

(THE THREE WISE MEN)

As narrated in the gospel of Matthew, chapter 2, the three wise men arrived in Jerusalem two years after the birth of Jesus and found him in a house; "And going into the house they saw the young child with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him "(Mat. 2:11). They gave him gold, frankincense and myrrh, identifying the Messiah with these three gifts.

The **'gold** represented and identified Divinity of Jesus, declaring that He is the only true God: "... For in Him, in Christ, dwells

all the fullness of the Godhead bodily "(Col. 1:19; 2:9). The 'incense was the service that Jesus had to do as High Priest (Hebrews 3:1 and 6:20).

Myrrh, an aromatic herb that is used in the East for burial (St. John. 19:39-40)

identified the death of the Lord Jesus Christ.

So the gifts of the magi already alluded in order the coming of Jesus: He was born as the true God, and came to serve with the Word and the works, and finally to die on the cross for our sins. Will you refuse such a gift of love?

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THE

TRUE

CHRISTMAS





" And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.. " (St. Luke 2:10-11)

Dear reader.

We are close to Christmas, and so the commercial event of the year has started again, forgetting the true meaning of Christmas.

Now biblically there is no confirmation that the Lord Jesus was born on December 25, but there is confirmation in the Gospels that the birth of the Lord took place in April.

This is because Jesus was born as the Lamb of God to die as a sacrifice for our sins. (John 1:29). Lambs are usually born in the season of spring. The Gospels tell us that on that night the shepherds were in the fields and were watching over their flock. It's impossible to watch the flock sleeping in the open in December, as the mountains of Judea at that time are covered with snow (St. Luke 2:8).

In addition, historically we know that 21 to 25 December, the sun rises in the furthest eastern point in the southern hemisphere, making the day the shortest of the year. The ancient Romans worshiped this day with the festival of Jupiter.

When the Catholic Church joined the Roman Empire, they combined these celebrations putting Christmas in December. Instead of Jupiter they put the Lord Jesus Christ.

So the origin of the Catholic Christmas celebration is pagan and non-Christian. The truth must be told and not hidden.

"Is it just a commercial event?".

Or even sentimental, is it just a good opportunity to stay with relatives? Or a chance to decorate the Christmas tree with the latest decorations and put under it some presents for relatives or friends?

Is this all that is meant by Christmas or there is more to it?

Over the years this festival is always repeated, but what have I gained from the expenses?

No, dear reader, if it Is only this, then this leaves me really disappointed and I am increasingly convinced that it is a commercial holiday.

If you go back to the origin and see what really was the birth of Jesus Christ, then we can understand what a great gift has been brought to us by God, revealing himself to the earth in His Son, Jesus Christ.

Friend, Christmas is when Jesus Christ comes to dwell in your heart, then it is a true Christmas for you, a real feast.

Jesus does not come back every year to be a child, He was a child once and for all 2000 years ago. The Gospel tells us that God became Man in Jesus Christ to bear our sins. Now, He "Is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us" (Romans 8:34, Hebrews 4:14-16).

This is the way that Jesus looks at His Christmas, since it is his birth. Did we know this? It is simple: returning to what is written in the Word of God The real Christmas will not be found by you under a tree or in a bountiful dinner with relatives. No, never!

The real Christmas is when we have the experience in our heart, when we accept Jesus Christ as our personal Lord and Saviour and asking for the forgiveness of our sins and our lack of faith to His commandments.

We have been given the great gift of Christmas which is unmatched by any substitute.

Friend, I want to invite you to this important reflection, that your life will not remain empty, with many gifts and no **peace** in the heart (Rom. 5:1).

I thank God that I personally have experienced such *peace* in my heart. I can truly say I would never exchange that *peace* with all gifts that the world can offer.

Gifts are temporary in comparison and often also unnecessary.

Instead, forgiveness is eternal and has the promise of Eternal life in Heaven with the Giver. Would you ask for more?

Why then do we get lost in traditions that do not have in them anything to bring to our lives?

The reason is that we have left the Word of God, the only source of salvation and eternal life, and it is replaced with dogmas, creeds and traditions of man.

If you want the Word of God, come to our Church or call us and we will do everything to let it get into the heart.



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