

## Was Jesus Our Savior Born on December 25?

Christmas is one of the two largest Christian events of the year. We celebrate the birth of our divine Lord and Savior on December 25. However, there is no date in the Bible that states when Jesus was born, but we do know that he was born six months after John the Baptist. Therefore, Jesus was probably born in late September or early October.

When the Roman Caesar Theodosius I gave the commandment in 380 AD that all Romans citizens were now Christians, pagan practices developed within the Catholic Church because of its new unbelieving members. The Church chose the 25<sup>th</sup> of December because it was a huge pagan festival to celebrate the date of the winter solstice. On this day the sun reverses its southward retreat and the daylight hours start to become longer, thus the sun proved itself to be “unconquered” according to the pagans. This festival was the most popular one in most pagan cultures and normally lasted 12 days. Gift-giving and merrymaking came from Roman Saturnalia; greenery, lights, and charity from the Roman New Year; Yule logs from pagan Scandinavia; and various foods from Germanic feasts.

Many true born from above Christians realize that if God wanted the world to know the day of His divine Son’s birth He would have told us in His Scriptures. What is important is the reason **why** God’s one and only unique divine Son was born into the world and this can be found in John’s Gospel, chapter 3:14-21 KJB. Jesus stated:

*“And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so shall the Son of man be lifted up. That whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have eternal life. **For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life.** For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world: but that the world through him might be saved. **He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten son of God.** And this is the condemnation, that light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For everyone that does evil hates the light, neither comes to the light, lest his deeds should be reprov’d (exposed). But he that does truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.”*

Here God tells the world that, His one and only divine Son, Jesus Christ came into the world to save mankind from perishing. Therefore His Son allowed himself to be crucified in order that He would raise Himself from the dead in order to save everyone who would continually believe (trust) in him. Therefore we celebrate Jesus’ birth as the shepherds and angels did in Luke 2:11-14 KJB:

*“For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.”*

Even though December 25 came from a pagan holiday we still honor Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior. Thus Christmas is glorifying, praising and thanking God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit with all our hearts, soul, spirit and minds for the unchangeable life saving Gospel of Jesus Christ.

We at Wayside Harvesters have dedicated our lives to ***The Greatest Story Ever Told*** through our distribution of biblical tracts and Bibles worldwide. **We at this time of the year again graciously thank God for you who support our ministry, with your prayers and offerings. Without you we could not function as we do.**

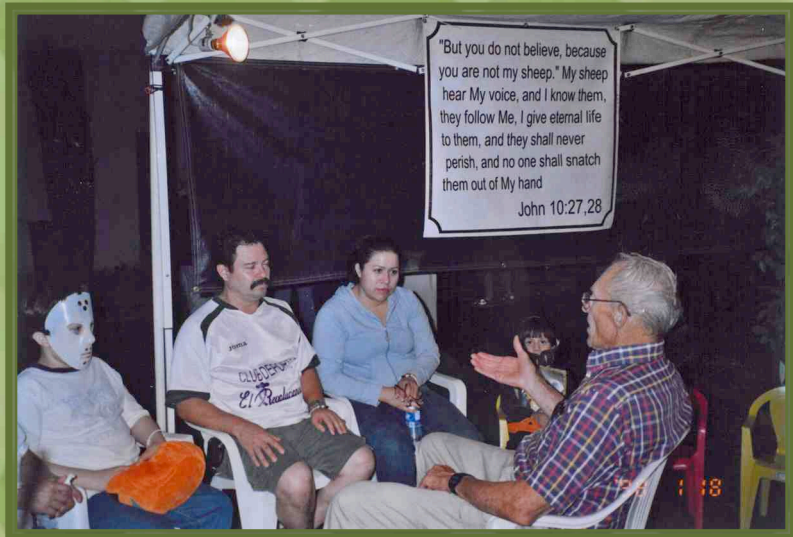
***Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year—in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.***

Bob Ricciardi, President



← *Our kids' soul winning tent and our trailer are busy places! We do 20 events yearly including two major fairs.*

*Mel shares the gospel message with a Hispanic family inside our kids' tent on Halloween night. →*



← *Jeff and Andy pass out Parade Guides (which are gospel tracts) at the famous Pasadena Rose Parade. One person can pass out about 800 tracts per hour.*