

BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH

www.crbiblebaptist.com

Independent, Dispensational, Evangelistic, Missionary

5037 Center Pt. Rd. NE Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

Pastor Randall Vartabedian 319-393-4638

12.25.2022

Christmas = Christ's Mass.

In essence, the **Mass** is the ceremonial slaying of Jesus **Christ** over and over again, followed by the eating of his flesh and the drinking of his blood. The council of Trent (1545 and 1563 was the 19th ecumenical council of the Catholic Church) taught the Mass is the same as Calvary, "only the manner of offering being changed" from bloody to unbloody.

Christ has nothing to do with the Roman Catholic mass or the underlying basis for Christmas. BUT for the sake of the communicating the gospel of Jesus Christ; Wish 'em a "Merry Christmas" and give them a tract. It was "in season" for preaching the word, but the text goes on to say "out of season" too. Next try a "Happy New Year" when giving out a tract. I believe in being positive. ☺

Now that the cat is out of the bag, let's proceed a little further. Saturnalia, held in mid-December, is an ancient Roman pagan festival honoring the agricultural god Saturn. Saturnalia celebrations are the source of many of the traditions we now associate with Christmas, such as wreaths, candles, feasting and gift-giving. **Pope Julius I chose December 25.** It is commonly believed that the church chose this date in an effort to adopt and absorb the traditions of the pagan Saturnalia festival. It was relabeled the Feast of the Nativity and Christmas.

No, you are not a pagan if you give gifts, no, you are not worshipping Saturn if you celebrate Christmas. Ask no questions for conscience's sake. I'm not sure about the Christmas tree yet? (Jer. 10:3, 4) ☺

What Roman Christianity did was to mask the heathen's traditions and incorporate them into their religious system. With the lifting of persecutions of early "real" Christians by Constantine the Roman pontiff, a new religious system was hatched. To further the expansion of this combined religious system they fostered the Mother Child worship. The mother goddess "Semiramis" or queen of heaven as she was known in some places was now Mary. And the child Tammuz could have a *double* the infant Jesus.

I reckon Christmas could be in the eye of the beholder. It is a time of family, of showing love, of remembrance that God did send His only begotten Son into the world. It should be a time when Jesus is the center of attention. It is a time when the word became flesh. Let's not be so doctrinally *laced* that it puts you into a strait jacket that you cannot enjoy it. Merry Christmas!

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But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son,
made of a woman, made under the law

WHAT DID THE BIRTH OF JESUS BRING ABOUT?

Intro. The birth of this man had and has great effect.

- **Providence to play**
- **Prophecies to be fulfilled**
- **Brought a message of good tidings**
- **Brought trouble**
- **Brought people to worship**

Mon. at 4:45 Hiawatha Care Center

Wed. at 5:30 Visitation

Wed. at 7:00 Bible study & Prayer

Missionary of the week: Hauser – S. Tyrol Italy



SCI FI VOUS SOUHAITE DE JOYEUSES FETES