

# Josiah

## And The Mysterious Child



**An Order of the Ancient Short Story  
By Karl Bastian**

### **If you haven't read the novel...**

This short story is based on the novel *The Order of the Ancient* by Karl Bastian. You do not need to have read the novel to enjoy this story, but it might be helpful to understand its background. This story takes place at a time in the future when the world has been united under one government known as the WNC, the World Network of Communities, and when all religions have blended into one Church of the Deity – all, that is, except the one religion that claimed absolute Truth. It was therefore outlawed and all traces of it erased from the culture. However, it was not truly abolished, but only driven into hiding, known to its members as *the Remnant*. A twelve year old boy named Brent Camden, because of his relentless pursuit of the Truth, discovered the secret Remnant. He was given the code name Josiah because of his youthful faith in the Sovereign and dedication to the Book of Books. Having yielded to the Redeemer, he is now a member of the Remnant living in the system but not of it; seeking the Sovereign and hoping to lead others to the Truth. This story takes place during the following year after the conclusion of the *Order of the Ancient*. The Remnant is seeking a way to help those lost in this godless culture to rediscover the true meaning of a festival once known as Christmas. The Year of Purification had erased the reason for the season long ago, but Josiah is about to discover the Truth about a Mysterious Child.



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