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WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE THREE C'S OF CHRISTMAS

INTRODUCTION: I know, I know, it's not even Thanksgiving and you are talking about Christmas already. So to explain: You will not be receiving the What You Need to Know Series next Monday due to the Thanksgiving Break, thus this will leave us only one more Monday before the Christmas Break. My original plan called for at least two Basic Bible Briefs in regard to our Lord's birth. The following is my attempt to show the unity existing between His birth (the cradle), death and resurrection (the cross), and the millennial reign (the crown).

A. The Biblical Offices Involved In The Christmas Story

1. **The cradle:** He was a prophet (Luke 7:16)
2. **The cross:** He is a priest (Heb. 10:11-12)
3. **The crown:** He will be a king (Rev. 19:12, 16)

B. The Roles Played By The Trinity In The Christmas Story

1. **The cradle:** Activity of the Holy Spirit (Luke 1:35)
2. **The cross:** Activity of the Father (John 3:16)
3. **The crown:** Activity of the Son (Rev. 11:15)

C. The Prophecies of Isaiah In The Christmas Story

1. **The cradle:** The virgin-born Son (7:14)
2. **The cross:** The man of sorrows (53:3)
3. **The crown:** The Prince of Peace (9:6)

D. The Places Involved In The Christmas Story

1. **The cradle:** Bethlehem (Luke 2:4-7)
2. **The cross:** Golgotha (Mark 15:22)
3. **The crown:** Mount of Olives (Zech. 14:4)

E. The Three-fold Victory Over Sin In The Christmas Story

1. **The cradle:** Saved me from the penalty of sin (Rom. 6:23)
2. **The cross:** Saves me from the power of sin (Rom. 6:6-7)
3. **The crown:** Will save me from the presence of sin (Rev. 21:1-4)

F. The Characteristics of Christ In The Christmas Story

1. **The cradle:** Illustrating His gentleness (Matt. 12:18-21)
2. **The cross:** Illustrating His grace (Rom. 3:24-25)
3. **The crown:** Illustrating His glory (Matt. 24:30)

G. The Groups Involved In The Christmas Story

- 1. The cradle: The shepherds and sages (Luke 2:8; Matt. 2:1)**
- 2. The cross: The soldiers (Matt. 27:27-31)**
- 3. The crown: The saints (Dan. 7:18; 1 Cor. 6:2)**

H. The Ministry Of The Angels In The Christmas Story

- 1. The cradle: They announced His birth (Luke 2:13-14)**
- 2. The cross: They assisted Him prior to His death (Luke 22:43)**
- 3. The crown: They will accompany His return (2 Thess. 1:7-8)**

I. The Objects Involved In The Christmas Story

- 1. The cradle: A star (Matt. 2:2)**
- 2. The cross: A spear (John 19:34)**
- 3. The crown: A scepter (Psalm 45:6)**

J. The Clothing/Apparel Involved In The Christmas Story

- 1. The cradle: The swaddling clothes (Luke 2:7)**
- 2. The cross: A seamless garment (John 19:23:24)**
- 3. The crown: A shining robe (Psa. 45:8; Isa. 61:10; Rev. 19:16)**

K. The Physical Body Of The Savior In The Christmas Story

- 1. The cradle: His fashioned (by the Holy Spirit) body (Luke 1:35; Heb. 2:14)**
- 2. The cross: His furrowed body (Psa. 129:3; Isa. 50:6; 52:14)**
- 3. The crown: His final body (Rev. 1:14-15)**

L. The Old Testament Types In The Christmas Story

- 1. The cradle: Adam, for neither he nor Jesus had a human father (Gen. 2:7; Luke 1:35)**
- 2. The cross: Isaac, for he like Jesus, was offered up by his father (Gen. 22:2)**
- 3. The crown: David, for he like Jesus, was a man after God's own heart, who reigned over Israel (compare 1 Sam. 13:14 with John 8:29 and 2 Sam. 5:1-5 with Luke 1:32-33.)**

M. The Animal World Involved In The Christmas Story

- 1. The cradle: A lamb (John 1:29)**
- 2. The cross: A serpent (John 3:14)**
- 3. The crown: A lion (Rev. 5:5)**

N. The Savior's Words To His Father In The Christmas Story

- 1. The cradle: "Thy will be done" (Heb. 10:4-7)**
- 2. The cross: "Thy will be done" (Matt. 26:39-44)**
- 3. The crown: "Thy will be done" (John 5:19-30)**

O. The Joy Involved In The Christmas Story

- 1. The cradle: "Good tidings of great joy" (Luke 2:10)**
- 2. The cross: "Who for the joy ... endured the cross" (Heb. 12:2)**
- 3. The crown: "With exceeding joy" (Jude 24)**

P. The Kingship Involved In The Christmas Story

- 1. The cradle: Recognized as the King of the Jews (Matt. 2:1)**
- 2. The cross: Ridiculed as the King of the Jews (Matt. 27:29, 37)**
- 3. The crown: Revealed as the King of Kings (Rev. 19:16)**

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