

## **Christ Is Born: In Defense of Christmas**

**Pastor John Carmichael**

**[Luk 2:10-14 NASB95] 10 But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which will be for all the people; 11 for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. 12 "This [will be] a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." 13 And suddenly there appeared with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, 14 "Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace among men with whom He is pleased."**

- Yes, Christ was not born on December 25. It is possible He was born in the Spring. Jonathan Kahn and others say He was born on March 20, the first day of Spring. (It's my birthday, too!) However, we do not know when He was born.
- The Catholic church did arrange holidays to combat evil days. So, celebrating the birth of Christ during a pagan holiday was not joining it; instead, it was defying it. Celebrating the birth of Jesus defeated the pagan holiday!
- Here is a little history about the word Christmas. According to the Catholic Encyclopedia, Christmas originates from the phrase "Cristes Maesse," first recorded in 1038, which means the Mass of Christ or Christ's Mass. Mass is the English version of the Latin word missa, a celebration of the Eucharist, done in memory of Jesus Christ, where Christians eat bread and drink wine. The word Christ comes from the Greek word Khristos, translated from the Hebrew term messiah, which means anointed. Every time a person says, Christmas. They are saying Christ the Messiah has been born.
- My point of view is that we need to celebrate the birth of Jesus as the Messiah every day, including December 25. What troubles me is not that we celebrate the birth of Jesus on December 25 but that Christians fight Christmas.
- Satan and the culture of this world realize the power of Christmas more so than Christians. They won't say "Christmas" because it recognizes Christ as the Messiah. Yet, Christians fight against Christmas too. Maybe we should not shy away from Christmas but make it bigger.

### **Why should Christians celebrate Christmas?**

**Here are three reasons Christians should celebrate Christmas.**

#### **I. It reminds us that God keeps His promises.**

- a. The chance that Jesus fulfilled over 300 prophecies is one to  $10^{157}$  (157 zeros.)  
<https://empower.global/the-mathematical-probability-that-jesus-is-the-christ/>
- b. His promises are sure.
- c. His promises are timely.
- d. We should never give up on what He has promised us.

#### **II. It is a time of joy... or it should be.**

- a. Good news of great joy.
- b. How to have joy?
  - i. Remember that God loves you.
  - ii. Reject pressure. You are not responsible for the outcome, only obedience.
  - iii. Rest in His promise to provide for you.
  - iv. Reach out to others. Learn to focus on others and not just yourself with balance.
  - v. Receive the Holy Spirit. He will fill you with joy.

#### **III. It is an opportunity to share the Gospel.**

- a. This is good news for all people. Why good news? Gospel means good news.
- b. If Jesus had not come, we would have no way to attain heaven and avoid hell.
- c. This is the season to share the Gospel.

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- d. Make Jesus famous!
- **Christians should celebrate Christmas because it reminds us that God keeps His promises; it is a time of joy, and it is an opportunity to share the Gospel.**