

# CHRISTMAS — A MEMORIAL

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Taken from the December 1983 issue of America's Hope Monthly

Should Christians unite with unbelievers and antichrists in banning Christmas as a memorial to the birth of Christ? If so, in order to be consistent, Christians must seek to ban the memorial to Christ's resurrection—Easter.

They also have to seek to ban Sunday, Thanksgiving and Communion. None of the above memorials have ever been observed fully in a scriptural manner by all the people. Even in Paul's time the Communion memorial was abused. Some used Communion to get drunk. See I Corinthians 11:20 through 24. But Paul did not teach—ban Communion.

It is said that there is not a command or an example in the New Scripture establishing a day to memorialize the birth of Christ. Neither is there a command or an example for the building of a church. Is it therefore a pagan practice to build churches because the heathen build temples to worship their idols?

In Romans 15:4 and I Corinthians 10:11, Paul wrote that the Old Scriptures were written for our learning, admonition and ensamples. There is much learning and many ensamples in the Old Scriptures on both the memorials and building places for worship.

In Exodus 12:14 God established an Exodus memorial. "And this day shall be unto you for a memorial; and ye shall keep it a feast to the Lord throughout your generations; and ye shall keep it a feast by an ordinance for ever." Does anyone think that every Israelite observed this memorial in a perfect manner? There is much evidence that many did not.

The work "memorial" appears more than 25 times in the Old Scriptures which were written for our learning and ensamples.

Since God established memorials for such events as the Exodus and other events, how can it be pagan to commemorate the birth, death and resurrection of Christ? They are the three most memorial events of all history.

It is good and right to teach and preach that Christmas and Easter should have a more scriptural observance. It is evil and wicked to teach that Christmas and Easter are pagan festivities in Christendom. There is more thought, preaching and singing devoted to Jesus Christ at Christmas time and Easter than any other time in the year. Should Christians help the antichrist to ban this thought, preaching and singing about Christ? Christmas and Easter are desecrated and



misused, and so are Sunday, Communion, and Thanksgiving. Should we therefore ban these memorials also?

Do not Christians seek to convert the pagans? And if a pagan temple or observance is converted to a Christian church or a Christian memorial, why should Christians object?

The charge that those who set up an evergreen tree are worshipping an idol is silly. We all have various plants in our homes and churches. What better simple symbol of everlasting life is there than the evergreen? If people made the tree an idol and worshipped it, they would not take it out and burn it after a few days.

Scripture has much to say about the pagans who make an idol out of wood and worship it. But to apply such scriptures to the evergreen in the Christmas memorial is far fetched, to say the least.

Scripture states, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." (Acts 20:35). So giving at Christmas time is a blessing and not a pagan practice. Because pagans give gifts, does it become a pagan practice when Christians give gifts? Concerning gifts we have the example of the wise men in Matthew 2:11.

If we ban everything in Christendom that is not observed perfectly according to the Scriptures, by all the people, all the time, we would have to ban every Christian ordinance and activity.

Pagans memorialize their great men. Are we observing a pagan ritual by memorializing such men as Washington, Jefferson and Lincoln?

The teaching that Christmas and Easter are pagan holidays is another fantastic teaching that intrigues the world, offends Christians and brings reproach upon the gospel of the kingdom.

Every person with average intelligence knows that Santa Clause is a fraud and a fake. But there is much more in Christmas than Santa Claus. At Christmas, Christendom has the greatest manifestation of human kindness in the entire year. At Christmas, more is done and provided for the needy than in the entire year. At Christmas, preachers and churches preach and teach more of the deity of Christ than at any other time in the entire year. And the divine birth of Jesus Christ is the great fundamental doctrine in the Christian faith.

No day in the week is more desecrated than Sunday. Should we therefore ban Sunday and all other Christian practices, including the gospel, because there are no perfect preachers?

It is one thing to seek to make Christmas and Easter observed in a more Christian manner. To teach that Christmas and Easter are pagan festivities comes from you know who. Christmas and Easter with their good and evil come once a year.

Sunday and Communion are desecrated every week of the year. Some

believe the word Sunday came from the worship of the sun. Should we therefore ban Sunday and Communion? As for unity, it should be based on truth and reason.

It is not Santa Claus that displeases the present anti-Christmas crusaders; it is the same thing that displeased the chief priests and the scribes when Christ was on the earth.

In Matthew 21:15 we read: "And when the chief priests and scribes saw the wonderful things that he did, and the children crying in the temple, and saying, "Hosanna to the son of David; they were displeased."

They are also displeased by the emphasis that both the clergy and the laity, at the Christmas season, place on the divine birth of Christ and His deity. These anti-Christmas crusaders are displeased and disturbed by the friendly spirit and the giving of gifts at Christmas time. These anti-Christmas crusaders are using Santa Claus in order to put a stop to the above activities and the friendly and helpful spirit that prevails at Christmas time.

To use how some Catholics used Christmas Day in 1633 to teach that Christmas is a pagan festivity in Christendom today is absurd.

Do you suppose Christ's birth and His coming to earth will be memorialized in the kingdom age?