

## **Let's Enjoy the Holidays! (Holy Days)**

### ***December 1, 2009***

It's hard to believe that it's December 2009 and it's time to celebrate the holiday season once again. Sometimes in our American "don't offend anyone" culture, holidays can become pretty controversial. Are they Christian? Can we celebrate Christ's birth? Can we go public? Yet at the same time, we make sure that we do not discriminate against anyone else, while all the while Christians aren't tolerated.

What's going on?

I believe that I'm someone who really does enjoy life. When I wake up in the morning I don't dread the day, and I look forward to the task and opportunities that lay before me. I love my wife, my grown sons, my granddaughter, my dog Rocky, and I love the ministry God has given me. I've always been proud to be an American, but I would like to ask, "what's going on?" I don't want to sound doom and gloom, but we've got some real problems in our nation and with our nation. Besides the moral depravity, violence, drugs, greed, and (let's just say) people's simple selfishness, there's also our government. It seems we've lost our common sense, our understanding of U.S. history, our ability to do math, and it sounds to me that Washington D.C. wants us to become a socialistic society, thus forgetting that democracy and capitalism works.

My thoughts would be let's celebrate JESUS! I'm tired of over-thinking and being overly considerate. Christmas is all about Jesus. It is a Holy Day. It is what it is! Let's sing carols and go to church services. Let's pray, give thanks, spend time with family and friends, help someone, and let's love just like Jesus.

The book of Galatians in the New Testament tells us that at just the right time Jesus came into the world. Two thousand years ago the world was in great need. It was a violent, greedy, ungodly, and selfish world. It was a confused, mixed-up world. That's why Jesus came—the world needed Him. Violent people needed Him. Selfish people needed Him. Greedy people needed Him. Hurting people needed Him, and morally depraved people needed Him. The same is true today. People need Jesus. We all do, your family does, your neighbors do, and your friends do. This nation and our government need Jesus!

I'm excited about Christmas, and I'm excited that once again we have an opportunity to bring Christ at quite possibly just the right time to someone's life. My thoughts are this: Go ahead and decorate, put up the tree, hang the lights, sing the carols loudly, set out the nativity, and of course let's not forget to love. And like every year when our society slows down a little for just a few days to celebrate the season, maybe someone will get it.

I'm so glad Jesus came. How about you?

Enjoy the season,  
John