

Jesus: Twice a King

The greatest of the kings in the Bible is Jesus, whom we sometimes call *the king of kings*. He comes in two different times, in two very different ways.

At Christmastime, we celebrate his *first* coming to earth. While He was God then, He willingly laid that position and power aside for long enough to come as a baby-- who looked just like any ordinary baby you've seen. He ate, He smiled, He laughed, He played, just like us. The only difference was that he was God. As an adult, He died on a cross...and because He was unlike anyone else who has ever lived, He had never sinned, and He was able to pay the sin debt that each of us owes. He provided that we could be forgiven, if we'd just accept his sacrifice. He died on the cross for our sins and just three days later He rose from the grave - and we will, too, because of the sacrifice He made for our eternal life.

But then, the Bible tells us what the other time will be like; it hasn't happened yet: we often refer to this event of the future as *the second coming*. The second time He comes will be different from the first. He won't come as a little baby, laughing and gurgling and being taken care of by His

mother. this time everyone will know that he is a king and everyone will see Him. He'll set up His kingdom. We don't know everything about that kingdom yet, but we do know that we will be with Him there forever. We do know that no evil will come to live there. There will be no night ... Though we can't even imagine what it will be like, it will be perfect. And mighty King Jesus will come to get us to be with Him forever in that Heavenly Kingdom. And oh, the palaces and castles we will have in *that* kingdom!