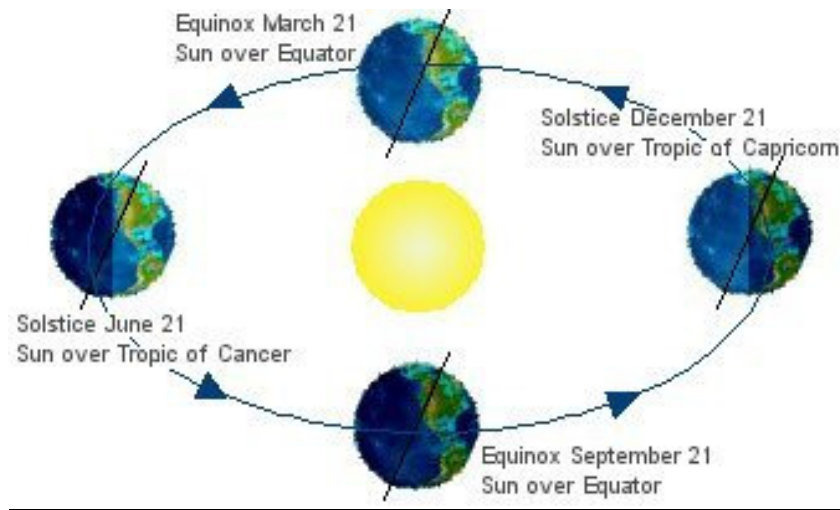


Celebration of Christ



Curtis Johnson & Graham F. Watts, Sr.

VISION: To hear the midnight cry, "The bridegroom comes, go out to meet Him" (Matthew 25:6) and become like Him when I see Him as He is (1 John 3:2).

MISSION: Purify myself even as Christ is pure (1 John 3:3) to be glad, to rejoice, give honor to Christ and be ready for the marriage of the Lamb (Revelation 19:7).

VALUES: Follow the Lamb wherever He goes (Revelation 14:4), be without fault before God (Revelation 14:5), be perfect even as my Father in heaven is perfect (Matthew 5:48), wear the Lamb's fine, clean and white linen (Revelation 19:8) do righteously (1 John 3:10) and walk humbly with God (Micah 6:8).

OVERALL AIM: Studies presented here unveil Bible knowledge to inquiring minds to prompt the following inquiries: "Are our feet on the rock of ages? Are we one with Christ as He is one with the Father" (John 10:30 in Evangelism, {Ev} 199.1)? Am I crucified with Christ (Galatians 2:20)?

28 **PURPOSE/REASON FOR/WHY**

29
30 The purpose of this study is to help Christian believers evaluate
31 their practices during the festive Christmas season.

32
33 **OBJECTIVE/WHAT WE WANT TO ACCOMPLISH**

34
35 To trace the historical roots of Christmas from its rise to
36 prominence in the fourth century, A.D..

37
38 **SIGNIFICANCE/SO WHAT**

39
40 Instruction that awakens the church promotes earnest self-examination
41 so that believer might seek “revival of true godliness..., [which is]
42 the greatest and most urgent of all our needs...” (Last Day Events,
43 LDE} 189.1).

44
45 **BACKGROUND CONTEXT**

46
47 “Christmas is coming is the note that [echoes] throughout our
48 world.... With youth, those of mature age and even the aged, it is a
49 period of general rejoicing, of great gladness (The Adventist Home,
50 {AH} 477.1). However, nowhere in the Gospels does December 25 appear
51 as relevant to the disciples of Jesus Christ! Not a word about
52 December 25 appears in Revelation, written about A.D. 95. No
53 historical evidence from the apostolic or early post apostolic times
54 exists to support celebration of Jesus’ birthday on any day
55 (<http://www.truthontheweb.org/xmasvol2.htm>). “Early Christians were
56 more interested in the resurrection than the birth of Jesus...”
57 (<http://www.drurywriting.com/keith/christmas.history.pagan.htm>).
58 These data provided the impetus for the study question.

59
60

61 **STUDY QUESTION**

62
63 What is Christmas that it should demand so much attention (The
64 Adventist Home, {AH} 477.1)?

65
66 **INTRODUCTION**

67
68 In every age, God has called a people to represent Him. He called
69 Abram from Ur, of Chaldea. Today, God calls His people "...Out of
70 [Babylon]... [to escape her] sins and ...[her] plagues" (Revelation
71 18:4). The call is clear: **"...Come out from among them; be... separate...,
72 touch not the unclean thing AND I will receive you and will be a
73 Father unto you and you shall be my sons and daughters..."** (2
74 Corinthians 6:17-18). It should be clear from this call that
75 membership in the heavenly family is conditional. "...You are not of
76 the world. ...I have chosen you out of the world..." (John 15:19).
77 "You are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a
78 peculiar people that you should show forth the praises of Him who
79 called you out of darkness into His marvelous light" (1 Peter 2:9).

80
81 The people whom God call have inalienable rights. The authors
82 espouse freedom in all its forms and hold the beliefs that "in
83 matters of conscience, the soul must be left untrammelled. No one is
84 to control another's mind, to judge for another, or to prescribe
85 [another's] duty. God gives to every soul freedom to think and to
86 follow his/[her] own convictions. [Because] every one of us shall
87 give account... to God, no one has a right to merge his [/her] own
88 individuality in that of another. In all matters where principle is
89 involved, let every [person] be fully persuaded in his own mind
90 (Romans 14:12, 5) [for] in Christ's kingdom, there is no lordly
91 oppression, no compulsion of manner" (see Revelation 3:20, The Desire
92 of Ages, {DA} 550.6).

93

94 The exchange of ideas is crucial to the rights, freedoms and well-
95 being of free people. Hence, we present ideas presented by Isaiah
96 and Joel. "Arise; shine, for... darkness... covers the earth and
97 gross darkness the people..." (Isaiah 60:1-2). "Cry aloud, spare
98 not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet and show my people their
99 transgression and the house of Jacob their sins" (Isaiah 58:1). "Blow
100 the trumpet in Zion and sound the alarm in my holy mountain, let all
101 the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the Lord... is
102 near at hand" (Joel 2:1). Against this background, we encourage
103 people to examine their practices and make an intelligent decision
104 about how to celebrate events such as Christmas, birthdays,
105 Thanksgiving, New Year's and cultural traditions. The key discussion
106 points are:

107

108

1. Jesus' Birth Month

109

2. The Origin of Christmas

110

3. Migration of Christmas Celebration to the West

111

4. Christmas is a Time to Honor God

112

5. Christmas Commemorates the Birth of the World's Redeemer

113

6. Christ Should be the Supreme Object of Christmas

114

7. Shall we have a Christmas Tree

115

8. Christmas and New Year celebrations Should Benefit the

116

Disadvantaged

117

118

1. **Jesus' Birth Month**: Zechariah, a priest of the course of Abia [a.k.a.

119

Abijah] (Luke 1:5), executed the office of priest in the order of

120

his course (Luke 1:8), by the schedule set up by King David (1

121

Chronicles 24:1-4, 10 & 19; 28:11-13). Zechariah's temple service

122

is crucial to identification of Jesus' birth hence we examine it.

123

124

A priestly tour of duty began on the Sabbath (2 Chronicles 23:8) and

125

lasted seven days (1 Chronicles 9:25). "The Jewish calendar begins in

126

the spring, during the month of Nisan, [when] the first course

127 [family] of priests, would be that of the family of Jehoiarib [1
128 Chronicles 24:7], who would serve for seven days. The second week
129 would then be the responsibility of the family of Jedaiah [1
130 Chronicles 24:7]. The third week would be the feast of Unleavened
131 Bread, and all priests would be present for service [Deuteronomy
132 16:13, 15-16, 2 Chronicles 8:13, Exodus 23:15]. Then the schedule
133 would resume with the third course of priests, the family of Harim [1
134 Chronicles 24:8]. By this plan, when the 24th course was completed,
135 the cycle of courses would repeat. This schedule would cover 51 weeks
136 or 357 days, enough for the lunar Jewish calendar (about 354 days).
137 So, in a period of a year, each group of priests would serve in the
138 Temple twice on their scheduled course, in addition to the three
139 major festivals, for a total of about five weeks of duty
140 (<http://www.aloha.net/~mikesch/sukkoth.htm>).

141
142 According to Luke, Zechariah departed to his house as soon as the
143 days of his ministration were accomplished (Luke 1:23). "Beginning
144 with the first month, Nisan, in the spring (March-April), the
145 schedule of the priest's courses would result with Zacharias serving
146 during the 10th week of the year, because he was ...of the course of
147 Abia, the 8th course. ...Both the Feast of Unleavened Bread (in the
148 month of Nisan) and Pentecost (in the month of Sivan) would have
149 occurred before his scheduled duty. This places Zacharias'
150 administration in the Temple as beginning on the **second Sabbath of**
151 **the third month, Sivan** (May-June). Zacharias completed his Temple
152 service on the third Sabbath of **Sivan**
153 (<http://www.aloha.net/~mikesch/sukkoth.htm>). And after those days,
154 he returned home and Elizabeth conceived (Luke 1:24).

155
156 **"John the Baptist was probably conceived shortly after the third**
157 **Sabbath of the month of Sivan"**
158 (<http://www.aloha.net/~mikesch/sukkoth.htm>). "Since Jesus was
159 conceived six months after John the Baptist [Luke 1:26-36 and] ...six

160 months farther down the Jewish calendar [places Jesus conception in
 161 the month of Kislev, which corresponds to our November-December
 162 period]. [Therefore, if we assume that Jesus was not born
 163 prematurely, before 10 months, His birth tracks to the 7th Jewish
 164 month, Tishri, which corresponds to our September-October]”
 165 (<http://www.aloha.net/~mikesch/sukkoth.htm>). A calendar follows!

166

Jewish month	Begins the New moon of	John the Baptist	Jesus
1. Abib / Nisan	March-April	Birth of John 15 Nisan	4
2. Zif / Iyyar	April-May		5
3. Sivan	May-June	Conception of John after 3rd Sabbath	6
4. Tammuz	June-July	1	7
5. Ab / Av	July-August	2	8
6. Elul	August-September	3	9
7. Ethanim / Tishri	September-October	4	Birth of Jesus 15 Tishri
8. Bul / Marheshvan / Heshvan	October-November	5	
9. Chisleu / Chislev / Kislev	November- December	6	Conception of Jesus 25 Kislev ?
10. Tebeth / Tevet	December-January	7	1
11. Shebat / Shevat	January-February	8	2
12. Adar	February-March	9	3

167

168
169 2. **The origin of Christmas:** "Christmas [abbreviation for] 'Mass of Christ,'
170 came to non-Christians and Protestants from the Roman Catholic
171 Church. And where did they get it? ...**It gravitated into the fourth**
172 **century Roman Church from paganism"**
173 (<http://www.wakeupfromyourslumber.com/node/4921>). Let us trace the
174 emergence of Christmas.

175
176 **Edict of Milan, in 313 A.D-The Outreach Technique of Accommodation:**
177 Examine the Edict of Milan co-authored by two Emperors in 313 A.D.
178 "When I, Constantine Augustus-[ruler of the Western Roman Empire-
179 and] Licinius Augustus-ruler of the Eastern Roman Empire--was
180 considering everything that pertained to public welfare and
181 security, we thought... [that it] would be for the good of many
182 [regarding] ...reverence of the Divinity... that **we ..grant to the**
183 **Christians and others full authority to observe that religion which**
184 **each preferred;** whence any Divinity whatsoever in the seat of the
185 heavens may be propitious [i.e., favorable] and kindly disposed to
186 us and all who are placed under our rule. ...We have also conceded
187 to other religions the right of open and free observance of their
188 worship for the sake of peace of our times..."
189 (<http://www.fordham.edu/halsall/source/edict-milan.html>;
190 <http://www.jstor.org/pss/25011854>).

191
192 **Unprecedented Growth of Christianity in the Roman Empire:** "At the
193 time of the Edict of Milan (A.D. 313), probably about a tenth of
194 the Roman Empire had converted to Christianity. But that had taken
195 nearly three hundred years. In less than a hundred years **after the**
196 **Edict of Milan, nearly all of the other 90% had been 'converted.'**
197 The church believed that this rapid growth was a sure sign of God's
198 approval [and] having accepted this premise the church quickly
199 adopted virtually any practice that resulted in growth"
200 (<http://www.bibletexts.com/terms/313ad.htm>).

201
 202 **Fourth Century Amalgamation of Christian & Non-Christian Practices:**
 203 “In northern latitudes, midwinter... has been an important time for
 204 celebration... On this shortest day of the year, the sun is at its
 205 lowest and weakest, a pivot point from which the light will grow
 206 stronger and brighter [to mark] ...the turning point of the year, [a
 207 return of light and cheerfulness]”
 208 (<http://www.shambhala.org/arts/fest/unconquered.html>). “Winter
 209 solstice, [which] usually falls on December 21, has been celebrated
 210 by human communities throughout the world for millennia. Many of
 211 the oldest civilizations [that] evolved between the Indus and Ganji
 212 rivers to the east and Tigris and Euphrates Rivers to the west
 213 celebrated Winter Solstice. The Persians, for example, called it
 214 Yalda... (<http://www.payvand.com/news/08/dec/1219.html>) that traces
 215 to “Mithraism, [a] pagan religion ...of the ancient Indo-Iranian Sun-
 216 god Mithra” ([http://www.cogwriter.com/news/church-history/catholic-
 217 scholars-on-christmas/](http://www.cogwriter.com/news/church-history/catholic-scholars-on-christmas/)).
 218
 219 **“Mithraism [rivalled and] resembled Christianity in its monotheistic**
 220 **tendencies, its sacraments, its comparatively high morality, its**
 221 **doctrine of an Intercessor and Redeemer and its vivid belief in a**
 222 **future life and judgment to come. SUNDAY WAS ITS HOLY-DAY**
 223 **DEDICATED TO THE SUN”** ([http://www.worldspirituality.org/december-
 224 25.html](http://www.worldspirituality.org/december-25.html)) and “December 25... [was] the day of celebration of the
 225 birthday of the sun-god Mithra
 226 ([http://www.cogwriter.com/news/church-history/catholic-scholars-on-
 227 christmas/](http://www.cogwriter.com/news/church-history/catholic-scholars-on-christmas/)), “the Iranian god of light, ...the invincible sun...”
 228 (<http://www.truthontheweb.org/xmasvol2.htm>). Therefore, adoption of
 229 December 25 “...was acceptable to... [Romans and] followers of Mithra
 230 ...[who comprised] an influential group in [4th century Rome]”
 231 ([http://www.cogwriter.com/news/church-history/catholic-scholars-on-
 232 christmas/](http://www.cogwriter.com/news/church-history/catholic-scholars-on-christmas/)).
 233

234 [Pagans in different contexts observed] December 25—the *Natalis*
235 *Invicti*—solar feast, [commemorating] the rebirth of the sun,
236 unconquered by the rigors of the [winter] season” (The Catholic
237 Encyclopedia, Volume X in [http://www.cogwriter.com/news/church-](http://www.cogwriter.com/news/church-history/catholic-scholars-on-christmas/)
238 [history/catholic-scholars-on-christmas/](http://www.cogwriter.com/news/church-history/catholic-scholars-on-christmas/)). Examples of cultural
239 celebrations on December 25 follow.

- 240
- 241 a. The pagans of northern Europe celebrated their own winter
242 solstice: [The Unconquered Sun], known as Yule, [which
243 symbolized] the [birth of the] pagan Sun God, Mithras
244 (http://www.essortment.com/all/christmaspagan_rece.htm).
- 245
- 246 b. “[The] ancient Babylonians [celebrated] the feast of the Son
247 of Isis—[the] Goddess of Nature... on December 25, [which
248 included] raucous partying, gluttonous eating and drinking and
249 gift giving....”
250 (<http://www.remnantofgod.org/xmas.htm#ordinance>).
- 251
- 252 c. The Romans celebrated the shortest day of the year calling
253 “...it *Dies Natalis Invicti Solis*, the Birthday of the
254 Unconquered Sun”
255 (<http://www.shambhala.org/arts/fest/unconquered.html>), ...which
256 culminated their Saturnalia—a week long period of lawlessness
257 celebrated between December 17th - 25th—honoring Saturn, the
258 God of Agriculture”
259 (http://www.essortment.com/all/christmaspagan_rece.htm;
260 [http://www.indyarocks.com/blogs/blog_visiterview_main.php?id=3](http://www.indyarocks.com/blogs/blog_visiterview_main.php?id=32970#blog32970)
261 [2970#blog32970](http://www.indyarocks.com/blogs/blog_visiterview_main.php?id=32970#blog32970)) and Sol Invicta [the Sun God]
262 (<http://www.payvand.com/news/08/dec/1219.html>).
- 263

264 **Adoption of December 25:** In 350 [A.D.], Pope Julius I-(Bishop of
265 Rome, A.D. 337-352)-declared that Christ's birth would be
266 celebrated on December 25"
267 (http://www.essortment.com/all/christmaspagan_rece.htm). "In
268 354 A.D., Bishop Liberius of Rome ordered the people to
269 celebrate on December 25. **...The people of Rome already observed**
270 **[December 25] as the Feast of Saturn,** celebrating the birthday
271 of the sun" (World Book Encyclopedia, Volume 3. Field
272 Enterprises Educational Corporation, Chicago, 1966, pp. 408-417
273 in [http://www.cogwriter.com/news/church-history/catholic-](http://www.cogwriter.com/news/church-history/catholic-scholars-on-christmas/)
274 [scholars-on-christmas/](http://www.cogwriter.com/news/church-history/catholic-scholars-on-christmas/)). Rome leaves no doubt about their
275 choice of December 25 as Christ's birthday. "The well-known
276 solar feast of Natalis Invicti-the Nativity of the Unconquered
277 Sun-celebrated on December25, has a strong claim on the
278 responsibility for our December [25] date" (Catholic
279 Encyclopedia, vol.3, p.727, article, Christmas in
280 <http://www.truthontheweb.org/xmasvol2.htm>). "The New Catholic
281 Encyclopedia says, 'The birth of Christ was assigned the date of
282 the Winter solstice-December 25 in the Julian calendar and
283 January 6 in the Egyptian [calendar]-because on this day as the
284 sun began its return to the northern skies, pagan devotees of
285 Mithra celebrated the Dies Natalis Solis Invicti"
286 (<http://www.truthontheweb.org/xmasvol2.htm>). Clearly,
287 "December 25 is the birth of the Sun god, [Mithra]. [It has]
288 ...nothing to do with ...Jesus [Christ]...
289 (<http://www.wakeupfromyourslumber.com/node/4921>) and is a day
290 that "...coincided with Winter Solstice, the Yule and the
291 Saturnalia"
292 (<http://www.shambhala.org/arts/fest/unconquered.html>).

- 293
- 294 3. **Migration of Christmas Celebration to the West:** [The religion of Mithraism]
- 295 entered Europe from Asia Minor after Alexander's conquest spread
- 296 over the Roman Empire" ([http://www.cogwriter.com/news/church-](http://www.cogwriter.com/news/church-history/catholic-scholars-on-christmas/)
- 297 [history/catholic-scholars-on-christmas/](http://www.cogwriter.com/news/church-history/catholic-scholars-on-christmas/)). "By 1100 [A.D.],
- 298 Christmas was the peak celebration of the year for all of Europe"
- 299 (<http://www.shambhala.org/arts/fest/unconquered.html>). However,
- 300 "In the early 17th century, a wave of religious reform changed the
- 301 way Christmas was celebrated in Europe. When Oliver Cromwell and
- 302 his Puritan forces took over England in 1645, they... cancelled
- 303 Christmas. The pilgrims, English separatists, who came to America
- 304 25 years earlier, in 1620, were even more orthodox in their Puritan
- 305 beliefs than Cromwell. As a result, Christmas was not a holiday in
- 306 early America. From 1659 to 1681, the celebration of Christmas was
- 307 actually outlawed in Boston..., [but] in the Jamestown settlement,
- 308 Captain John Smith reported that Christmas was enjoyed by all and
- 309 passed without incident. Christmas became a federal holiday on
- 310 June 26, 1870. It wasn't until the 19th century that Americans
- 311 began to embrace Christmas [and] re-invented [it] ...from a raucous
- 312 carnival holiday into a family-centered day of peace and nostalgia"
- 313 (http://www.thehistoryofchristmas.com/ch/in_america.htm).
- 314
- 315 4. **Christmas is a Time to Honor God:** [Much of the non-Christian world
- 316 observes the Christmas] holidays in ...extravagance, gluttony and
- 317 display. Thousands of dollars will be worse than thrown away upon
- 318 the coming Christmas and New Year's in needless indulgences.
- 319 However, **it is our privilege to depart from the customs and**
- 320 **practices of this degenerate age;** and instead of expending means
- 321 merely for the gratification of the appetite or for needless
- 322 ornaments or articles of clothing, we may **make the coming holidays**
- 323 **an occasion in which to honor and glorify God** {AH 480.3}.
- 324

325 5. **Christmas Commemorates the World's Redeemer:** We should remember that a
 326 heavenly host sang at the birth of Jesus (Luke 2:11-15). Wise men
 327 from the east came to Jerusalem to worship Christ (Matthew 2:1-2).
 328 Angels of God, in the appearance of a star, conducted the Wise Men
 329 on their mission in search of Jesus (Matthew 2:9-10). They came
 330 with gifts and costly offerings of frankincense and myrrh, to pay
 331 their oblation to the infant King foretold in prophecy (Matthew
 332 2:11 in Reflecting Christ {RC} 373.2). [On this Christmas day],
 333 "Did you offer your gifts to Jesus"? **"Gifts are now bestowed upon**
 334 **friends instead of Him who has made so great a sacrifice for us.**
 335 **All the gifts should flow in another channel ... [for] the**
 336 **salvation of men** (UL 374.2). **Every soul is under the most solemn**
 337 **obligation ...to God that Jesus, the world's Redeemer, pledged**
 338 **Himself to accomplish the full salvation of every son and daughter**
 339 **of Adam. ...The sacrifice was ...wholly consistent with the justice and**
 340 **honor of God's holy law: the Innocent suffered for the guilty and**
 341 **this should call forth gratitude..."** (This Day With God, {TDG}
 342 368.1).

343
 344 6. **Christ Should be the Supreme Object of Christmas:** As Christmas has been
 345 observed, the glory is turned from [Christ] to mortal man, whose
 346 sinful, defective character made it necessary for Him to come to
 347 our world {AH 480.4}. We live in a world in which "there are
 348 those... whose teeth are swords and whose jaws are set with knives to
 349 devour the poor from the earth..." (Proverbs 30:11-14)]. **"Little**
 350 **presents for the children may not be amiss, but the Lord's people**
 351 **should not spend His money in buying costly presents"** (The Upward
 352 Look, {UL} 367.2). **"It is right to bestow upon one another tokens**
 353 **of love and remembrance if we do not in this forget God..."** (The
 354 Publishing Ministry, {PM} 345.4).

- 355
- 356 7. **Shall We Have a Christmas Tree?** “There is no particular sin in selecting
 357 a fragrant evergreen and placing it in our churches, but the sin
 358 lies in the motive which prompts to action [than] the use which is
 359 made of the gifts placed upon the tree” {AH 482.1}. “Let your
 360 donations be sanctified by prayer” {AH 482.2}.
- 361
- 362 8. **Christmas and New Year celebrations should Benefit the Disadvantaged.** “God is
 363 glorified when we give to help those who have large families to
 364 support” {AH 482.3}. Our birthday anniversaries, Christmas and
 365 Thanksgiving festivals are too often devoted to selfish
 366 gratification, when the mind should be directed to the mercy and
 367 loving-kindness of God. God is displeased that His goodness, His
 368 constant care [and] His unceasing love are not brought to mind on
 369 these anniversary occasions (Counsels on Stewardship, {CS} 295.2).
 370 Instead of bestowing gifts and offerings in such abundance...
 371 reverence, honor and [give] gratitude... to God and gifts and
 372 offerings should ...flow in the divine channel” (CS 296.3), to
 373 bless and save other.

374

375 **CONCLUSIONS: WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?**

376

377 December 25 is the birthday of Mithra, the Sun God, a day celebrated
 378 to herald the return of the unconquered sun. If you choose to
 379 celebrate Christmas based on the American re-invention of Christmas
 380 from its pagan roots in 4th century to its family centered focus of
 381 the 19th century, and you celebrate knowing that Christ was not born
 382 on December 25, then you are making an informed choice. If you are
 383 appreciative of Christ’s human sacrifice for your sins and your
 384 December 25 celebration provides another opportunity in a life
 385 characterized by giving glory to God, then your values, motives and
 386 practices are in alignment. Alternatively, if you use the Bible to
 387 criticize specific Roman festivals like Sunday holiness and

Last Updated: 1 January 2009,

388 simultaneously embrace other festivals like Christmas, then hypocrisy
389 lies at your door.

390
391 The authors of this study are in the camp of those who use every
392 occasion, including December 25, to relieve suffering and bless the
393 disadvantaged. We believe that "the Lord's work, [which includes the
394 work outlined in Isaiah 58:5-7], is to be carried forward by the
395 living members of Christ's body and... **each one is to be educated to**
396 **act a part in the conversion of souls. [We] ..enlisted in the army**
397 **of the Lord, not for ease, not [for] amusement but to endure**
398 **hardships as a faithful soldier of the cross of Christ"** (TDG 368.2).

399 To all revival and reform-thinking people, we issue our call to
400 action

401
402 **CALL TO ACTION: WHAT SHALL WE DO?**

403
404 Shun selfish ease and give of your time, talents and treasures for
405 relieving suffering and saving souls.

406 A Comparison of Santa Claus & Jesus Christ

Santa Claus	Jesus Christ
1. Has white hair like wool	1. Revelation 1:14 - Daniel 7:9
2. Beard-curlly and white	2. Isaiah 50:6 - Rev. 1:14
3. Comes from North Pole	3. Ez. 1:4; Ex.26:35 Psa.48:2
4. Omniscient-knows about all	4. Revelation 19:6
5. Ageless, eternal	5. Rev. 1:8,21:6; Hebrews 13:8
6. Makes List of Judgments	6. Rev.20:12; 14:7; 21:27; 2 Cor.5:10
7. Checks list twice	7. Dan. 8:14; Matt. 10:26, 1 Cor.5:10
8. Gifts given on basis of a list	8. Matt.25:21; Rev. 21:27; 22:14
9. Christmas rewards once yearly	9. Leviticus 23:26-32
10. Confess wrongs to Santa	10. I John 2:1, I Tim. 2:5
11. Promise to be better next year	11. John 14:15,21; 15:10; I Jn. 2:3
12. Asks children to obey parents	12. Eph. 6:1; Prov. 6:20; Col. 3:20
13. Hour of his coming a mystery	13. Luke 12:40; Mark 13:33; Matt.24:36
14. Rudolph's shining nose to guide	14. Matt. 2:2,7,9-10; Numbers 24:17
15. Calls all children to his knee	15. Matt. 19:14, Luke 18:16
16. Be good for goodness sake	16. Matt. 19:17; Col 1:29; Phil. 2:13
17. Has a twinkle in his eye	17. Rev. 1:14, 2:18
18. Swift visit to whole world in 1 day.	18. 2 Peter 3:8; Rev. 18:8, Isa. 47:9
19. Omnipresent-Found in every mall	19. Psa. 139:7-10; Eph. 4:6
20. Says "Ho,ho"	20. Zechariah 2:6

407 Available at <http://www.remnantofgod.org/xmas.htm#ordinance>, retrieved January 2, 2009