gifts. God now calls us to receive his precious gift as we open our hearts to him and kneel in humility before the cross of Christ and give ourselves to him.

Sometimes I lay awake at night.....and dream that others may see the light,
so they may join me in the glorious city of light.

MERRY CHRISTMAS and **ETERNAL CHEER!!!**

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