

Name _____



Scrooge's Change

Ebenezer Scrooge was a man who seemed to care for nothing but his money. In Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*, Scrooge starts as a grumpy, selfish miser who dislikes Christmas and avoids helping others. He works his clerk, Bob Cratchit, very hard and pays him very little, even though Bob has a sick son, Tiny Tim. Scrooge thinks people who celebrate

Christmas are silly and wastes no time telling them so.

One cold Christmas Eve, Scrooge's life changes forever. That night, he is visited by three ghosts. The first ghost, the Ghost of Christmas Past, shows Scrooge memories of his own life—times when he was lonely and times when he was happy. The second ghost, the Ghost of Christmas Present, takes him to see the struggles of others, like the Cratchit family. Scrooge watches as Bob's family tries to enjoy Christmas, even though they are poor and Tiny Tim is very sick. The final ghost, the Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come, shows Scrooge a frightening vision of his own lonely death, with no one to care that he is gone.

These visits make Scrooge realize how selfish he has been. He feels sorry for the people he has hurt and is determined to change. On Christmas morning, Scrooge wakes up a new man. He becomes kind, generous, and full of Christmas spirit. He gives money to charity, buys food and gifts for the Cratchit family, and promises to take care of Tiny Tim. By the end of the story, Scrooge is a man filled with joy and love, proving that even the grumpiest heart can be redeemed.

Scrooge's transformation shows that it is never too late to change. His story teaches us that helping others and spreading kindness not only brings joy to them but also to ourselves.