

“How Can Christmas Affect My Past?”

One word you think of when you hear the words “Bah Humbug”:

A Christmas Carol has been presented in at least:

- _____ different theater productions
- _____ different films versions
- _____ different television alterations
- _____ radio programs
- _____ Operas

Some people bitten by the Hum Bug struggle with Christmas because they have a past _____.

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- The chains of _____
- The chains of _____
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“I have always striven in my writings to express veneration for the life and lessons of our Savior.”
Charles Dickens

Luke 1:5-17 (NIV)

⁵In the time of Herod king of Judea there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly division of Abijah; his wife Elizabeth was also a descendant of Aaron. ⁶Both of them were upright in the sight of God, observing all the Lord's commandments and regulations blamelessly. ⁷But they had no children, because Elizabeth was barren; and they were both well along in years.

⁸Once when Zechariah's division was on duty and he was serving as priest before God, ⁹he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to go into the temple of the Lord and burn incense. ¹⁰And when the time for the burning of incense came, all the assembled worshipers were praying outside.

¹¹Then an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. ¹²When Zechariah saw him, he was startled and was gripped with fear.

¹³But the angel said to him: "Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to give him the name John. ¹⁴He will be a joy and delight to you, and many will rejoice because of his birth, ¹⁵for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He is never to take wine or other fermented drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit even from birth. ¹⁶Many of the people of Israel will he bring back to the Lord their God. ¹⁷And he will go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous - to make ready a people prepared for the Lord."

What To Do If I've Been Bitten By The Hum Bug

If I've been bitten by the Hum Bug I need to be _____.

“Children are a gift from the Lord; they are a reward from Him.”

Psalms 127:3 (NLT)

“...Jesus took the children in His arms, put His hands on them, and blessed them.”

Mark 10:16 (NCV)

If I've been bitten by the Hum Bug I need to be _____.

"And you, my child, will be called a prophet of the Most High; for you will go on before the Lord to prepare the way for Him, to give His people the knowledge of salvation through the forgiveness of their sins..."
Luke 1:76-79 (NIV)

"All of us have sinned yet now God declares us 'not guilty' of offending him if we trust in Christ who freely takes away our sin."
Romans 3:23-24 (LB)

“...I'll wipe the slate clean for each of them. I'll forget they ever sinned!”

Jeremiah 31:34 (Msg)

"All who believe in Jesus' name will be forgiven of their sins through His name."
Acts 10:43 (NIV)

“God has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son He loves, in Whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.”
Colossians 1:13 (NIV)

Christmas is love tugging men back to God with the powerful grasp of a tiny hand reaching out from a bed of straw.
Molly Brown