

## JESUS CHRIST IS COMING TO TOWN

### INTRODUCTION

#### A. **Santa Claus Is Coming To Town**

“You better watch out  
You better not cry  
Better not pout  
I'm telling you why  
Santa Claus is coming to town  
He's making a list  
And checking it twice;  
Gonna find out who's naughty and nice  
Santa Claus is coming to town  
He sees you when you're sleeping  
He knows when you're awake  
He knows if you've been bad or good  
So be good for goodness sake!  
O! You better watch out!  
You better not cry  
Better not pout  
I'm telling you why  
Santa Claus is coming to town  
Santa Claus is coming to town”

**B.** Aren't these lyrics better suited to describe things of a spiritual nature rather than fantasy? Treating Santa Claus as a fictional character on par with Ironman, a ninja turtle, or Optimus Prime is all in good fun and hardly problematic, but we err when we insist he is real and possesses most of the attributes of deity.

- C. Children will have a hard time believing us concerning the truth about God if we deliberately convince them Santa is real. Pretense can be fun, but deception is something else.

**I. YOU BETTER WATCH OUT**

**A. 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 16:13**

From a position of spiritual fortitude, we must be watchful.

**B. Mark 14:38**

We are on the lookout for the dangers of sin.

**II. YOU BETTER NOT CRY**

**A. Revelation 5:4-5**

We have good reason to refrain from weeping when we consider that Christ prevails!

**B. Philippians 4:4**

We have cause to rejoice in Him!

**III. BETTER NOT POUT**

To pout is "To exhibit displeasure or disappointment" (American Heritage Dictionary).

**A. Philippians 4:11-13**

The strength of Christ teaches us to be content in all circumstances, so that displeasure is not an option.

**B. Romans 5:5; Hebrews 6:19**

Disappointment does not characterize the Christian either, because hope does not disappoint. Hope anchors us.

**IV. I'M TELLING YOU WHY: JESUS CHRIST IS COMING TO TOWN**

**A. 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 5:23**

Jesus is coming. That fact should motivate us to remain blameless.

**B. 1<sup>st</sup> John 2:28**

Because He is coming, we should abide in Him.

**V. HE'S MAKING A LIST AND CHECKING IT TWICE**

**A. Luke 10:20; Philippians 4:3**

Jesus assured His disciples that their names were written in heaven. The list is called "*the Book of Life.*"

**B. Revelation 20:12-15**

Those who don't make the list go to hell.

**VI. GONNA FIND OUT WHO'S NAUGHTY AND NICE**

**A. Matthew 25:31-46**

A separation will be made between sheep and goats, blessed and cursed, naughty and nice.

**B. 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 5:10**

Judgment will be according to our deeds, whether good or bad.

**VII. HE SEES YOU WHEN YOU'RE SLEEPING; HE KNOWS WHEN YOU'RE AWAKE**

**A. Psalm 139:1-12**

God sees all!

**B. Hebrews 4:13**

We can't hide from Him and He will judge according to what He sees.

**VIII. HE KNOWS IF YOU'VE BEEN BAD OR GOOD, SO BE GOOD FOR GOODNESS SAKE!**

**A. Luke 6:43-45**

To do and say good, good must be in the heart.

**B. 3<sup>rd</sup> John 11**

Our own goodness is reflective of God in us.