

Should a Christian Celebrate
Christmas?

The Case for Christmas

- The events surrounding Jesus' birth have great spiritual significance and were the occasion of much praise to God, joy and gift-giving

Luke 2:9–14 (NKJV)

And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. **10** Then the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. **11** For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. **12** And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger.” **13** And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: **14** “Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!”

Luke 2:15–20 (NKJV)

So it was, when the angels had gone away from them into heaven, that the shepherds said to one another, “Let us now go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us.” **16** And they came with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger. ... **20** Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told them.

Matthew 2:9–11 (NKJV)

When they heard the king, they departed; and behold, the star which they had seen in the East went before them, till it came and stood over where the young Child was. **10** When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy. **11** And when they had come into the house, they saw the young Child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

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- “Even if Christmas is not celebrated religiously, it is a positive cultural influence and its non-religious traditions are worth celebrating”
- Many faithful Christians celebrate Christmas individually, either religiously or non-religiously

The Case Against Christmas

- The Bible nowhere instructs Christians to celebrate Christmas

Deuteronomy 4:2 (NKJV)

You shall not add to the word which I command you, nor take from it, that you may keep the commandments of the LORD your God which I command you.

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Jeremiah 10:2–5 (NKJV)

Thus says the LORD: “Do not learn the way of the Gentiles; Do not be dismayed at the signs of heaven, For the Gentiles are dismayed at them. **3** For the customs of the peoples are futile; For one cuts a tree from the forest, The work of the hands of the workman, with the ax. **4** They decorate it with silver and gold; They fasten it with nails and hammers So that it will not topple. **5** They are upright, like a palm tree, And they cannot speak; They must be carried, Because they cannot go by themselves. Do not be afraid of them, For they cannot do evil, Nor can they do any good.”

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- Many Christmas traditions have no connection with true religion

Day of the Week	Origin
Sunday	Sun day
Monday	Moon day
Tuesday	Tyr's day
Wednesday	Woden's day
Thursday	Thor's day
Friday	Frigg's day
Saturday	Saturn day

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- We are commanded to celebrate Christ's death and resurrection, rather than His birth

1 Corinthians 11:23–26 (NKJV)

For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the same night in which He was betrayed took bread; **24** and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, “Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me.” **25** In the same manner He also took the cup after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.” **26** For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death till He comes.

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Romans 14:1–6 (NKJV)

Receive one who is weak in the faith, but not to disputes over doubtful things. **2** For one believes he may eat all things, but he who is weak eats only vegetables. **3** Let not him who eats despise him who does not eat, and let not him who does not eat judge him who eats; for God has received him. ... **5** One person esteems one day above another; another esteems every day alike. Let each be fully convinced in his own mind. **6** He who observes the day, observes it to the Lord; and he who does not observe the day, to the Lord he does not observe it. He who eats, eats to the Lord, for he gives God thanks; and he who does not eat, to the Lord he does not eat, and gives God thanks.

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