

THE CHRISTMAS MYTH

Every year the **Christmas Myth** is resurrected and people all over the world go along with it as if it was a fact to be celebrated. There are songs, stories, movies, clothing, pictures and more associated with the **Christmas myth**. A myth, by definition, is a "an idea or story that is believed by many people but that is not true." The proper meaning of Christmas is that time of the year when Christians celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, the promised Messiah who would come for the purpose of paying the penalty for our sin debt. Satan has always done everything in his power to try and prevent the coming of the Saviour, but he failed. He tried to defeat the Saviour by having Him crucified, but that failed also.

Jesus Christ is God, He is God the Son who left heaven's glory and came to earth as was foretold in Isaiah 7:14: *"Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel."* The word "Immanuel" means "God with us." Jesus is the name given to the Messiah at His birth. Mary, His human mother conceived Him of the Holy Ghost: *"Now the birth of Jesus Christ was on this wise: When as his mother Mary was espoused to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Ghost. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not willing to make her a publick example, was minded to put her away privily. But while he thought on these things, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a dream, saying, Joseph, thou son of David, fear not to take unto thee Mary thy wife: for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins."* {Matthew 1:18-21}

You see my friend, ALL of us are sinners. We were born that way because of the sin of Adam in the Garden of Eden and, as a result of that sin, ALL of us are under the divine sentence of a holy God. God hates sin, He cannot tolerate sin, He must condemn sin and therefore ALL of us were and are born under this condemnation.

"Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:" {Romans 5:12}. Because of the holiness of God, He must punish those who are sinners, but it is not God's desire that any of us die in our sin and that's why He sent His Son into this sin cursed world.

"This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief." {1 Timothy 1:15} Jesus had no sin of His own because He did not have a sin nature like you and I. He could not sin but what He did do was to take upon Himself the penalty for our sins as He bled and died on the Cross of Calvary. We owed a debt we could not pay, but He paid a debt He did not owe and it was all because of His great love for us. *"Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:"* {1 Peter 1:18-19} This same Jesus who died on the Cross of Calvary was bodily raised the third day and right now, at this very moment, He is in Heaven at the Father's right hand. Jesus Christ is alive forever more!

Satan hates this and he is still doing everything he can to turn people away from the Saviour; that is what he is doing with the **Christmas myth**. What is the **Christmas myth**? **THE CHRISTMAS MYTH IS SANTA CLAUS**, the *mythical being* that Satan has created, the *mythical being* that claims to have the same attributes as Jesus Christ. Santa Claus claims to be all powerful, all knowing, all seeing, everywhere at the same time, lives in a place where no mortal can go, can appear and disappear, etc. Satan in Santa Claus tries to steal from Jesus what is rightfully His but one day the Lord Jesus Christ will return and the **Christmas myth** will forever be done away with.

Christmas is **NOT** about a so-called Santa Claus; Christmas is about celebrating the birth of our Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. Do **YOU** know Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour? If not, you can if you will repent of your sin and trust Him as your personal Saviour. He loves you, He cares for you, He came and died for you, He wants to save you, but you **MUST** repent of your sin (to turn from your sin, to take God's side against it) and by faith alone in the shed blood of the Lord Jesus Christ, receive Him into your heart as your Saviour. " But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:" {power: or, the right, or, privilege} {John 1:12} " But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name." {John 20:31} *"And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life. These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of*

the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.” {1 John 5:11-13}

Knowing the Lord Jesus Christ as personal Saviour gives us a whole new appreciation of Christmas and, long after the Christmas holiday is gone and the gifts have been put away, we still have Christmas in our heart for we know the Christ of Christmas!

~Richard A. Ciarrocca©2013