

A REVERSE CHRISTMAS CAROL

by JOHN COSPER

GENRE: Comedy

SYNOPSIS: A modern re-telling of A Christmas Carol, where a pro-Christmas Scrooge is visited by a ghost who tries to turn him against Christmas.

DIRECTOR'S TIP: This scene can be played as a period piece, or with a more modern look. Be as creative and elaborate with sets and props as you can.

NOTE: Be cautious with the delivery of the line "There is no Santa Claus" if you perform this for a general audience with children. It can be done in a way that doesn't "ruin" Christmas for those who believe.

TIME: 5 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 9M, 2F

THEME: Christmas; Birth of Jesus

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: Isaiah 9:6-7

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Christmas

SUGGESTED USE: Christmas services and programs

CHARACTERS:

EBENEZER SCROOGE
BOB CRATCHIT
A NARRATOR
THE GHOST OF CHRISTMAS STINKS
YOUNG SCROOGE (AGE 10)
YOUNG BOB (AGE 10)
BOB'S FATHER
BOB'S WIFE
JACK, MELISSA, AND TINY TIM – Bob's kids

PROPS: A desk and chair, and envelope, a toy truck, a pink slip, a crutch, a tombstone

COSTUMES: Traditional Dickens type costumes – or modern costumes. Your choice.

SOUND: Wireless mics if desired

LIGHTING: General stage

SETTING: Scrooge's shop and town

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www.DramaMinistry.com
ISSN 1084-5917

Drama Ministry is a division of
Belden Worship Resources
www.beldenworshipresources.com

Publisher: **Regi Stone**

Executive Editor: **Kimberlee Crisafulli** / Assistant Editor: **Scott Crain**

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Bob Cratchit sits at a desk, working hard.

NARR: Once upon a time, there was a man named Bob Cratchit who hated his job. He hated it all year round, but especially at Christmas. That was because Bob Cratchit worked for none other than Ebenezer Scrooge.

Scrooge enters.

SCROOGE: Merrrry Christmas! (*sings*) Deck the halls with boughs of holly, fa-la-la-la-la, la-la-la-la! Take it, Bob!

BOB: Mr. Scrooge, it's Christmas Eve.

SCROOGE: That's right, it's Christmas Eve! Time to put work away and celebrate the season!

BOB: Put work away? There are several more good hours of work to be done!

SCROOGE: Confound it, Cratchit, no one works on Christmas!

BOB: Actually, I wanted to talk to you about that.

SCROOGE: About what?

BOB: I think we should be open tomorrow.

SCROOGE: In heaven's name, why?

BOB: Because it's Wednesday! It's the middle of the work week!

SCROOGE: Bob, it's Christmas! Don't you have any Christmas spirit?

BOB: Bah! Humbug!

SCROOGE: Humbug. Say, I like that. Humbug. Haha. Does it mean holiday cheer?

BOB: It means I hate Christmas! There's work to be done, and I need the money!

SCROOGE: I'm giving you paid time off!

BOB: Let me work and give me holiday pay, time and a half!

SCROOGE: Sorry, Cratchit! I'm as set in my ways about Christmas as, well, as an old miser. Now run along and spend time with that family of yours!

BOB: Whatever.