

Is Christmas Christian?



BY SHELDON EMRY

CHRISTMAS IN AMERICA

A 'Strange' History

Although few 20th Century American Christians seem to see any significance in it, it is true the Christian founders of America not only did NOT celebrate the December 25th 'Holiday', but attempted to prevent its observance by others in the Colonies.

Below are two newspaper clippings which verify the Christian Colonists' actions: articles which should make every modern Christian want to know WHY early American Christians did NOT celebrate 'Christmas!'

-----**ARIZONA CURRENTS**
December, 1968 -----Page Five

It's a Fact!

Christmas was not established as a legal holiday throughout the U.S. until late in the 19th century.

In 1859 the Puritan colony in Massachusetts passed a law that anyone "found observing any such day as Christmas or the like, either by forbearing labor, feasting or in any other way, shall be fined five shillings."

Many early Americans who refused to work on Christmas either went to jail or paid fines.

Christmas Was Banned

BOSTON (AP) – Christmas was once banned in Boston.

The Puritans forbade the celebration of Christmas because it was a 'pagan feast.'

Episcopalians were the first in Boston to observe the holiday. They were followed by increasing numbers of young people who raised 18th century eyebrows with "frolics, a revelling feast and ball."

But it wasn't until 1856 that the legislature – recognizing a losing battle when it saw it – gave in and made Christmas a legal holiday.

The Phoenix Gazette December 22, 1967

Please read this entire small book. The next few pages illustrate 'modern' Christmas; the rest of the book examines the 'ancient' festival. You may be somewhat shocked, but we pray this booklet will help you understand what is happening to our beloved America.



**CHRISTMAS
EYE
POPPERS**

BOWLERS!
BALLS - BAGS - SHOES
GIFT
SCATES

A FREE CHRISTMAS GIFT

... From Your Free Checking Bank!

We have a beautiful, Swiss-made wrist watch for you ... **FREE!**
It's packaged in an elegant jewelry case, perfect for Christmas giving. A magnificent gift for yourself or a loved one.

tells you the exact time, just at a glance. Simply open, or receive a \$50.00 Passbook or Time Certificate at the end of the year. That's worth doing, isn't it? The watch, because you earn 7.5% on your cash ... **FREE!** for two, complete.

Holiday Party Scheduled

Members of the Western Bowls Club are planning what they call "An Old-Fashioned Holiday Party" beginning ...

Holiday Special

COUPON
2 FREE

CHRISTMAS SPECIALS

SLEIGH-FULLS of

SALE STARTS NOON SUNDAY

PRE-CHRISTMAS SALE!

**NEW STORE HOURS
SUNDAY 12 to 5**

GIFT IDEAS

PRICES GOOD THROUGH DEC. 1, 1977

Santa time

**CANADIAN LORD
CALVERT
BLEND**

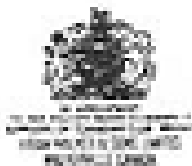
Imported Scotch Whisky
FIFTY - 50 PROOF
REG. \$3.99

4.99

BOURBON

Whisky only \$2.99
4 Year - \$5.99
Buy the 5

The world's most popular Christmas Club



\$6.99
4 1/2 Q.

Luxuriously
gift-wrapped
at the extra cost



**Now He'll Have
To Buy A New
Christmas Tree**

BOSTON (AP) — Twelve years ago Joseph Mann decided a wedding in his backyard was important to him. It was a "faked" tree.

Yesterday, while reading his newspaper, I glanced out the dining room window and I knew something was wrong. The Christmas tree was missing.

"I talked to my wife in some back seat and I told her that my tree was gone."

The words to Marmaduke's story were a shock.

CHRISTMAS CRYSTAL SPECIAL

Dear Santa,
All I want for Christmas
is a Mason-Dixon brand
... style your select
... will be fine and give
me and my kids many
Happy New Years and
the merriest
Christmas ever known.
Thank you,
Santa, and
in my Jesus bring
my Christmas presents
in SUPRESTOCK VILLAGE
in ... North ...



**If You Like It ...
Charge It!**



**Mesa's Tree-Lighting
Ceremony at 7 Tonight**
by OPAL JOHNSON

Children and adults of the community will gather for the 44th Christmas tree lighting ceremony on the grounds of the Mesa police station at 11th N. Main at 7 o'clock tonight.

Norman Saterian, director of the Mesa Parks and Recreation Department, who will preside over the festivities.

The 22-foot Alpine Pine 1 grown for years on the ...

**Tempe Club
Out To Sell
7,000 Trees**

TEMPE — The Tempe Kiwanis Club is conducting its annual Christmas tree sale in ...

Toys Wanted For Children
TEMPE — Toys are ... on the ... in ...

What ... and the ... paper and ribbon which are used in the ...

A-48 The Arizona Republic
Phoenix, Sunday, Dec. 3, 1972

Poachers are rifling tree farms

United Press International

SEATTLE, Wash. — With prices so high for feeding as much as \$1 a foot, Christmas tree cutters are plucking U.S. Forest Service plantations and private tree farms to the point where the Federal Bureau of Investigation has been called to catch the poachers.

More than 500 trees have been stolen from the White River District of the Sequoia National Forest within the last two weeks, and other air reports in the Pacific Northwest have been hit almost as hard.

Superintendent Don R. Campbell of Sequoia National Forest said yesterday rangers and guards had been patrolling reforestation areas but have had little success because of the vast area involved.

Consequently, he is asking the FBI to help.

WHO GETS THE WORSHIP?

Thousands crowd into Syracuse's Clinton Square for Christmas tree lighting

By [Charles McChesney / The Post-Standard](#)

November 28, 2009, 6:06AM



Syracuse's annual Christmas tree lighting ceremony is held Friday at Clinton Square in downtown Syracuse.

Thousands of Central New Yorkers gathered in Clinton Square for Syracuse's annual tree-lighting ceremony.

While weather threatened the Holiday Magic in the Square Christmas tree lighting, winds held back and rain passed by as 80 children on stage danced to familiar holiday songs as part of "A Christmas Fantasy."

Weather was on the mind of Santa who called on everyone to wish for Christmas snow. (It helps his sled, he told the crowd.)

The show culminated in the arrival of the Snow Princess, a towering puppet that skated across the Clinton Square rink and, as the Santa-led countdown reached one, lit the city's 80-foot Norway spruce with hundreds of green and red lights, as well as the white star on top.

IS THE CHRISTMAS ‘SPIRIT’ CHRISTIAN?

Some credit the goings-on of Christmas to a nebulous ‘spirit’ they call the ‘Christmas spirit’, and many praise the workings of such a ‘spirit’.

But do people suddenly change their beliefs at Christmas? Do they all suddenly act as Christians and then cease to act as such after December 25th? Well that isn’t right either, is it? For most of their actions have nothing whatsoever to do with Christ! In fact, the ‘Christmas spirit’ seems to cause almost everyone to act in a manner that is totally out of line with the teachings of Jesus Christ. Stores raise their prices, often pushing cheap and flimsy merchandise for ‘gifts’; men exchange bottles or cases of whiskey; employers give ‘Christmas parties’ with free liquor, often with tragic consequences in auto accidents, or with illicit sex liaisons; tens of thousands of families, caught up in the ‘Christmas spirit’, overspend, and lay an additional burden upon themselves for months afterwards.

In addition, untold millions of little children are deceived about the existence of a little creature called ‘Santa Claus’. Parents, who under most circumstances would severely punish their children for telling lies, blithely lie to these same children, and do it with a smile on their faces and joy in their hearts!

Are those things ‘Christian’? Of course not! Then what is this festival which is called ‘Christmas?’

The answer, which should be suspected by Christians as they watch the world ‘celebrate’, is that this festival which is called ‘Christmas’ is NOT a Christian holiday at all, but is exactly that which it appears to be, a pagan debauchery whose origins are not, and can not be, in the Holy One of Israel, the Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus, in the Sermon on the Mount, taught that: “*a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree can not bring forth evil fruit*”. **Matt. 7:17-18**

TRY (TEST) THE CHRISTMAS ‘SPIRIT’

We are told by John, “*Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits (plural) whether they are of God*” **1 John 4:1**. This simply means that the Christian is NOT to believe everything that seems to have a ‘spirit’ behind it to be originated by God. Jesus warned of deceptions that, “*if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect*” **Matthew 24:24**.

Peter told believers that there would be “*false teachers among you, who privily (secretly) shall bring in damnable heresies*” **2 Peter 2:1**.

A heresy is a religious teaching that has the appearance of truth, but is, in fact, a lie. Is it possible that ‘Christmas’ is a heresy, something masquerading as Christian, but is not?

Perhaps we should take this festival apart and examine the parts and see what it really is.

THE 'DAY'

When the day, December 25th, is examined, some rather strange things are discovered. First, (and this should certainly lead professing Christians to read on) Christians observed no such day as 'the birthday of Jesus' during the lives of the Disciples, or those that followed immediately after them (see page 23). Neither did the Christian founders of the American colonies who were of those who had come out of 'the great whore, the Roman church' (see page 1).

Second, no one has ever come forward with even one verse of Scripture admonishing believers to observe any such 'celebration' of 'the birthday of Christ', nor is there any. Although such Hebrew holy days as the Passover, the Sabbath, and the annual giving of the tithes are mentioned in both Old and New Scriptures, God has left NO INSTRUCTION about Jesus' 'birthday'.

Third, the description of Jesus' birth night tells of a time to be taxed, of shepherds in the field with their flocks at night, and the city of Bethlehem full of travellers; "*no room for them in the inn*" **Luke 2:1-8**. Tax time was harvest time throughout the Roman Empire, and tithing time was harvest time according to the Law of Moses (**Exodus 23:14-19, Leviticus 23:1-10, Deuteronomy 16:16-17**). Common sense and custom would have the Roman governor collect taxes at the time the people had money from the harvest; when they had been taught to pay their tithes under Moses' Law. Mid-winter (December 25th in the northern hemisphere) simply does NOT fit the season described in the Holy Word.

Fourth, even a very brief search of history books of various nations and peoples, shows that almost all had a mid-winter festival embodying all the customs of the modern Christmas, such as feasting, drunken revelry, sexual excess, burning a log, a tree, giving gifts etc., and it was ALWAYS done in conjunction with THE WORSHIP OF A PAGAN GOD! (See page 23 for a news article demonstrating how EASY it is for ministers to find the truth of the pagan origin of December 25th).

Fifth, almost all Bible scholars who have made attempts to ascertain the actual birth of Jesus, have admitted failure to find the exact date, but all have estimated it to be no earlier than September 20th or later than November 6th on our present calendar. This coupled with the available evidence that neither the first century Christians, nor those of early America, observed any 'birthday of Jesus', leads one to contemplate in wonder-----,

Our sixth observation, which is, that in spite of all the evidence AGAINST December 25th being at or even near the 'birthday' of Jesus, and in spite of the total lack of Scriptural admonition to Christians to observe any day at all in commemoration of Jesus' birth, the Churches, almost without exception, APPROVE, AND PARTICIPATE IN, ALMOST ALL OF THE RTUALS BY WHICH NON-CHRISTIANS CELEBRATE 'CHRISTMAS'! WHY? Perhaps we will find the answer by continuing our examination of the parts of the whole thing.

THE MOTHER AND CHILD

There is almost universal use of pictures or statues of a mother and a small baby by those who celebrate Christmas. Believer and unbeliever alike, send cards with such pictures and place 'manger' displays on their front lawns or at their place of business. Some towns or other government bodies erect them on public property weeks before December 25th. Some who do this are professing Christians, but many never darken a church door, open a Bible, or repent of a sin. Could a 'mother and child' possibly be a non-Christian symbol?

Our contemporary world has the Roman Catholics with their veneration of the woman, calling her 'Mary, the mother of God', but worshipping her as a god, for they pray to her for intercession to her 'god-child'. In countries where Romanism holds total sway, all pretence of worshipping the Father is forgotten, and the whole ritual of worship is to the woman and her child (along with the worship of dead 'saints' as gods) which is identical to the ancient system of Baal worship. And speaking of Baal, a look at ancient pagan religions gives us the origin of 'the woman and child'.

The Babylonians worshipped a woman-god 'Rhea', the goddess mother, and ascribed to her son great powers. His name was 'Tammuz' and, in **Ezekiel 8:13-14**, God condemns women for professing to worship Jehovah, while in secret they were ACTUALLY WORSHIPPING TAMMUZ! The next verse condemns worship of the sun which is also a part of the Babylonian abominations. This was an example of a religion which outwardly was the true religion, but secretly its adherents were Baal worshippers.

The Greeks called the son 'Bacchus' and he was the god of revelry and drunkenness. His 'birthday' which was supposed to be at the winter solstice (mid-December on our calendar) was marked with parties and sexual orgies in honor of the birth of this 'son of the mother-god'.

In Egypt the mother-god and child were worshipped as 'Isis' and 'Osiris' (or Horus). In India, where the ancient religion still holds sway, they are called 'Isi' and 'Iswara'. In other parts of Asia they are known as 'Cybele' and 'Deiuis'. In each case the child is known as a 'reincarnation' of his father, making these pagan 'religions' counterfeits of the true religion of the God of the Bible.

The Mediterranean civilizations adopted these Asiatic abominations as 'Fortuna' and 'Jupiter' in Rome, and in Greece as either 'Ceres', the great goddess-mother with a baby at her breast, or 'Irene', the goddess of peace, with the baby 'Plutus' in her arms.

That this worship of mother and child is both ancient *and* Asiatic was verified when the first Jesuit (Catholic) missionaries entered China, Japan, and Tibet. For in each nation they found the same worship of mother and child! She was 'Shing Moo', translated as 'The Holy Mother', and she was portrayed complete with a 'light of glory' around her, exactly as the Romanists paint their 'Madonna and Child'!



Babylonian Goddess Semiramis
and God-incarnate Son Tammuz



Indian Goddess Isi
and Infant Iswara



Egyptian Goddess Isis
and Son Horus



Indian Goddess Devka
and Infant Krishna



Diana of Ephesus



Madonna and Infant Jesus

MADONNA AND CHILD

The name 'Madonna' should be explained as it demonstrates the paganism of Roman Catholicism and also leads us back to the goddess mentioned in the Bible.

The Babylonians called their father-god 'Baal', and his wife 'Beltis', or 'the mother of gods', but the Mediterranean Latin was 'Mea Domina', the feminine form of 'mother ruler'. The modern Italian or Roman Catholic name 'Madonna' is but a corruption of Mea Domina, and it is she who is really worshipped by the Roman Catholic Priests.

She is also the goddess who caused Paul, Gaius, and Aristarchus so much trouble at Ephesus, as recorded in **Acts 19**. Her name was 'Diana' (in Greece it was 'Juno', 'Hera', and 'Athena', varying from city to city), and the merchants who made money selling statues and objects to her veneration attempted to drive Paul from the city when they realised his teachings would destroy their business, just as the truth about Christmas and the Madonna and Child would destroy the business of so many shoddy merchants today! If it had not been for the intervention of the town clerk, these 'mother-god' worshippers might have killed Paul (read **Acts 19:22-41**).

As we have seen, the pagan religions' main objects of worship were the Mother and Child, but the father-god was also worshipped, although kept mainly in the background – and that brings us back to 'Santa Claus'.

SANTA CLAUS

Santa Claus is that jolly old fellow who appears once a year and then only to do good by bringing toys and games to 'good little children'. Is that *all* there is to Santa? No, my Christian friend, it is not!

Although you may not believe in evolution, Santa, as we know him today, is a product of evolution. Let us trace his origin from the ancient times.

In Egypt, where the mother and child were worshipped, the 'father-god' was known as 'Khons' or 'Khonos'. The name means 'huntsmen' or 'god of the chase', and scholars have identified him as 'Nimrod' of **Genesis 10**, '*the mighty hunter*', and the builder of '*Babel*' (Babylon). (Pagan gods have always deified humans, but that is a subject too long for this book). Nimrod is represented in both Babylon and Egypt as half-man and half-bull, and also as half-man and half-horse (the centaur of mythology), usually with wings, and he is called 'Baal-albirin' or 'the winged one'. He is called 'the omnipotent one' and also 'the unknown one', giving him the unknowable qualities that left him in the background. He would be 'THE UNKNOWN GOD' worshipped in Athens in **Acts 17:23**.

Over the centuries, his images evolved into more human form, usually clothed in a leopard skin, signifying his hunting prowess over the swiftest of animals. This spotted garment

became a mark of kings and priests in Africa and Asia. The priests of Bacchus in Greece were clothed in leopard skins, later adopting the spotted skin of a young fawn, or dyeing their robes to look like a spotted skin.

The 'spotted deer' seems to have been adopted as combining both the spots of the leopard and the bull (or calf) of idol worship. In Ninevah, the capitol of Assyria, statues of Nimrod (Baal) show him wearing a spotted deer skin, or in some cases, carrying a spotted deer, AND NOW WE ARE GETTING CLOSE TO 'SANTA CLAUS'!!

In the drawing of Nimrod, below left, the similarity to Santa Claus can be seen in the long, flowing, white beard, the ornate dress, the reindeer, the fir tree (Christmas tree), and the wings, giving him the power to 'fly through the air'!

The drawing below right is of the Greek Bacchus and the similarity is certain. He does not carry the spotted deer but has a spotted robe, the tree of uncertain origin, and the 'cup', the symbol of drunken revelry, so great a part of Christmas.



SANTA CLAUS IN THE BIBLE

The true God has not left believers without testimony of the actual identity of this false ‘god’. He describes him, and lays on him three names by which we can know who, or what, he is. Below are reproduced three descriptive verses in **Isaiah 14**; but if you will also read verses **4 and 25** (not shown here), you will see he is called ‘*the king of Babylon*’ and ‘*the Assyrian*’. Since the Nimrod of **Genesis 10** is the founder of BOTH Babylon and Assyria, these verses can only be speaking of Nimrod, alias Baal. His third name is ‘*Lucifer*’, as we see below:

“How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For thou hast said in thine heart, ‘I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High’” **Isaiah 14:12-14.**

Let us briefly analyse this ‘*Lucifer*’, whose destruction is prophesied from verse 4 – 27:

Verse 12: His activities prior to his destruction weaken the nations. Therefore they are NOT good.

Verse 13: His desire is to be *above* all things, to have a *throne* even above God.

Santa Claus in the department stores is often seated on a *throne*, and little children are required to come *up* to him to solicit his good favor. He will be in the *congregation*, i.e. in the ‘church of God’, which he is, with most churches bringing in worship of Santa in some way.

Even the direction of his abode is given as being ‘north’. Santa is supposed to reside at the ‘north pole’, or the regions of the north!

Verse 14: We are told Santa comes to every home, flying through the air with his reindeer and sleigh. Modern promoters now often have him arrive at a shopping centre by helicopter.

“I will be like the most High,” should have an ominous ring to believers. It means he will usurp God’s glory, God’s praise, and to ACTUALLY TAKE THE PLACE OF GOD!! This Santa Claus does this, in the hearts and minds of untold millions of little children every year, as both evil and foolish adults tell them of the good things that Santa, not God, will bring them as a reward at Christmas! For most of these people the true God, the Lord Jesus Christ, never becomes as real to them as Santa Claus was when they were children. Santa has *become “like the most High”*.

MY ANSWER: By Billy Graham

TELL THE CHILDREN SANTA'S A MYTH

QUESTION: What should Sunday School teachers tell their pupils about Santa? - G.H.

ANSWER: Tell them the truth. Explain that Santa is a mythical character, that he symbolizes the merriment accompanying the yuletide season, that he has no connection whatsoever with the real meaning of Christmas, which is the celebration of the birth of Christ.

The name Santa Claus probably comes from Saint Nicholas, bishop of Myra, and patron saint of Russia, young people and sailors. His day is actually Dec. 6, but, somehow through the years, Santa Claus slipped into Christmas. He has come to be more associated with folklore than with the birth of the Christ child – but, since it has become customary to portray him as the one who brings gifts on Christmas, his intrusion into this Holy Day seems to have been inevitable.

Little children must have difficulty separating the two, and this is unfortunate. I have talked to people who, as children, found out that Santa was a myth, and dismissed Christ as a myth too.

A Christian parent can follow one of two courses:

Make room for Santa, but explain to your children that he is just a mythical symbol of good will, and that he doesn't really exist.

Or make Christmas the birthday of Christ, as it truly is, and let Santa Claus shift for himself. Explain to them that the giving the gifts is to celebrate the love of God, who loved the world so much that He sent His only begotten Son to redeem it. Such a practice would enhance the meaning of Christmas.

The Phoenix Gazette January 25, 1971

Billy Graham has apparently recognised HOW the deception of Santa Claus creates a negative spirit in the minds of little children, often preventing them from being able to believe in Christ. And that, after all, is the object of satan's deceptions.

If Billy had the courage of his convictions, he'd go on nationwide TV and preach against Santa Claus, but perhaps that is too much to expect of ministers who desire to retain their position in the 'world'.

In case the above has not convinced you that Santa Claus is "*like the most High*", there is more. If you do not think *worship* of Santa Claus is the natural result of Christmas, read the article below – and think of the millions of little children who learn to *believe* the same way.

‘Will Santa come?’ *the answer is with you ...*

By APRIL DAIEN

The children gathered on the grey stone steps. There were three of them and they had come to see the visitors off.

They had overheard us talking in low tones with their mother about Christmas. They had heard their mother say she didn't think there would be a Christmas.

They heard her say she would try to get them "something."

So the children followed the visitors, waiting eagerly for some refutations of the conversation.

One of them clutched a tiny Christmas tree in her hands.

"You want our picture?" they said. "Nobody ever took our picture."

They posed quite earnestly, and then started to make faces.

The visitors asked what they would like for Christmas.

"A truck. A white doll." The replies were easy.

"But how do you know Santa will come?"

"Because he always came before. Because he brings doll babies," they said.

"What if he doesn't come? What will you think?"

"We wouldn't believe no more," they said.

They scowled. Their anxiety made them conscious of the cold, of the fact that they had no coats.



"Why didya ask all those questions?" they said.

Then in unison, they beamed. "We know who you are. You're Santa Claus' helper. You're coming to see if we believe. Right?"

They scattered joyfully. They didn't wait for an answer.

* * *

Perhaps you can give that answer. Send a check or money order to Christmas for Caring, Women's Forum, P.O. Box 2406, Phoenix, AZ. 85002. Your gift is tax-deductible, and unless you request anonymity, your name will be published along with the other donors.

The Arizona Republic Phoenix, Sunday, Dec. 3. 1972

To truly be "*like the most High*", it would make sense that Santa (alias Baal, Nimrod, the Assyrian, Lucifer, and others) would be made to look like God. The Bible gives us a description of God, part of which is in the verses below:

“I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of Days did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire.” Daniel 7: 9

“And I turned to see the voice that spake with me. And being turned, I saw seven golden candlesticks; And in the midst of the seven candlesticks one like unto the Son of man, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and a girt about the paps with a golden girdle. His head and his hair were white like wool, as white as snow; and his eyes were as a flame of fire; And his feet like unto fine brass, as if they burned in a furnace; and his voice as the sound of many waters.” Revelation 1:12-15

Yes, secret Baal worshippers have foisted upon us their ‘Santa’, their counterfeit *god*, who appears to do *good*, even as God and they have presented him to us with white hair and beard, sparkling eyes, and a deep, low laugh. In our ignorance we have we have allowed our children to learn to revere their false ‘satan’ (Baal) and become his worshippers. Are Santa promoters ignorant? Or do they know what they are doing?

Do you need still more proof that Christmas has its origins in Baal worship? Read on. We will take apart more of this strange festival.

THE CHRISTMAS TREE

We have already seen the origin of the *tree* with Nimrod (Baal), which takes on more significance with the many times *green tree* is mentioned in the Bible in relation to heathen idol worship and heathen gods.

When Israel came into Canaan, they were ordered to destroy the heathen altars, groves, and graven images (**Deuteronomy 7**), and then, *“Ye shall utterly destroy all the places, wherein the nations which ye shall possess, served their gods, upon the high mountains, and upon the hills, and under every GREEN TREE” Deuteronomy 12:2.*

Among the scores of places in the Old Testament where Israel was warned against Baal worship, or *“the ways of the heathen”*, nine of them specifically mention serving their gods, or worshipping under *green trees*. In most other cases, other terrible abominations are listed as accompanying these heathen practices, such as we read in **Isaiah 57:3-5**: *“But draw near hither, ye sons of the sorceress, the seed of the adulterer and the whore. Against whom do ye sport yourselves: Against whom make ye a wide mouth, and draw out the tongue? Are ye not children of transgression, a seed of falsehood, enflaming yourselves with idols UNDER EVERY GREEN TREE, slaying the children in the valleys, under the clefts of the rocks?”*

Green trees were of Baal worship, and Halley’s Bible Handbook says of Baal worship: *“Priestesses were temple prostitutes, Sodomites were male temple prostitutes. The worship of Baal, Ashtoreth (his wife, same as the Madonna), and other Canaanite gods consisted of the most extravagant orgies: their temples were centres of vice”.* **Page 166, 1965 edition.**

Now you may more earnestly understand why the saloons, night clubs, and other places where adulterers, whores, homosexuals, and other blasphemers congregate, put up green trees at Christmas.

Halley added information that showed “Baal-rites” further consisted of “*murdering their first-born children as a sacrifice to these same gods*”, and their temples, upon excavation, were found to be full of images and carvings of sex organs and *pornographic* paraphernalia! (page 167 under ‘Religion of the Canaanites’).

Idol worship under *green trees* is condemned in the following Scripture – read them: **1 Kings 14:22-23; 2 Kings 16:1-4; 2 Kings 17:9-10; 2 Chronicles 28:4; Isaiah 57:3-5** (quoted above); **Jeremiah 2:20; Jeremiah 3:6,13; Jeremiah 17:1-2; and Ezekiel 6:13.**

There is a further condemnation of those who cut down a tree for any kind of worship service. “*Learn not the way of the heathen ... for the customs of the people are vain; for one cutteth a tree out of the forest ... they deck it with silver, and with gold, they fasten it with nails and with hammers, that it move not ... be not afraid of them; for they cannot do evil, neither is it in them to do good ... they are altogether brutish and foolish; the stock (tree) is a doctrine of vanities (lies)*” **Jeremiah 10:2-8 in part.**

The tree was also used in ancient, pagan festivals to symbolise rebirth. A log (Yule log) was burned to symbolise the death of the father-god, and then a green tree was set upright to imply his reincarnation in his son. This was followed by placing gifts under the tree. In effect, *offering* the gifts to the god (idol) represented by the tree. Then as in all pagan nations, the *sacrificed* gifts were distributed to the worshippers to consume. How many millions of families in Christendom perform this *pagan* ritual every winter at Christmas! May God open their blinded eyes!

For Christians who still may say, “Well, it is just a harmless custom, what can it hurt – and besides, it is fun”, I shall only ask: How can performing the rituals of the heathen glorify Jesus Christ?

The writers of the New Testament warned Christians against partaking of things offered to idols in **Acts 15:29; Acts 21:25; 1 Corinthians 8; 1 Corinthians 10:18-21, 28; Revelation 2:14, 20**; which should be enough to make any believer stop and think.

We shall end this section on the *tree* by quoting **1 Corinthians 10:20-21**: “*But I say, that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to devils, and not to God: and I would not that ye should have fellowship with devils. Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of devils: ye cannot be partakers of the Lord’s table and of the table of devils*”.

The ‘Christmas Tree’ is but the modern version of the pagan custom of offering gifts to idols; it is of “*the cup of devils*”. It is NOT Christian.

THREE WISE MEN

In modern Christian tableaux, or stories, we are often told of ‘the three wise men’ who came to the *babe* in the manger bearing gifts. This is in spite of the simple truth that the Bible does not tell of such an event attending Jesus’ birth.

Not only is the number of wise men not stated in the Bible, the Bible says they came to Jesus in a house! “*And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him*” **Matthew 2:11**.

That their arrival was upwards of two years AFTER the birth of Jesus is evident from King Herod’s actions after he questioned them as to “*what time the star appeared*” (**Matthew 2:7**). He desired the death of the Christ child, and we read he “*sent forth, and slew all the children that were in Bethlehem, and in all the coasts thereof, FROM TWO YEARS OLD AND UNDER, according to the time which he had diligently inquired of the wise men*” **Matthew 2:16**.

Herod must have been convinced Jesus was possibly already two years old when the wise men arrived, otherwise the killing of two year olds would make no sense.

Also, in the more detailed story of Jesus’ birth in Luke 2, we read of the angel, of the “heavenly host”, of the shepherds, even the eighth day circumcision of the child (**Luke 2:21**), of both Simeon (**Luke 2:23-25**) and Anna the prophetess (**Luke 2:36-38**), yet NO WORD on any wise men. Was it because they were NOT present at His birth, but came months, or years later?

With so plain an account, why do ministers still accept three wise men at the stable? Is it because the birth of the Babylonian Messiah, the false Christ, was attended by the priests of Baal, while the birth of the true Messiah was waited upon by NO religious persons?

Truly the manger scene as we see it at Christmas can have no other origins but in Baal worship.

CANDLES

Candles and candlesticks are mentioned a number of times in Scripture in relation to God, but there is also the “*candle of the wicked*” which is to be put out (**Job 21:17; Proverbs 24:20**). In **Jeremiah 25:10**, God promises to take from Babylon, “*the light of the candle*”, and in **Revelation 18:23**, as the destruction of prophetic BABYLON THE GREAT, MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH is complete, we read, “*And the light of a candle shall shine no more at all in thee*”. The burning of candles in a worship service is a pagan, and a Roman Catholic ritual. It is NOT Christian.

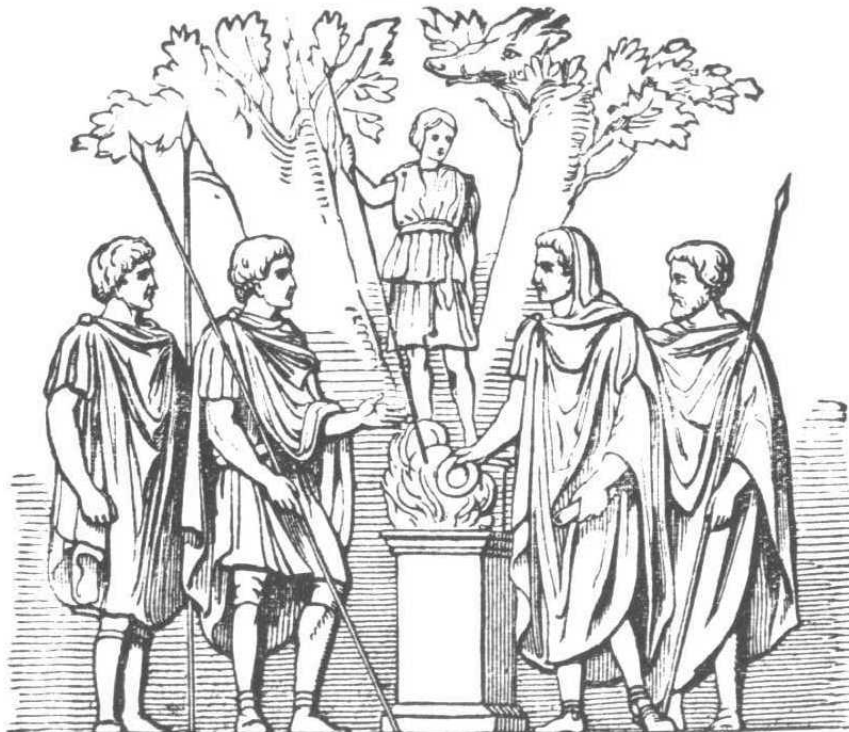
EXCHANGING GIFTS

There is no instruction in the Bible for the mutual exchanging of gifts among believers, for ANY reason, yet all the pagan, mid-winter festivals include gift exchanging. It seems significant that the only mention of such a time in the Holy Word is in the Apocalyptic story of the two witnesses of God being killed, their deaths seeming to bring such joy to the ungodly that we read, “*And they that dwell upon the earth shall rejoice, and make merry, and shall send gifts one to another*” **Revelation 11:10**.

Isn't it strange that the actions of the ungodly, at the deaths of God's prophets, ARE IDENTICAL TO THE ACTIONS OF CHRISTMAS CELEBRANTS!? Not really, when you realise that the hidden promoters of Christmas rituals are ant-Christ.

HAM DINNER FOR CHRISTMAS

In spite of the very plain order in God's Law that we are not to eat swine (pig), “*And the swine, though he divide the hoof, and cloven-footed, yet he cheweth not the cud: he is unclean to you. Of their flesh shall ye not eat, and their carcase shall ye not touch; he is unclean to you*” **Leviticus 11:7-8**, most Christians eat it all the time, and especially make a great show of having their Christmas Ham on December 25th. They may not know that in Egyptian and Greek worship, the son of the *mother-god* was believed to have been killed by a wild boar which was then killed by the *mother-god* prior to the *resurrection* of her son. In commemoration of this act the worshippers killed and offered as a sacrifice a pig, which was then eaten by the *celebrants*!

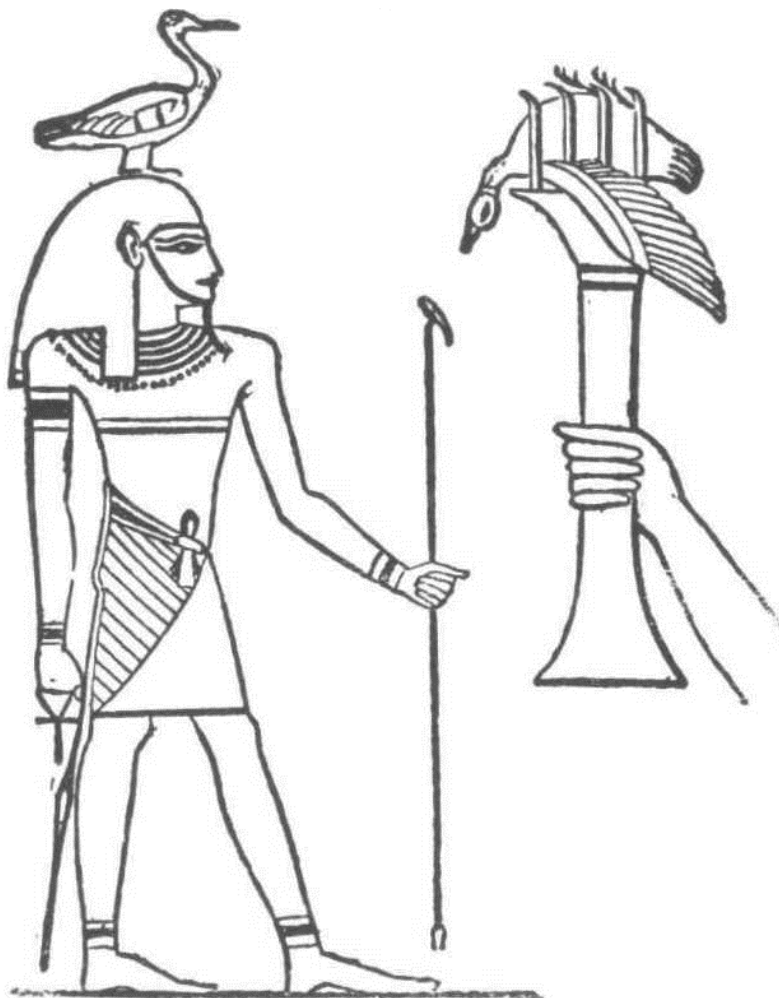


Diana, who was mentioned in Acts 19, was often portrayed with a dead boar or boar's head, and in the woodcut below, the Roman Emperor Trajan is shown burning incense to Diana while a boar's head hangs in a tree.

For over 3,000 years, it has been common among the pagans to kill and eat a pig at their winter festival at the return of the sun (late December). In Rome, it was called 'the feast of Saturn' and the boar was killed as a sacrifice to Saturn. The entire animal was cooked, often served with an apple or pomegranate in its mouth. The custom still prevails in England and parts of Europe. In America, almost every minister promotes the eating of swine's flesh by his congregation.

If you want Biblical AND medical reasons for not eating pig, read 'SWINES'S FLESH AS FOOD – SOME WRONG INTERPRETATIONS CORRECTED' by Pastor Emry.

THE CHRISTMAS GOOSE



The Egyptian god Seb, with his symbol, the goose;
and the Sacred Goose on a stand, as offered in sacrifice.

In Egypt, a favourite offering to Osiris was a goose, offered at any time, but when offered in the dead of winter, the goose was then eaten.

In Rome, Juvenal writes, “*that Osiris, if offended, could be pacified by a large goose and a thin cake*”. The thin cake has become the *wafer* used in the Roman Catholic sacraments. Historians record that one of the night attacks by the Gauls on Rome was defeated when the geese kept in the temple of Jupiter aroused the Roman soldiers with their cackling.

In India, they have the *Brahmany Goose*, sacred to Brahma. In Babylon, the goose was offered as a sacrifice by the priests of Baal. Wilkinson (Egyptians, Volume V, page 227), states that ancient hieroglyphics indicate the goose symbolised a son, giving itself up in sacrifice that the family might be preserved. (That this is from Baal worship where the firstborn son was sacrificed to Baal is probable see Halley’s Bible Handbook on “Religion of the Canaanites”).

It seems that sacrifices to false gods were usually of unclean species. The goose is unclean, being classified with the swan and the pelican in **Leviticus 11:18**, but then, so is everything else about Christmas!

CONCLUSIONS

There are many other things I could write about, but the story is almost too terrible to continue – how most of Christendom, even professing Christians, have been deceived by the forces of darkness into acting out the rituals of Baal worship which are an abomination to God.

Most astonishing is the almost universal rejection of these truths about the pagan origin of Christmas by the men in Church pulpits. Most ignore or ridicule such information as you have read in these last pages. Could the reason be that many are not followers of Jesus Christ, but instead are secret priests of the false messiah of Babylon and they only profess to be Christians so they can get into Church pulpits and lead God’s sheep into the “ways of Baal worship?”

Jesus warned that “*many shall come in My Name, saying I am Christ* (actually saying that Jesus is the Christ); *and shall deceive many*” **Matthew 24:5**. In **Matthew 7:15** Jesus said, “*Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep’s clothing* (they come professing to be Christians), *but inwardly are ravening wolves*”.

Paul voiced a similar warning: “*For I know this, that after my departing, shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock*” **Acts 20:29**

It is true, that if we will not hold fast to Bible Truth, we shall be deceived by men who claim to be Christians, yes, even ministers. May God grant that this little book on Christmas be used to enlighten and warn Christ’s sheep, in Jesus’ Name.

Pastor Sheldon Emry

ADDENDA

The need for Christians, old and young alike, who would be faithful in Christ, is to study the Bible, the Holy Word of God, and obey the True God of Israel. To that end, I shall reproduce here some very pertinent instructions from God. Read them, heed them and then turn and read more in God's Wonderful Book which He has so graciously given to the children of men, that we all might, IN TRUTH, worship Him.

"Let us hear the conclusions of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of men. For God shall bring every work into judgement, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil." **Ecclesiastes 12:13-14.**

"For we must all appear before the judgement seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad." **2 Corinthians 5:10**

"Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers; for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? And what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? Or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? For ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said. "I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God and they shall be my people." Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty." **2 Corinthians 6:14-18**

"Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of the God." **2 Corinthians 7:1**

"Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, and not after Christ. For in Him dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily." **Colossians 2:8-9**

"Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. I have written unto you because ye know not the truth, but because ye know it, and that no lie is of the truth." **1 John 2:15-15, 21**

"Look to yourselves, that we lose not those things which we have wrought, but that we receive a full reward. Whosoever transgresseth, and abideth not in the doctrine of Christ, hath not God. He that abideth in the doctrine of Christ, he hath both the Father and the Son. If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed: For he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds." **2 John 8-11**

“And we know that we are of God, and the whole world lieth in wickedness. And we know that the Son of God is come, and hath given us an understanding, that we may know him that is true, and we are in him that is true, even in His Son Jesus Christ. This is the true God and eternal life. Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen.” **1 John 5:19-21**

“And God spake all these words, saying, “I am the Lord thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

“Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

“Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is the heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth:

“Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me;

“And showing mercy unto thousands of them that love me and keep my commandments.”
Exodus 20:1-6

For a study on how other Baal doctrines have been insinuated into the Christian religion you should read “THE BABYLONIAN CONNECTION BETWEEN ANCIENT AND MODERN RELIGIONS” by Stephen E. Jones and “THOU SHALT SURELY DIE” by G. Marsh Hilbourne and Michael T. Wark.

THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS

HON. LOUISE DAY HICKSOF MASSACHUSETTS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*Tuesday, December 14, 1971*

Mrs. HICKS of Massachusetts, Mr. Speaker, the words of Alfred Tennyson suggest something of the beauty with which the advent of Christmas is clothed. As Christmas comes down to us today, it is a rich heritage of customs, traditions, folklore, and legend, drawn from every age and time, and from many lands and peoples. To unravel its mystery is a fascinating and inspiring experience – the story, in essence, of the deepest desires of the human heart, that universal longing for spiritual renewal and refreshment. The words are:

“The time draws near the birth of Christ.

The Moon is hid; the night is still;

The Christmas bells from hill to hill

Answer each other in the mist.”

The idea of celebrating on or about December 25 was born among ancient peoples long before the birth of Christ, peoples who were close students of astronomy and who knew that the last days of December were the time of the winter solstice, when the sun dwindled and the powers of darkness seemed to be gaining over the force of light. December 25 was the turning-point at which the sun began to reassert itself, and its power gave new promise of life and fruitful harvests. In Rome, it was the ‘dies natalis invicti solis’ – the birthday of the unconquered sun.

Inevitably, the Christian community found this venerable symbolism for heralding the coming of Christ, the ‘light of the world’, which has overcome the darkness of despair. So it was that gradually the light of Christ in men’s hearts and minds found its expression in the customs of the sun-feast, now transformed and hallowed by the faith and power of the Christian commonwealth.

In the same manner, other customs, originally of pagan origin, have been assimilated into our Christian

heritage – the decorative tree, the glowing candles, the stories of Santa Claus, stockings by the fireplace, greeting cards, yule logs – all are now associated with the birthday of Christ.

In our own day the keeping of Christmas has often been commercialized beyond recognition of its spiritual essence and identity. Yet, while allowing for the excess that exists in any institution or custom, the Christian commerce we so often deplore does, in fact, mean a livelihood for millions of people and often the difference between success and failure in business. Christmas is, when all is said and done, the birthday of Jesus who spent much of his life in honest commerce as a carpenter, sharing, we may presume, in the economic support of his family. Like the very parables he told, His life is an example of an earthly story with a heavenly meaning. So it is with Christmas. Whatever the excesses of its commercialization, it has probably stimulated more people to help the poor and to care for others than has any other holiday in the calendar. So long as Christmas serves to make children happy, the presence of Christ will hallow it.

It was one of Christianity’s wisest moves to maintain the older midwinter festival and to transform it in the spirit of Christ. The variety of ways in which Christmas is celebrated tells us that its appeal is universal. Even those outside the Christian faith are able to share in the spirit of Christmas in the generosity of giving, the exchange of greeting and song, the sense of life to be renewed. For Christians, the feast has a special and precious meaning, set forth in the old carol:

“God, rest ye merry gentlemen; let nothing
you dismay;

Remember Christ our Savior was born on
Christmas Day ...

O tiding of comfort and joy!”

May the spirit of Christmas enter our hearts and bring us all ‘even to Bethlehem’ to behold his birth and to heed the ancient song of ‘peace on earth, good will to men.’

The muddled thinking above is typical – that we can somehow ‘hallow’ pagan services by all joining in. Nonsense – man CANNOT ‘hallow’ that which God has condemned. But anyway, she put it in the Congressional Record the truth of the origin of our Christmas rituals.

BIRTH OF CHRIST WAS NOT CELEBRATED UNTIL 5TH CENTURY

TEMPE – The Christmas world did not commemorate the birth of Christ until the 5th Century, according to Dr. Arnold Tilden, professor of history at Arizona State University.

“Christians considered it to be a pagan practice to celebrate birthdays, unless they occurred on the days on which a person was born to eternal life – the day of martyrdom,” he observed. “Actually, it was the death-day which was celebrated, and most of the Saint’s days on the calendar mark the days on which they died.”

Over the years, Tilden has researched the history of Christmas customs, passing along his observations to students at this time of the year.

“Actually, Christmas is the youngest of the Church holidays, although it has outstripped all others in importance,” he commented.

The Western church was eminently practical, however. When it encountered pagan practices, it either stamped them out or adapted the festival rites to the Christian faith. In Germany, the church was successful in stamping out the eating of horse flesh because of its sacramental significance to pagans, while in Italy, it adopted the statues portraying Isis and the god-child Horus, merely renaming them Mary and Jesus. This same system of assimilation, the ASU historian explained, gave rise to Christmas as we know it.

Wherever the Christians went, they discovered that the latter half of December was the high season for festivals. It was the time of the winter solstice, when the days began to lengthen: the time when the Sun-God turned in his path and started back to his people: it was Saturnalia, a time for licentiousness, revelry, drunkenness and sensual pleasures.

The Romans marked the day by feasting friends: There was a general exchange of presents (mostly wax dolls and tapers). Roman shops at this time resembled our own stores during the Christmas season.

The Church was anxious to distract the attention of its new converts from these heathen feast days and assimilated them, clothing them in a new and Christian significance.

“The date of the actual introduction of Christmas is disputed,” Tilden states. “However in 354 AD, Latins may have transferred the human birth of Christ to Dec. 25. Certainly, by 400 A.D., Christmas, as a Christian festival, was established in the West and gained some ground in the East. Attempts by the church to wipe out the Manichean heresy in the first half of the fifth century may have hastened the official adoption of the date.”

The Manicheans, he explained, believed God would not demean Himself to become man, but only took the form of man. Therefore, the apparent life and death of Christ were mere delusions. The belief was directly antagonistic to accepted teachings, and in the hope of destroying the creed, the church instituted Christmas, celebrating the actual, human birth of Christ.

“So Christmas entered the official list of holy days, taking on the features of the various nations among whom it was introduced, and adopting certain pagan rites from the religions which it supplanted,” said Tilden.

The Romans gave it a Latin name “Dies Natalis” (birthday of God): the Italians “Natale”: the Spanish “Nadal”: and the French “Noel”. The Germans retained their old heathen designation of “Weihnachten,” while in Holland and England, it was referred to as “the Mass of Christ,” or as we say “Christ’s Mass” (Christmas).

Dear Mom and Dad

Glenn D. Waters

You say, there is a Santa Claus
That wears those big red suits,
With long, white beard, and tasselled cap,
And great, big, high topped boots.

He'll shake your hand, and lie so big,
And ask you what to bring:
A lie it is, I'll tell the truth;
He never brings a thing.

You say, he has a great, big, sleigh,
Eight tiny reindeer pull;
You say, with toys, and things for children
Old Santa has it full.

Shame on you parents, to tell such things,
You should not be a liar, (John 8:44, Rev. 22:15)
God's book says, you'll have your part
In a lake that burns with fire. (Rev. 21:8)

You always say, on Christmas Eve,
"Now he'll be here tonight.
"Just go to bed, and go to sleep,
"And things will be alright."

You go to church, and sing, and shout,
And also testify,
Then go home and tell your child
A great big Santa lie. (1 Cor. 6:9, 10)

Several days before Christmas comes,
You take us up the street,
You tell us Santa Claus is there,
And he always has a treat.

Shame on you, Mom. Shame on you, Dad.
You ought not do that way.
Because you'll have to face the Lord,
And give account some day!
(Eccl. 12:14, Heb. 9:27, 2 Cor. 5:10, Matt.
12:36, 37, Isa. 8:20)

So we go up, with Mom or Dad,
And look at old Saint Nick, (Rev. 2:6, 15)
His old false face and big red suit
Is enough to make you sick.

Read these two newspaper articles below. The rulers of world 'Communism' have NO OBJECTION to Santa Claus and other emblems and symbols of Baal worship. They are certainly antichrist, and would oppose anything Christian.

8G – The Arizona Republic Phoenix, Thurs. Dec. 1968

East Berlin gayer this Yule

Associated Press

BERLIN – A light and bustling air pervades Communist East Berlin this Christmas season compared to previous years.

There are more lights, more decorations and attempts at making the season visible; more traffic and more street activity than before, despite large-scale earth upheavals because of a building program in the city center.

Shops are well stocked and more buying power seems evident. Exclusive shops on Unter den Linden still offer goods priced beyond the normal consumer but people buy everything from Scotch and Havana cigars to traditional – and expensive – German Meissen china.

Toy lines are complicated, featuring imports from both the Soviet Union and West Germany. A battery-powered Red Army T54 tank, for tank of \$11.90. An ordinary shirt can cost about \$20.

Christmas decorations are spreading outward from downtown past the now traditional Christmas market area on Karl Marx Allee and onto the fronts of apartment buildings.

There are lighted trees near the wall shutting off West Berlin and one directly under the Brandenburg Gate.

The style of the East's Christmas is still far short of West Berlin's, but progress is considerable from an East Berliner's view.

As one woman put it, "We have to live here, not West Berlin, so we must adjust to what we have." Joy, clearly, lies not only in the giving and the receiving but in being able to go out and buy.

The Communist regime subordinates the religious aspect of Christmas but nonetheless it plays a large role in East Berliner's lives. Little shops sell hand-carved cribs, and these always go by Christmas Eve.

Christmas Eve is the traditional German time for celebrating Christmas. Services in the Protestant Marienkirsche, Berlin's oldest church, are packed. Midnight Mass, celebrated by Alfred Cardinal Bengsch, also draws a full house in St. Hedwig's Cathedral, although most Germans in the area of what once was Prussia are Protestant.

The Wall, of course, plays a big role of dampening spirits at this time of traditional family gatherings.

What the separation means to the Berliners is evident by the questions put by the West Berlin residents to foreigners who have access to East Berlin.

"Tell me," one woman asked, "what does it look like over there? Are the people better off? My last Christmas across the Wall was in 1965."

It now appears that this will be the third successive Christmas that the Communists have refused to grant West Berliners passes to visit their East Berlin relatives.

Soviet Santa Saluted

By HENRY SHAPIRO

MOSCOW (UPI) – There is no God, no Christmas, and no Santa Claus in this formally atheist country.

But a Martian dropping down from the skies the day before Christmas in Moscow would find little difference in the atmosphere between the Soviet and any western capital.

The public buildings, shops and central thoroughfares are decorated with Christmas trees – only they are called yolka (fir tree).

Santa Claus is there in all his glory – all wrapped up in red coat, fur cap, white bearded and high booted. But his name is Dod Moroz (Grandfather Frost), a popular non-Christian figure from Slavic mythology.

Grandfather Frost comes down from the Northpole riding a reindeer sled and is accompanied by his granddaughter Snegurochka (the Snow Maiden).

He carries a bag full of gifts not only for good little boys and girls but for adults as well.

To help him in his chores the department stores and specialised novelty shops carry

larger than usual stocks of goodies and people are encouraged to do their shopping early to avoid crowds.

The trouble is that all these preparations, although made on or about Christmas time, are not intended to observe Christmas which is non-existent here legally, but to usher in and celebrate the New Year, six days later.

There is a real religious Christmas too, but that is only for the Russian Orthodox believers and it comes on Jan. 7 which is the Dec. 25 of the Julian Calendar still observed by the Church.

But a few years before the war, a clever old Bolshevik, Alexander Postyshev, the leader of the Ukrainian Communist Party, who was later 'liquidated' by Stalin, persuaded the country to revive the old Russian mid-winter traditions of dressing up a Yolka and welcoming Dod Moroz.

The idea spread like wildfire and soon enough New Year's day became not only a legal holiday but the most joyful day of the year, marked by grand balls in the Kremlin, spending

the night on the town and exchanging of gifts.

Gala caviar and champagne dinner and served in all the hotels and restaurants, and pity the poor fellow who has not made his reservations by the middle of December.

There is endless party giving and part going and the universal exchange of gifts.

There is a real Christmas tree (yolka), and none of those puny synthetic trees of the west. In every house and institution many of the yolkas are put up before Dec. 25 so foreigners, accustomed to the western Christmas, get the illusion of actually celebrating it here.

The country is all decorated and ready to celebrate by Christmas time but except for the small western colony the big day comes on the eve of the new year.

Probably more money is spent, more food and liquor consumed during the Soviet equivalent of Yule than on any other holiday of the year, including May Day and the National Holiday of Nov. 7.

THE MORNING AFTER!

N.W.W.

'Twas the day after Christmas and all through the land
Millions were ailing on every hand.
With heads ever aching and bleary red eyes
From gorging themselves on plum puddings and pies
On top of their chicken, or ham, or goose;
To say nothing of wallowing in Christmas-gift booze.

They worship an image in church or at home –
An old pagan practice promoted by Rome.
'Twas a Jesuit priest, who, many years past,
Tied Christ in His crib and His corpse to the mast,
So Rome's flock would bow down – against God's command
To pay homage to images made by man's hand.

SOME FINAL THOUGHTS AND QUESTIONS

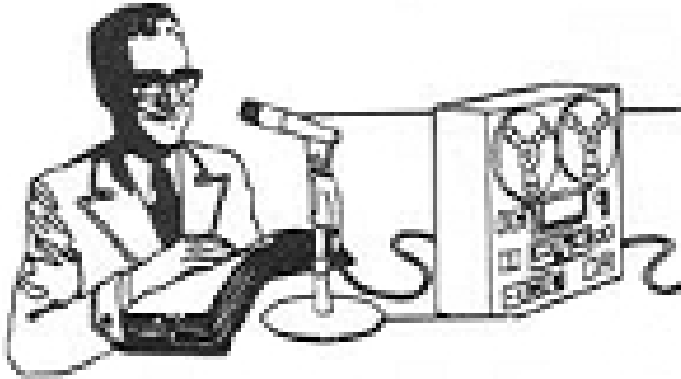
Perhaps some well-meaning parents may say: "But we only keep Christmas because it is so much fun for children, we're not REALLY worshipping Santa Claus and the tree, or those heathen gods!"

Let me pose some final questions for you to consider in your heart:

1. Have you considered that children understand things DIFFERENTLY than you might think they do?
2. Had you considered that your 'acting out' the rituals of pagan Baal will teach them to do so also? And thus began another generation of the same rituals?
3. Have you considered that the emotions generated by 'Christmas' rituals may well affect the ENTIRE LIFE of the children God has given you to teach and protect?

A few days before the publication of this booklet, while in a local store, I overheard a mother tell of her little boy catching her and her husband putting the gifts under the tree. She said, "He saw us, and began to cry, shouting, 'You lied to me, you lied to me,' and ran back to his room crying." She was laughing as she told it, for she thought his tears were only over 'losing Santa Claus.' What she may never realise was, HE JUST LOST HIS TRUST IN HIS FATHER AND MOTHER! That little boy will never forget that night. He will NEVER AGAIN trust his parents as he had before. God alone knows how much evil is wrought by 'Christmas.'

My Christian friend – leave this pagan ritual – you will be amazed and delighted at the serenity and rest that will come upon you as you pass by the tensions and false emotions of Christmas. And teach your children the truth. You will see the new respect they have for you, and for Christ. God will honor those who honor Him. God will prove in your children and grandchildren His promise, “Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.



You can hear Pastor Emry’s sermons on cassette tapes

The book you have just read had its origin in a series of twelve radio broadcasts by Pastor Sheldon Emry in December, 1972.

You may listen to the above mentioned tapes by going on
the internet to:

<http://www.sheldonemrylibrary.com>

Look for tape No. 7726a, 7726b, & 7226c



ANCIENT BABYLONIAN DRAWING OF NIMROD (BAAL) 2000BC

For more books, taped messages and videos
produced by Pastor Sheldon Emry,
go to the Sheldon Emry Memorial Library at:

<http://www.sheldonemrylibrary.com>