

Pastor Laurence

Sermon No17

My Personal Christmas



He Gave His Only Begotten Son

By Pastor Laurence

www.PastorLaurence.com

The Title for this Sermon Is **My Personal Christmas**
Bible Reading

Proverbs Ch23v7

For as he thinks in his heart so is he.

Eat and Drink! He says to you.

But his heart is not with you

Begin with Prayer

Now I know Brothers and sisters you may be thinking, Pastor what sort of a Bible verse it that to recite a Christmas Message?

Well it's like this B&S, Christmas can be a very controversial time. It's like changing the water into wine. There is no argument there, the Bible distinctly says that He changed water into wine, and there is no doubt that at that particular party in Canaan He would have drank it along with all of the guests. But the doubt remains, was it Alcoholic Wine? Was it fermented ? Or was it Grape Juice?

The fruit of the vine, there is only one letter that changes it, the first letter **V**=Vine **W**=Wine.

He certainly partook the fruit of the Vine.

And He certainly didn't change it into Whisky, or Rum or Vodka or Gin. But He did change it into Wine.

Now Christmas is a time where we celebrated the birth of our Lord and our Saviour Jesus Christ.

It is celebrated all over the world by millions of people including Christians.

It is a big major event.

The Holy Days that are mentioned in the scriptures are not acknowledged or celebrated to the same level or to the same extent as Christmas or Easter.

You ask many Christians what are the Holy days that we are supposed to acknowledge and recognise and celebrate. And you will find that many of them will tell you **I DON'T KNOW.**

But you ask them about Christmas or Easter and they will tell you all about Christmas they will tell you all about Easter, that one represents His birth and the other represents His death.

Now not every Christian believes in Christmas.

The truth is B&S Christmas has got nothing to do with Reindeers, trees, or a man in a Red suit called Santa Claus. Many will try to tell you it's a Pagan celebration. Now there is always reasons for certain people not to celebrate Christmas. For instance was Jesus born on the 25th December? The true answer to that question is no He wasn't born in December at all on any date. It is more likely He was born on September. And that is confirmed by the fact that shepherds were minding their sheep in Luke Ch2v8 and they only did that there from April to October because of the weather conditions. ANYWAY

You take the word Pagan. The Roman Empire, they had a feast to a false god called Mithras.

MITHRAS=Mithras the sun god. The Planet Sun.

Now many of us, we can use that word Pagan, but what does it mean?

What is a Pagan? A Pagan is a person without any religion. They are not Christian, they are not Jew, they are not a Muslim, they are not Hindu.

They may worship idols, false god's, god's of nothing like Mithras the sun god. B&S there is no sun god. When the holy fathers back away years ago designated the 25th of December to acknowledge His birth, they got it right. B&S There isn't a sun god. The Roman Empire they tried to tie into that.

And there are people there they want to tie into those trees in Jeremiah 10v2-4. Well if they want to tie into that, well then that is up to you as well.

But Christmas has got nothing to do with trees or decorations, or trinkets. Some people will split the word Christmas into two syllables Christ-mas.. WHY? Well as I said, the Romans they adopted to worshiped the sun god Mithras to make it more appropriate to the **Son Of God**.

The Old Holy Fathers, Christian Pioneers back then seen this, they caught on to this **B&S** there is no connection what so ever to the sun=SUN and the Son=SON Other than the fact that the Son created the sun, that is the only connection.

Now what is my personal Christmas?

Well as a man thinks in his heart so is he.

Well what do I think? Well I think that Christmas is so BIG an event that it was born even before the creation before God said ***Let there be*** and called in the Earth and the planets.

It is celebrated more than all of the Christian Holy Days which are The Passover, The Feast of Unleavened Bread, Pentecost, Feast of Trumpets, Feast of Tabernacles. But if you got to be honest with yourself B&S You don't celebrate any of those days. Some of you don't even know what they mean, but you do know all about Christmas. Now before creation was called into being, doesn't it make sense that **The Holy Spirit** would know all about this massive worldwide event that would be held on 25th December every year, of course He did, of course The Holy Spirit knew that.

Did He know about great evangelists, great Missionaries great Hymn Writers and Carol singers all down through the centuries who loved Christmas and they would write their songs about **Hark the herald angels sing, Silent Night, Once in royal David's City, O Holy Night.** Need I go on? Great men, great women who Christmas brought a time of joy into their lives. Now what about me, what about me personally, do I have a responsibility to honour my **GOD?** I do, of course I do. Am I offending my Lord by celebrating Christmas? As a man thinks in his heart If Christmas **B&S** is an offence to you, or if it makes you feel guilty, giving you a conscience of being Pagan, a Pagan celebration, then listen, don't you celebrate it. But as for me and my household we love Christmas. Amen

God called me and you, and millions more like you when you didn't know anything about Him.

And you celebrated Christmas then, being brought up with your Mums and your Dads.

Now He granted you salvation knowing, knowing that you would love Christmas and knowing that you would celebrate it along with millions.

If it wasn't for Christmas **B&S** millions of Old People in Hospitals, Orphanages, The Poor in foreign lands wouldn't receive the gifts that they do receive.

People putting special shoe boxes, parcels together, Van's being filled to the brim to send out to the like of India, the Philippines, Poor countries like Africa, all because of Christmas. Christmas brings Joy,

Christmas in the mind of a true Christian has got nothing to do with a sun god Mithras, but it has everything to do with the **Son of God Jesus Christ**

His first promise that He would come is found away back in Genesis Ch3v15. *And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and Her seed, it shall bruise thy head and thou shall bruise His heel.* That was the first promise **B&S** of a Redeemer for fallen man. What was the gift that He was bringing ? The gift of Salvation.

And He shall save His people from their sins.

The promise continued right through until 600 years before His birth. In the book of Isaiah Ch7v14 when Isaiah told the people that the Lord Himself would give them a sign. *Therefore the Lord Himself shall give you a sign, Behold a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call His name Immanuel.* WOW

Immanuel means **God With Us**

600 Years before His birth Isaiah made that Prophecy. **What a prediction.**

But Isaiah didn't stop there, he added to his prediction, he added to his prophecy just two chapters later in 9v6-7 When he said.

*For unto us a child is born, unto us a **Son** is given.*

Not a daughter, Jesus Christ was not female.

The Son of God. And the government shall be on His shoulders, and His name shall be called.

Wonderful, Councillor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

And what does it say in Luke Ch2v13-14.

And Suddenly, there is a suddenly kicking in.

And suddenly there was with the Angels a multitude of the Heavenly host praising God and saying. Glory to God in the highest, and on Earth, Peace and good will towards man.

Yes my Brothers, my Sisters, here in the book of Luke Ch2v11 we read of His Birth. Isaiah's prophecy came to pass. *For unto you is born this day in the City of David a Saviour, which is **Christ the Lord*** Amen

My own personal Christmas? Well I join in with all of the millions of other Christians who celebrate His birth on the 25th of December.

And I can truly say with a pure clean heart of love.

And Respect and Worship **Happy Birthday Jesus AMEN**