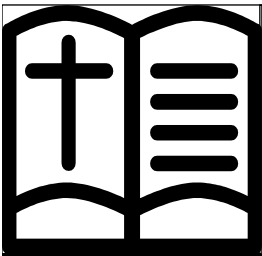


“ADVENT” part 2

Luke 1:1-38; Romans 14; Historical references

- I. **THE LORD JESUS CHRIST, SON OF GOD, CAME; THAT IS ADVENT!**
- II. **WHEN DID THE ADVENT HAPPEN?**
 - A. *Historically, the holiday of Advent is a number of days long; it starts on the 1st day of December or mid November and runs until the 24th day and this is primarily a preparation time that included fasting; at midnight on the 24th Christ’s Mass was convened and celebrated; from the 25th day until January 6th they celebrated with feasting the 12 days of Christmas; **no biblical reason for it***
 - B. *Why December 25th? Jewish proverbial thought was that God’s prophets died on the same date they were conceived. Christ was crucified on March 25; in this thought, Christ was conceived on March 25; 9 months later is December 25; **no biblical justification for this but neither is there pagan roots to it***
 - C. *Is Christmas a former pagan holiday? NO There is no evidence that indicates the church sought to duplicate pagan festivals. Sol Invictus was created as December 25th AFTER the date for the birth was “set” by the church as December 25th.*
 - D. *Aren’t Christmas trees pagan? NO There is no evidence any culture decorated evergreen trees with gifts under them. Allegedly, Martin Luther, the reformer, introduced it. Victoria/Albert*



III. O CHRISTMASS, WHAT AILS THEE?

- A. *Is it commanded in Scripture? NO Is it necessary? NO
Is it supported by Scripture? NO Is it defiled? YES*
- B. *It's bitter opposition by many Protestant groups*
- C. *The tendency to borrow and appropriate from culture
is prohibited by the Scriptures but often practiced by
the church (and Israel, to their peril)*
- D. *Theft of a “Christian” holy day by the culture - the
world knows a “profit” when they see it even if they
don't know a “prophet” when he appears*
- E. *Rethinking its purpose, finding it and owning it*
 - 1. *Biblical support. Ask “Why?”*
 - 2. *Practiced in Spirit and in truth*
- F. *Rethinking the Bible's holy days - the letter or the
Spirit?*
 - 1. *God has ordained holy days but we ignore them*
 - 2. *God has ordained the sabbath but we ignore it*
 - 3. *Jesus practiced and followed the Bible's holy days
- He gave them! They have meaning to God*
 - 4. *Jesus also fulfilled them with His own life; yet the
principle of them still exists! They will appear
again to be honored. What are the principles?*
- G. *Rethinking holy days as an individual or as a family*
 - 1. *As long as you are not violating Scripture or its
principles, you appear to have liberty to glorify
God in your chosen way without judgment*
 - 2. *But what you do must be done to the glory of
Christ with thanksgiving*
- H. *Rethinking holy days as a community*
 - 1. *Agreed upon due to biblical support*
 - 2. *For the glory of Christ with thanksgiving*