**[www.scatteredchristians.org](http://www.scatteredchristians.org)**
The entire King James Bible is written FOR us, but it is not all written TO us!
We learn from the "For" and study Paul's writings to apply the 'TO!"
**Sermon Notes**
November 30, 2008

|  |
| --- |
| **Rightly Dividing "Christmas"** |

Part I
**Celebrating Christmas - Is It Expedient?**

**I Corinthians 6:12**
All things are lawful:

* Is Christmas a lawful celebration?
	+ Does it fit the Liberty of **Galatians 5:1**
	+ Is it expedient?
* Does it please God according to Paul's teachings?

Do we '*celebrate*?'
Do we '*participate*?'
Do we '*do*' Christmas?
Do we '*partake*' in Christmas?

Is the truth of Christmas something you will eventually see as you grow as a Christian?
**Philippians 1:9,10**

Is Christmas an exercise in 'grace' to you?
**Ephesians 2:7**

Did God give us Christmas for us to enjoy?
**I Timothy 6:17**

Is Christmas part of **Philippians 1:18**?

Can we magnify Christ by 'doing' Christmas?
Is Christ magnified in Christmas today?

Is Christmas a work of darkness?
**Ephesians 5:9-11**

If we are to put away lying, according to **Ephesians 4:25**, how can we celebrate Christmas?

**As yourself these questions for all that we do,**
**including about 'doing' Christmas:**

**I.  Does Christmas have Power Over You?**

* **I Corinthians 6:12**
* Ever try to NOT do Christmas?
* The tree?
* The cards?
* The presents?
* The foods?
* More than one of above?
* All of the above?
* Do the relatives and friends help or discourage?
* Do you have guilt towards the ones you really love?
* How do you feel - like the Scrooge?
* Do you try to tell the Biblical Story of Jesus' birthday?
	+ All of it - including the details of the death of those kids?
* Are you treated like the enemy?
* So, with all that pressure, does celebrating Christmas have a power over you?

**II.  Is Christmas just another opportunity to be used for an Occasion to the Flesh?**

* **Galatians 5:13**
* Does the Spirit of God lead us to 'do' Christmas?
	+ **Galatians 5:7-18; 24-26**
* School / work vacations?
* foods?
* drinks?
* party behavior becoming to a ‘lady,’ etc.?
* Buy and spend for the pride of giving?
* Asking for presents on a list of 'wants.'
* Music fleshy?
* Greedy for presents, etc.

**III.  Does it Edify**

* **I Corinthians 10:23**
* **II Corinthians 12:19**
* **Ephesians 4:12**
* **Ephesians 4:16**
* **Ephesians 4:29**
* With all the lies of the details of Christmas?
	+ the birth is true, but it is all fiction based on a truth!
	+ the baby Jesus?
	+ another Jesus?
	+ a birthday?
	+ the 25th of December?
	+ anti-christ!
	+ Santa?
	+ programs at schools, etc.?
* Emotional stuff?
* Lies of the Christmas music?
	+ Silent night?
	+ God rest Ye Merry Gentlemen?
	+ Away in a Manger?
	+ Hark, the Herald Angels Sing?
	+ Good King Wenceslas?
	+ Little Town of Bethlehem?
	+ O Holy Night?
	+ O Come Immanuel?
	+ O Come All Ye Faithful?
	+ It Came Upon a Midnight Clear?
	+ We Three Kings of Orient Are?
	+ While Shepherds Watched the Flocks By Night?
	+ Joy to the World?
	+ Angels From Realms of Glory?
	+ I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day?
* Christmas Tree?  **Jeremiah 10:1-6**
* Giving Gifts - Being Merry? **Revelation 11:10**

**IV.  Does it cause others to Stumble?**

* Santa, etc. and kids
* debt
* misplaced importance and values and needs
* party hearty behavior
* merriment  vs  sober
* drinking
* clothes of holidays

**Do we take a stand or live with grace?**

* Are people taking a stand that they will not take any stand anymore?
* Do we have our lives so fleshy that one more won't matter, anyway?
* Do make a simple decision so difficult with all our justifications?
* Does NOT doing Christmas cause folks to stumble?
* What about the warning about tradition in **Colossians 2:8**?
* How about the attitude to have towards others in **Romans 14:5-12**?
* What about **Colossians 2:16**?