

Pastor's Note 12⁰⁸

In the interest of obeying the Word of God and practicing a real Biblical faith in the Holy Scriptures I encouraged everyone who was in church on December 7, 2008 to do the following:

- Starting next year (2009) begin giving gifts to whomever the Lord lays on your heart.
- The gift can be given ANY month of the year.
- You decide the type and kind of gift
- I did suggest every month give a gift but if that turns out to be too regular then alternate the months.
- I do suggest first between husband and wife particularly then children, then siblings, then friends.

The idea is to break from the Christmas holiday giving and the potential of getting into debt over the Christmas season. You know; buy now and pay later sometimes into spring you have found yourself still paying for gifts over the Christmas holiday. To all who have received the clear cut teaching on the Christmas holiday over the years you have come to understand the entire practice thereof and now able to share what you know and believe. I have taught the Christmas holiday under several titles such as:

- Idolatry
- Holiday or Holy Day
- Christ and Christmas
- Religion, Worship and Christ (current lesson)

Of each lesson I have given different aspects of the whole message striving to give you **EVERYTHING** you need to know to intelligently expound on the origin of Christmas and to intelligently expound on God's view of Christmas and the celebration therewith. When Jehovah's Witnesses exclaim that Christmas is pagan they fail to show or explain how and why it is pagan thus leaving a great void in their reasoning for not celebrating Christmas. When I say the Christmas celebration is pagan I leave you with Biblical Truth and historical fact. Bearing in mind that "history" is **ALWAYS** in relation to what man does and makes. God **IS NOT** an historian nor is God involved in history. When Moses asked God the question who shall I say sent me to Pharaoh - God's response was "**I AM that I AM (Ex. 3:14).**" When the Pharisees accused Jesus of not being fifty years old His response was "before Abraham was **I AM (Jn. 8:58).** **I AM IS NOT** historical, rather Eternal. Sort of like Hebrews 11:1 "**NOW** faith is . . ." God **IS** eternally **NOW**. This is very difficult for carnal worldly Christians and worldly people to conceptualize. All that is in the realm of Heaven and all that has been and all that will be is already done. I encourage you to take every opportunity to share the Truth of the Holy Scriptures in relation to the world's celebration of Christmas. I encourage you to share the Truth of the Holy Scriptures about the purpose of the birth of Christ. Biblically, Jesus was born **NOT** to be celebrated on a pagan holiday but He was born to **PROCLAIM THE TRUTH!**

" . . . To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth, Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice."
John 18:37b

Now the question is put to you: **ARE YOU OF THE TRUTH OR A LIE?** It was Jesus who said **EVERYONE** who hears His voice **IS OF THE TRUTH!** What about those who do not hear is voice. . . ?

Forever and Always –

In His Service
Pastor Tim
His Bond-Servant