

RUSSELL SANDERS

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THE CHRISTMAS SERIES – PART 1

GOD'S GIFT TO MANKIND

We are coming into the happiest and most jolly season of the year, Christmas. It is first and foremost a time to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. This was God's gift to a world under the curse of sin and eternal condemnation. This gift of a baby born to a woman from the seed of God Himself (Holy Spirit) would become the means of salvation from sin and eternal death unto soul cleansing and eternal life. This was God's sacrificial gift of love to us.

We joyously celebrate that birth event at this time of year on December 25<sup>th</sup>. Events that are truly worthy of the celebration of Jesus include His birth, death, resurrection, and ascension back to heaven. However, the church has been slack in teaching the history and origins of His birth and the celebration of it. Much ignorance (lack of knowledge) of it persists still today.

The lack of knowledge and understanding is often used by cults to undermine a person's faith and re-direct them into a cult. Jehovah's witnesses especially use this tactic by attacking people's belief that Jesus was born on December 25<sup>th</sup>. We shall therefore examine the truth about Christmas and Jesus' birth so that we do not become victimized by such subversive motives.

We must realize that regardless of what part of the year Jesus was born (and it was not December 25), the important matter is that we are commemorating the fact that God's gift of love, His only begotten Son, was to redeem us from sin and bring us into the family of God (and the Kingdom of Heaven). This is the reason for the season