

Christmas
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Would you like to know why I don't celebrate Christmas? Here's why. First, no one knows exactly when Jesus was born. Second, Romans celebrated another god on December 25th. Third, Santa Claus is involved in Christmas and we know he is fake.

Okay, so no one knows exactly when Jesus was born. Why, you ask? In Luke 2, the angels came to the shepherds to tell them that Jesus was born. Shepherds were out in the spring and fall with their sheep. They were not out in the winter. It was too cold to go out in the winter. We also know that a god named Mithras was celebrated on December 25th. The celebration of Mithras birthday started in Persia around 700 B.C. It spread throughout Asia Minor and the Roman Empire. It also spread among slaves. By 100 A.D., Mithraism spread through Europe and all of Rome.

Looking back at the history of religions in Rome, some Romans thought Mithras birthday was the most sacred day of the year! Another festival the Romans celebrated was Saturnalia. Saturnalia was the god of harvest and was celebrated in December also. The Romans closed schools and businesses during this time. The masters became slaves, and the slaves became masters. Everything turned upside-down! Everyone had a big party! It included making and giving presents. It was a time to feast and be merry. Saturnalia was replaced by Mithraism. Christians, in the first century, didn't celebrate the birth of Christ. They focused on preaching about the death, burial, and resurrection. In the fourth century, Pope Julius the 1st chose December 25th as Jesus' birthday because Pagans celebrated another god, Mithras, on that day. Pope Julius wanted to get the Pagans to follow their religion.

How did Santa Claus come up, you ask? Well, it all started with Saint Nicholas. Saint Nicholas was a monk who helped the poor and the needy. He was born in 280 A.D. He was admired for his piety and kindness. He became the subject of many legends. When he died, people wanted to remember him. So they started celebrating Saint Nicholas. Over the years, the name changed to Santa Claus in America. He is called many different names around the world, such as Pere Noel, Babushka, etc. In Germany, they celebrated a god named Oden. People feared Oden because he flew at night to see who would live and perish. Most people preferred to stay inside. Santa Claus has similar characteristics to Oden. Santa Claus also flies through the night seeing which children will get presents and which children will not.

These are some of the reasons why I don't celebrate Christmas. As you can see, the origin of Christmas is not Christian. It came from Pagans! In Jeremiah 10:2, God told Israel not to follow Pagan ways. If you read the Bible, when Israel disobeyed, there were consequences. God says he is the same yesterday, today, and forever. So I must not follow Pagan ways, either.

For more information, see:
1. www.historychannel.com

2. Christmas By: Alice Flanagan
 3. The Holy Bible KJV
 4. The Dictionary
 5. The World Book Encyclopedia 2008
 6. www.wikipedia.com
 7. Holly, Reindeer, and Colored Lights
- The Story of Christmas Symbols By: Edna Barth