

★
Twas the
**FIGHT
BEFORE
CHRISTMAS**
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'Twas the fight before Christmas
and all through the house,

We vented on Facebook, Twitter,
and clicked our mouse.

The stockings fell down by children at play,
and gifts needed wrapping before the big day.

The family will gather; we hope all goes well.
But it's likely we'll fight—both tooth and nail.

Wants and expectations put us at odds.
Why do we do this? We feel like clods.

Then I thought of the costs and debt coming our way.
When January arrives, we'll have to repay.

I've asked for this gizmo, but no one cares.
All they want is what will be theirs!

Surely there's more to all this clatter.
Isn't there something to make Christmas matter?

I decided to turn in, overwhelmed by my fears.
"Can I find a way to better cope next year?"

As I lay there, tossing and turning in bed,
anxious thoughts were filling my head.

Christmas should be about peace and good will,
not the talk about presents that lose their thrill.

Nothing from Christmas ever seems to stay.
I want something more than a cluttered, noisy holiday.

Suddenly I remembered a story from Luke 2;
something I heard Charlie Brown say on YouTube.

Then I opened a Bible and started to read;
I found what was missing, what we all need!

Christmas isn't about something we get on that day,
but One who gave His life that we might be saved.

Saved from emptiness, expectations and fighting.
Saved for a higher purpose God is now writing.

Jesus, God's Son, came down from above.
He's the gift that expresses God's mercy and love.

He didn't come by chariot or riding in a sleigh.
He was born in a stable; in a manger was laid.

Yes, the fight before Christmas will rage in us all
till we come to the manger and on our knees fall.

His name is called "Jesus"—born to die on the cross
to redeem us from judgment by paying sin's cost.

He rose in triumph, providing salvation full and free.
This is the grand Christmas story everyone must see.

So I in my bed, surrendered my fight.
I called, "Lord Jesus, save me tonight!"

Are you ready to throw in the towel
and give up your fight?

**MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL,
AND TO ALL A GOOD NIGHT!**