

The Greatest King

Once upon a time there was a king. But not just any king. This was the greatest king ever.

He was so strong and powerful that with one swipe of an arm he could wipe out every kingdom that ever was. But he wanted his kingdom to be perfect, so he never did.

Instead, he tried to show people the better way. He healed the sick and loved the unloved and was a friend to the lonely.

Whenever he spoke, words of wisdom flowed out like a refreshing river and people from all the lands came to see him and learn about the better way.

But some didn't like the king because they didn't want to know a better way. Learning a better way meant changing from the old way, and this would be no fun.

So they made a plan to kill the king. They knew he was too strong for them but they also knew the king would always follow the better way, where no one ever hurt another.

One day guards came and tied up the greatest king that ever lived and brought him to a little king – small and frightened, who did whatever people wanted so they would leave him alone.

The little king put him on trial. Those who hated the greatest king found him guilty of just being himself. The whole time the greatest king never argued.

Then the guards placed him on a beam of wood for all to see, and let him die. They thought this was the end.

But it was not. And even today people talk about the greatest king who ever lived as though he were still alive. And I guess he really is.

They talk about how he never fought back or argued. They talk about how instead he showed them the better way, even to the end.

Thousands of years later, we still believe he is the greatest king. Maybe some day we will all live the better way he showed us. Then we will make his dreams come true.