

ROMANS 14 ⁵ One person esteems *one* day above another; another esteems every day *alike*. Let each be fully convinced in his own mind. ⁶ He who observes the day, observes *it* to the Lord; and he who does not observe the day, to the Lord he does not observe *it*. He who eats, eats to the Lord, for he gives God thanks; and he who does not eat, to the Lord he does not eat, and gives God thanks. ⁷ For none of us lives to himself, and no one dies to himself. ⁸ For if we live, we live to the Lord; and if we die, we die to the Lord. Therefore, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's. ⁹ For to this end Christ died and rose and lived again, that He might be Lord of both the dead and the living....

COLOSSIANS 2 ¹⁶ So let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or sabbaths, ¹⁷ which are a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ. ¹⁸ Let no one cheat you of your reward, taking delight in *false* humility and worship of angels, intruding into those things which he has not seen, vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind, ¹⁹ and not holding fast to the Head, from whom all the body, nourished and knit together by joints and ligaments, grows with the increase *that is* from God.

²⁰ Therefore, if you died with Christ from the basic principles of the world, why, as *though* living in the world, do you subject yourselves to regulations — ²¹ “Do not touch, do not taste, do not handle,” ²² which all concern things which perish with the using — according to the commandments and doctrines of men? ²³ These things indeed have an appearance of wisdom in self-imposed religion, *false* humility, and neglect of the body, *but are* of no value against the indulgence of the flesh.

HONORING CHRISTMAS *THE REAL STORY*

- The real Christmas Story was _____.
- The real Christmas Story is _____.
- The real Christmas Story may _____.
- The real Christmas Story is _____.
- The real Christmas Story has _____.
- The real Christmas Story is _____.
- The real Christmas Story was _____.
- The real Christmas Story is _____.
- The real Christmas Story will _____.
- The real Christmas Story is _____.
- The real Christmas Story may _____.
- The real Christmas Story is _____.
- The real Christmas Story won't _____.

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- The real Christmas Story was predicted long before.
- The real Christmas Story is not rooted in paganism.
- The real Christmas Story may involve December 25th.
- The real Christmas Story is not a secular tale.
- The real Christmas Story has never changed.
- The real Christmas Story is all about Christ.
- The real Christmas Story was relevant yesterday.
- The real Christmas Story is still relevant today.
- The real Christmas Story will be relevant tomorrow.
- The real Christmas Story is a witness to the world.
- The real Christmas Story may be mocked by critics.
- The real Christmas Story is strong and enduring.
- The real Christmas Story won't ever be erased.

A recent court case occurred over trademark copyrights for the titles "Princess Christmas", "Queen of Christmas" and "QOC".

We all know some folks can beautifully sing Christmas songs - as only they can - but when it comes to royal Christmas titles that position is already taken and His english name is Jesus.

He alone is The King and Christ of Christmas; as well as all the other days of every year too.

The Jewish historian Josephus - writing in the first century - records that during those times at Passover around 250,000 lambs would be sacrificed in the temple at Jerusalem....

The lambs had to be no more than one year old, male and without spot or blemish. Therefore they had to be bred and born in controlled conditions and inspected for birth defects before being raised in a specially protected environment.

The other interesting detail is the Jewish regulations stipulated that any animal to be sacrificed at the Temple had to be born within five miles of Jerusalem.

Bethlehem is just five miles from Jerusalem. . . .

At the time of Jesus' birth, therefore, the hillsides around Bethlehem, were a first century lamb factory farm controlled by the priestly livestock traders from the temple. When the lambs were born the shepherds wrapped them in strips of cloth to protect them, and placed them in a stone feeding trough in the birthing barn until the priest could come to inspect them.

By the way, some skeptics point out that the details don't match with Jesus being born in the winter because lambs are born in the Spring. It's true that lambs are born in the Spring in Northern Europe.

However, the breed of sheep most common in the Middle East— the Awassi – give birth in December.

DECEMBER 25th?

Who are?

Mithra - in ancient mythology - was the god of light, whose cult spread from India to Spain & Great Britain,. His first written mention dates to 1400 BC. His worship spread to Persia and, after the defeat of the Persians by Alexander the Great, throughout the Hellenic world. In the 3rd and 4th centuries AD, the cult of Mithra, carried and supported by the soldiers of the Roman Empire, was a chief rival to Christianity.

Mithra's slaying of the bull was a popular subject of art and became the inspiration for a fertility rite.

With the the Roman Catholic Church saying that Christmas celebrations began around 115 AD and Mithra's birthday celebrating beginning in 136 AD it is easy to see how Mithra worshippers may have copied.

Dionysus, another greek god has not documenation as to being born on December 25th other other something that was discovered to be 20th century forgery.

Krishna, a hindu god with no evidence of having been born on December 25th before the 19th century AD.

Nimrod, has no evidence of having been born on December 25th before the 19th century AD.

Sol Invictus, *Uncouquered Sun*, on 25 December AD 274, the **Roman emperor Aurelian** did succeed to establish the cult of *Sol Invictus* as an **official religion**, alongside other cults. In 102 AD a portico in Rome was built in honor of this pagan god.

The concept of December 25th being a connection synchronizing Christ's birth with Sol Invictus was not around until the 18th and 19th centuries.

What is ?

Yule, not documented until the 1400's.

Winter Solstice, December 17-23.

Saturnalia, December 30-January 5.

December 6th was Saint Nicolas Day until the 1900's.

JEREMIAH 10 ¹ Hear the word which the Lord speaks to you, O house of Israel.

² Thus says the Lord: "Do not learn the way of the Gentiles; do not be dismayed at the signs of heaven, for the Gentiles are dismayed at them.

³ For the customs of the peoples *are* futile; for *one* cuts a tree from the forest, the work of the hands of the workman, with the ax.

⁴ They decorate it with silver and gold; they fasten it with nails and hammers so that it will not topple.

⁵ They *are* upright, like a palm tree, and they cannot speak; they must be carried, because they cannot go by themselves. Do not be afraid of them, for they cannot do evil, nor can they do any good."

⁸ But they are altogether dull-hearted and foolish; a wooden idol *is* a worthless doctrine.

⁹ Silver is beaten into plates; it is brought from Tarshish, and gold from Uphaz, the work of the craftsman and of the hands of the metalsmith; blue and purple *are* their clothing; they *are* all the work of skillful *men*.

¹⁰ But the Lord *is* the true God; He *is* the living God and the everlasting King.

¹¹ Thus you shall say to them: "The gods that have not made the heavens and the earth shall perish from the earth and from under these heavens."

¹⁴ Everyone is dull-hearted, without knowledge; every metalsmith is put to shame by an image; for his molded image *is* falsehood, and *there is* no breath in them.

¹⁵ They *are* futile, a work of errors; in the time of their punishment they shall perish.

¹⁶ The Portion of Jacob *is* not like them, for He *is* the Maker of all *things*, and Israel *is* the tribe of His inheritance; The Lord of hosts *is* His name.

¹⁶ They have mouths, but they do not speak; eyes they have, but they do not see; ¹⁷ they have ears, but they do not hear; nor is there *any* breath in their mouths.

¹⁸ Those who make them are like them; *so is* everyone who trusts in them.

HABAKKUK 2 ¹⁸ "What profit is the image, that its maker should carve it, the molded image, a teacher of lies, that the maker of its mold should trust in it, to make mute idols?

¹⁹ Woe to him who says to wood, 'Awake!' To silent stone, 'Arise! It shall teach!' Behold, it is overlaid with gold and silver, yet in it there is no breath at all.

²⁰ "But the Lord is in His holy temple. Let all the earth keep silence before Him."

PSALM 135 ¹⁵ The idols of the nations *are* silver and gold,
the work of men's hands.

JOY TO THE WORLD by Isaac Watts

Joy to the world, the Lord is come
Let Earth receive her King
Let every heart prepare Him room
And Heaven and nature sing
And Heaven and nature sing
And Heaven, and Heaven, and nature sing

Joy to the Earth, the Savior reigns
Let all their songs employ
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat the sounding joy
Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy

He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love
And wonders of His love
And wonders, wonders, of His love