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SYMBOLS OF GOD'S GRACE
PART 2 – CHRISTMAS

Just as Hanukkah and Purim are symbolic celebrations that show God's grace and mercy to the Jews, so does Christmas. The Christmas symbolisms and celebrations show God's grace and mercy to those who believe on Jesus. Nonetheless, Satan tries to denigrate all aspects of the Christmas celebration.

Some criticize the date of December 25th that celebrates Jesus' birth. Many of those choose to not celebrate it at all because Jesus was more than likely born at a different season of the year. Yet, it does not really matter what day, month, or season that Jesus was born. What matters is our recognition that His birth was the greatest gift of Father God's love, grace, and mercy that could ever be given.

December 25 may have coincided with the pagan holiday of Saturnalia, but we choose to honor Jesus and the Father's gift instead of the pagan god of Saturn.

Some have criticized the Christmas tree because of old German pagan origins about the tree. We instead, recognize the tree as a symbol of the tree of Calvary (cross) upon which Jesus was crucified. We also see Jesus as the tree of life that we partake of daily.

Many criticize Christmas lights, yet Jesus is the light of the world. Our Christmas lights symbolize His light that shines from within us.

Some may wonder why we give gifts. Since God gave us the greatest gift of all time and God is love, we show our love by also giving gifts. It honors God's gift of love to us.

Whatever criticism might emerge, there is a positive faith aspect to Christmas, so the symbols are significant for us as Christians to use to remember Jesus, his birth, his light, and the tree of life.