

A NON-BELIEVER AT CHRISTMAS

Luke 2:1-19

(Not entirely original with me)

Introduction: Christmas Day and all of its real, genuine, true meaning can present a very serious problem to one who is not a Christian, a non-believer if he/she gives serious thought to what he/she hears and sees. Most people treat the Christmas season as some happy, social affair, ignoring the true biblical reason for the holiday period. There are certain things which point back to the real, true heart of the Christmas story and that is the birth of the Babe, so unique and different from any other baby ever born. For the non-believer there are some facts he/she must face.

I. IS THE STORY OF A BABE BEING BORN IN A MANGER TRUE OR UNTRUE?

1. If the story is not true then many people who believe it is true are foolish.
 - The majority of Americans celebrate Christmas in one way or another.
 - Those who celebrate Christmas in the Biblical way are either foolish or liars.
 - Those who accept the Biblical account/story of Christmas are just foolish, simple-minded people.
 - Those who reject the story, yet still celebrate the Biblical Christmas are hypocrites, liars.
2. If the Biblical Christmas is a lie, a well planned fabrication, it still has caused uncountable most gracious and noble acts.
 - To think that deliberately promoting a lie would be an insult to everyone.
 - Churches would be guilty of collaborating and promoting a false story.

II. IF A NON-BELIEVER ACCEPTS THE BIBLICAL CHRISTMAS STORY AS TRUE, THEN WHAT?

1. A person who accepts the Biblical Christmas story but refuses to accept the Christ of that story is in a state of confusion, hardened his/her heart against the message he/she hears during the Christmas season.
 - Christmas will bring a challenge to the non-believer's face.
 - Believing the Biblical Christmas story about the Lord Jesus Christ into the world but he/she has turned his/her back upon Him.
 - Turned his/her back upon the Babe in the manger, the one to whom children ran to when He was a man, who blessed them as He took them in His arms.
 - To believe the Biblical Christmas story and continue to refuse to accept the Lord Jesus Christ of the Christmas story is to show that one really cares nothing about his/her family, friends or his/her own soul.
2. How should a non-believer act at Christmas time?
 - Join in the festivities?
 - Join in the Christmas parties where biblical carols are sung, all the while believing that the whole Christmas "thing" is nothing but a lie?
 - If he/she joins in the singing then he/she is a hypocrite.
 - If he/she doesn't sing, then he/she is impolite and crude.
 - Should the non-believer stay away from all Christmas programs, turn off the television when biblical Christmas programs are on?
 - Should the non-believer not send Christmas cards and tell family and friends to not send any?

3. How a non-believer acts at Christmas time often is the same way he/she acts almost any time of the year.
 - There is plenty of evidence of blessings and benefits that the biblical Christmas story has brought upon this land.
 - Either one must say that all the blessings and benefits are because of human actions or that they have come from the biblical Christmas story's influence.
 - Can a person really thank Santa Claus for all the wonderful things that have blessed this country?
 - If all the goodness and justice has resulted from the result of human effort, folk lore, tradition, then why doesn't all the same goodness and wonderful things appear in non-Christian places around the world?

4. What is a non-believer to tell his/her children about the Christmas story?
 - What about Santa Claus?
 - What about the Baby in a manger in Bethlehem?
 - Does one put Santa and the Baby Jesus on the same level?
 - Then does the non-believer tell his/her children that there is no God either?
 - Does the non-believer turn his/her back on the Christmas season?
 - Does the non-believer turn his/her back on all the love of God who sent His Son to redeem the world?

CONCLUSION:

1. For non-believers in the Lord Jesus Christ, there is no belief in the real, true biblical Christmas story either.
2. How can one believe in the biblical Christmas story and not believe in the Lord Jesus Christ who was that babe in a manger in Bethlehem?
3. Why not make this Christmas a time of YOUR really believing the biblical Christmas story and accepting the one who was lying in the manger that night the angels and the shepherds came, that one being the one known now as the Lord Jesus Christ.