

## King James Bible Study Correspondence Course

An Outreach of Highway Evangelistic Ministries  
5311 Windridge lane ~ Lockhart, Florida 32810 ~ USA

Filling in the Gaps  
The Birthday of Jesus & Christmas  
Lesson 37

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During the end of December, we have a holiday that the world's advertisers and most of the population goes crazy over. We all know this holiday as Christmas.

The purpose of this lesson is to disprove the authenticity of Christmas as the birth of Jesus Christ

Have you ever wondered how December 25th became the date to celebrate Christmas or the history behind Santa Claus? Did you know that Christians in the first three centuries of the Church did not celebrate Christmas?

Before we get into the origin of Christmas, we want to bring up a few points that are relative to our study.

- Nowhere in the Bible does is the Christian admonished to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.
- There are however several places where the Bible tells us to remember His death.
- There would be no gospel if not for the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

**1 Corinthians 15:1-4 *Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:***

We are admonished to remember the death of Jesus Christ through two ordinances that the Christian is told to partake in after salvation – the taking of the communion and baptism, both of which are pictures of the death of Jesus Christ.

**Luke 22:19-20 *And he took bread, and gave thanks, and brake it, and gave unto them, saying, This is my body which is given for you: this do in remembrance of me. Likewise also the cup after supper, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you.***

**1 Corinthians 11:2 *Now I praise you, brethren, that ye remember me in all things, and keep the ordinances, as I delivered them to you.***

**1 Corinthians 11:23-26 *For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered***

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*unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread: And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me. For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come.*

*1 Peter 3:21 The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ:*

*Acts 8:36-37 And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized? And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.*

*2 Thessalonians 2:15 Therefore, brethren, stand fast, and hold the traditions which ye have been taught, whether by word, or our epistle.*

*Romans 6:3-4 Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.*

*Ecclesiastes 7:1 A good name is better than precious ointment; and the day of death than the day of one's birth.*

Let's look at the origin of Christmas and briefly the origin of Santa Claus. The celebration of Christmas was instituted by ancient pagan worship of the sun and gods associated with the sun which centered around the time of the winter solstice. This including the celebration of the birth of the sun god Tammuz on December 25. These heathen practices were incorporated into the Roman Catholic Church in order to add more people and nations to their membership without requiring those people to repent and believe the gospel.

The whole Christmas theology is based on lies, and we know who the father of lies is.

In John 8:44, Satan is found to be the father of lies and a murderer from the beginning.

*John 8:44 Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.*

Would a reasonable, sensible human being actually believe the foolishness of Christmas?

Here are a few of their beliefs:

- The ritual of decorating trees is an ancient Babylonian religious custom which is condemned by God in Jeremiah 10:1-4.

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- Wise men gave gifts to Jesus, not to each other, in a house, two years after His birth.
- Santa Claus originated from a generous 4<sup>th</sup> century Greek Bishop named Saint Nicholas, His legend evolved into the Dutch Sinterklass and was brought to America then combined with English as the father of Christmas. He is a substitute for God, Christ, and the Christian faith. He is worshiped and adored by children all over the world while actually being a mythical figure which is in truth an abomination.
- Covetousness and debt are harmful to homes and contrary to the life God has planned for His people.
- The excitement and emotion felt by the masses for a seasonal celebration should be felt for and directed toward our wonderful Lord.
- Mistletoe has no mystical power.
- There is no Santa's workshop at the North Pole, only snow and ice, and an occasional polar bear and penguin.
- Rearrange the letters in Santa's name and they spell "Satan"

Revelation 12:9 *And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: he was cast out into the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.*

To get a more precise date as to the birth of Jesus Christ, we will have to look at several verses.

In 1 Chronicles 24, David established the course of temple service for the sons of Aaron. He set up 24 two-week periods where the sons of Aaron rotate and do their service in the temple, 7 days at a time. In 1 Chronicles 24:10, we see that the eighth period of two-week service, which would have been the Jewish month Tammuz, was designated to Abijah. The corresponding time on our calendar would be about the last week in June and the first week of July.

In Luke 1:5 *There was in the days of Herod, the king of Judaea, a certain priest named Zacharias, of the course of Abia (New Testament spelling for Abijah): and his wife was of the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elisabeth.* We see Zacharias performing his duty in that particular course, which again would be our last week of June and first week of July. The Bible says in 1:21 that Zacharias tarried long in the Temple before coming out, probably because an angel of the Lord appeared to him and told him that he and Elisabeth would have a son whom they were to call John. Zacharias and Elisabeth had longed for a child for many years, but now they were old, and Zacharias had some doubt. As a result of his doubting the angel closed his mouth and told Zacharias he would not be able to speak until the baby was

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born.

This was a tremendous revelation to Zacharias, as you could imagine. When Zacharias went home, he couldn't speak to Elisabeth. He was stuck speechless, just as the angel had said. They were both excited to have the child they always wanted.

Zacharias received the revelation near the end of the first week in July. John was conceived during his service or shortly after, then six months from conception would be December.

That six-month time frame is important because later in Luke 1:31, when the angel Gabriel appeared to Mary to tell her that she would conceive of the Holy Ghost and give birth to Jesus, the angel also told her that Elisabeth was in her sixth month of pregnancy. Mary conceived during Elisabeth's sixth month, which counting forward from July would be December. Nine months after December is September, when Mary gave birth to Jesus.

Jesus was not born on December 25<sup>th</sup>.

Note: Do not use this Bible Lesson as a means of argument with your brothers and sisters in Christ. God will chasten you if you do.

In Genesis 3, God proclaims that the woman's seed would bruise the serpent's head. Satan did not know exactly what God was going to do, but he knew it had something to do with a woman and her child. Satan invented counterfeits BEFORE the original Jesus Christ, came into being. Long before Mary gave birth to Jesus, he had invented religions centered around a mother and her child.

Because of Satan's actions, many unbelievers call Christianity a counterfeit religion, or simply another religion in the long line of religions based on a mother and child that long predated Christianity. Many of these religions were also focused on sun worship (after all, Jesus is the true light, and He is called the Sun of righteousness) and unbelievers tie these religions together with Christianity.

Here is an example of how an unbeliever does just that:

"Sun worship formed the basis of Mithraism, Zoroastrianism, other Roman religions and many other pagan traditions. It is the reason Sun-day is a holy day in many religions, and why major festivals are held at spring and at the Solstices. The real meaning of Christmas is sun worship; a reminder to all life on Earth that we owe everything to the Sun. Sun worship is one of the main pillars of all religion, especially older religions. Sun worshippers and

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nature religions held major celebrations at the Winter Solstice the victory of the strength of the Sun over the forces of darkness that try to suppress it.

Osiris-Dionysus represented and was represented by the Sun, as was Jesus, whom the Church Father Clement of Alexander calls '*The Sun of Righteousness*'. When old relics and religious symbols (such as human faces) are given a light backdrop of rays of light or a corolla it means they represent the sun."

You see how Christ rejectors simply lump all these religions together And how Satan has them deceived.

Sir James Frazer, another unbeliever and author of *The Golden Bough*, says. "*The largest pagan religious cult which forested the celebration of December 25<sup>th</sup> as a holiday was the pagan sun worship Mithraism* – The winter festival was called 'The nativity of the Sun' Franz Cumont perhaps the greatest scholar of Mithraism, wrote quoting Minucius Felix, "The Mithraists, the Sun worshippers Manicheans and the Christians were syncretized and reconciled when Constantine led the take over by Christianity." Constantine was a Roman emperor who supposedly converted to Christianity, not by believing the Gospel, but by seeing a vision.

According to Sarah E. Titcomb's *Aryan Sun myths – the Origin of Religions*" we find it cited that practically all known sun deities were born on December 25<sup>th</sup> , such as Crisha (Vishnu), Mithra (Mithras) Osiris, Horus, Hercules, Dionysus (Bacchus), Tammuz (Dumuzid), Indra and Buddha.

Mario Rightetti, a renowned Catholic liturgist, writes, "The Church of Rome, to facilitate the acceptance of the faith by the pagan masses, found it convenient to institute the 25<sup>th</sup> of December as the feast of the temporal birth of Christ, to divert them from the pagan feast, celebrated on the same day in honor of the "Invincible Sun", Mithras."

This dating of the temporal birth of Christ came to have its own special mass known as "Christ Mass" or as we call it today, "Christmas". Basically pagans were told, "You can keep on doing what you have been doing, but now we are calling it 'Christian'."

We are told to worship God in spirit and in truth. Jesus was not born on December 25th". The Bible doesn't tell us to celebrate Jesus' birth, and in fact, we don't know the exact date. This author's estimation would be September 11-15.

\*\*\* What we are instructed to do is to remember His death. \*\*\*

### Notes

- Information compiled from The Bible, Wikipedia, Grokipedia, and Dictionary.com, etc.

KJV

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**The Birthday of Jesus & Christmas**  
**Lesson 37**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Note: (\*) indicates that you must include scripture with your answers.

1. Why is this lesson so important to the believer? Explain in depth. Use the back of this lesson if needed.
  
2. Who established the courses of temple worship? \*
  
3. What was the name of the catholic priest that instituted December 25th as the feast of the temporal birth of Christ?
  
4. Why did the Roman Catholic Church assign the birth of Christ to a pagan holiday?
  
5. What pagan holiday was already being observed on December 25<sup>th</sup>?
  
6. What other pagan deities were born on December 25<sup>th</sup>?
  
7. How did Constantine say that he became a Christian?
  
8. Who were the Mithraists?
  
9. Give us 3 attributes of Santa Claus that match Jesus Christ that are not in this lesson. (Do your best.)

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Example: He wears a red suit \* Revelation 19:13

Example: He sees you when you are sleeping, He knows when you are awake. \* Proverbs 15:3

1. \*
2. \*
3. \*

10. Is celebrating Christmas a sin? Why?

11. What are the two ordinances the new Christian is told to do?

12. How do we know that the Gospel is the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ? \*

13. What verse in Genesis 3 tells us that Jesus Christ was born of a virgin? \*

14. What is Santa's real name (when you rearrange the letters)?

15. Explain what results happen if you deny James 4:17, now that you have read this lesson?

True/false

- I need to tell my children that Santa Claus is a myth, and that their mother and father buy them gifts.
- The Bible tells us to remember the death of Jesus Christ on a regular basis. \*
- December 25 was originally designated as a holiday of worship and festivities to the Sun God.



Scripture memorization

Romans 6:3-4; 1 Corinthians 11:23-26; Acts 8:36-37

Write out these verses on the back on this page: (must be in KJV)

any questions?