



Recognizing the King

Luke 2:25-38; Matthew 2:1-3, 7-14

Scripture Guy and Kingdom Crusader arrived in Godly Acres for their new mission to help the Philistine protect the city from the Iron Cobra. Meanwhile, back at King City, a white-haired old man in mismatched clothes bustled into the King City Laboratory looking for his lead scientist. This was Professor von Himmel, the project manager. When he saw the mop of curly brown hair leaning up against the command console, he knew Dr. Sominex had fallen fast asleep on his feet ... again. He hated to wake him. They had both been working long hours to finish the Skylab Omega project, but they were close to the end and today's final inspection was very important. He crept near the doctor and tried calling him softly at first. "Dr. Sominex?" Then louder, "Dr. Sominex? DR. SOMINEX!!"

The good doctor awoke with a jolt! "The sum of the square root of any two sides of an isosceles triangle is equal to the square root of the remaining side!" he shouted.

"What are you talking about?" asked Professor von Himmel.

"Who, me? Science!" said Dr. Sominex, as he adjusted his oversized glasses. It was amazing how he could snap out of a deep sleep in mid-sentence and never even notice he had been sleeping.

"Dr. Sominex, we are getting very close to launching Skylab Omega! It seems like we've been waiting as long as the Israelites!"

"What Israelites?" the confused doctor asked. "There are Israelites on our team?"

"No, I meant the Israelites in the Bible," said the Professor. "All of the Jewish people had been waiting a long, long, long time for God to send them their Savior and King. Let's get a Bible and I'll show you."

"Oh, I've got mine right over here!" Dr. Sominex took a well-worn Bible out of the desk drawer, but before he could hand it to the Professor, he dozed off and began to snore.

"Dr. Sominex?" the Professor whispered at first, but each time he increased his volume. "Dr. Sominex? DR. SOMINEX!!"

"Wah!" Dr. Sominex screamed. "For every action there is an equal but opposite reaction."

"What is that about?" the Professor asked.

"Just science! Let's read the Bible!"

"Good idea," said Professor von Himmel. "Now, the prophets had promised a savior would come to save all of Israel and then ..."

"And then? And then what?!" asked the sleepy doctor.

Professor von Himmel whispered, "And then, silence."

"Science?"

"No, silence," whispered the professor. "Nothing, until ... Jesus was born! Then, some people recognized their Savior and King!"

"Oh, right!" Dr. Sominex said. "They weren't expecting that kind of King, so who recognized Him?"

"To begin with, Simeon and Anna."

"Cinnamon Bananas?" asked the doctor.

"Not Cinnamon Bananas!" the Professor corrected him. "Simeon and Anna! What are you thinking about?"

"Science mostly ... and lunch," Dr. Sominex replied. "So, who were Simeon and Anna?"

"Well, Simeon was a godly man who was led by God's Holy Spirit. God had promised Simeon would not die before he saw the Savior. One day, the Holy Spirit moved Simeon to go to the temple. On the very same day, Mary and Joseph brought baby Jesus to be dedicated to the Lord!"

"Wow!" cried Dr. Sominex. "Too bad Cinnamon didn't meet them."

"Simeon!" von Himmel corrected again. "And he did meet them! He held baby Jesus in his arms and said, '... my eyes have seen your salvation.' Mary and Joseph were amazed because Simeon told them all of great things Jesus was going to do. Also, in the same temple there was a prophetess named ..."

"Banana!" Dr. Sominex interrupted.

"No! Anna!" von Himmel cried. "She was a lady prophet. A prophet is a person who hears from God and then tells others what God has said. The Prophetess Anna also recognized Jesus was the one God had sent as Savior and King. And there was one more group who recognized it ... the Magi!"

"What's a Magi?" asked Dr. Sominex.

"You probably know them as the wise men that followed the star to find baby Jesus. They recognized Jesus as the King of the Jews, but that was even obvious to bad guys."

Dr. Sominex looked worried, "Bad guys! What bad guys? Where?"

"Well, King Herod for one," the professor explained. "He was the Roman king at that time. Listen to what the Bible says, *'After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, 'Where is the One who has been born King of the Jews? We saw His star in the east and have come to worship Him.'*"

"So, that's why they brought Him gifts - to worship Him!" Dr. Sominex smiled.

"Yes, but listen to this part. *'When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him.'* I think he probably felt threatened because he was the king and he did not want any king, even a king sent from God, to take away his throne.

"But, Jesus wasn't the kind of king who wanted crowns or riches," said Dr. Sominex. "He's the King who wants our hearts."

"Exactly!" cried the professor.

"We should tell everyone in the whole universe all about our King!" said the doctor.

"That's why we built Skylab Omega! To tell the whole universe about the King!"

"Remind me what that is again," said Dr. Sominex.

"Skylab Omega is the most spectacular spaceship we have ever created and we've got the greatest pilot ever to steer that ship—Commander Cosmos!" said Professor von Himmel. "He's going to travel to all corners of the galaxy with a message that everyone needs to hear: 'Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever!'"

"Well, let's go get it ready to launch!" said Dr. Sominex and they headed to the King City Launch Pad to put the finishing touches on their finest project to date.