

“Christ back in Christmas”

Devotion for December 2016

Hymn: VU.44 It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

Scripture: Isaiah 9:6 Luke 2: 13-14

Reflection

Some years ago there was a young couple who attended our church. They had two young boys. This couple were very involved in Sunday School and all other church work. It was Christmas time and Paul the father said to me, “sure wish we could put Christ back in Christmas”. He was stunned at my response, “I don’t. He was never there.” Of course we all know according to the experts, Christ was born in March or April and when he was alive and preaching Christmas did not exist. Christmas did not come into existence for centuries after his death and mainly to appease those non-Christians. Christ’s birthday was an added extra to appeal to those believers. Christmas is a great good feeling time of year: be nice to everyone: watch Home Alone and then Jimmy Stewart on TV: make the CR CD companies happy and maybe even go to Midnight Mass, or its equivalent protestant service and pretend that this is really a celebration about the birth of a baby! A special baby.

Discussion;

If we took the shopping equation out of December the 25th how many people do you think would really be interested in Christmas? We do all enjoy the hymns though. Something to talk about!

Hymn VU: 43 Go Tell It on the Mountain

Prayer; Well God, it is that time of year again, and you know it does foster good will in most people along with generosity for the poor, the homeless and anyone less fortunate. Contrary to your wishes that generous feeling seems to dissipate within a few days after December 25. Most of us are very thankful for our lives and what we have but I guess what we would ask, wish for and pray is that somehow the Christmas spirit would stick around for the other 364 days of the year. In Jesus name we pray, amen