

## CHRISTMAS

My son Alfred, who is now actively at the helm of this Movement came into my study the other day and said:- "Dad--many members write in asking how they should celebrate Christmas if at all. Wont you write something to them?". Of course, I shall be glad to.

First of all, we shall have to get the proper perspective on the Xmas ceremony. We shall endeavor to discover what it is, and what it is not. In nations whose religion is Christian, the Christmas ceremony is looked upon as Christian in it's origin and effect. However, such is not the case. The Mule ceremony is an old German custom which had it's origin many years before the time of Christ. Every fundamental of the Christmas ceremony was practiced in Germany, long before Christ was ever heard of.

The first historical reference to the ceremony recorded in history after the year 1 A.D. is not a very nice one. There are traces of the ceremony as a Christian practice as far back as 136 A.D. but the first authentic record known to exist was in the year 180 A.D. and on through to the year 192 A.D. In the year 284 A.D. the Emperor Diocletian, while holding court at Nicomedia, learned that a group of people calling themselves Christians were assembled in the City to celebrate the birth<sup>th</sup> of Jesus. Their ceremony was quite different from ours today, for they waited until the building was full of worshippers, then they set fire to it, all the worshippers perishing in the flames.

No set date among the early churches for the celebration. It differed and the ceremony was held for years in different months, some holding it in the spring and others holding it in the fall. It is interesting to note that the Christmas ceremony, as far as Christians are concerned, had nothing to do

with the birth of Christ. The date of that birth, if it really happened, has never been known nor has the authentic birthplace of Jesus ever been known, ~~either~~. More than one God was supposed to have been born in Bethelhem. For proof of that statement, note the "holy war" being waged today in the Holy Land between Arabs and Jews. Both claim ownership of all the sacred shrines in that land, yet the Jews do not even believe in Jesus and never have. There is absolutely no acceptable proof that any of the presumed happenings, either Jewish, Christian, or Arab, really took place. In fact the whole birth of Christianity is wrapped up and shrouded in tradition and mystery. No authentic proof of the <sup>v</sup>erity of the claimed statements exists now, or has ever been known to exist. Let us not forget that.

Christmas was celebrated between the fifth and the eighth century because practically all nations, and their religions regarded the winter solstice as the turning point of the year....the beginning of new life and activity of the powers of nature. What is known as a "Christmas Cycle" sprang up, and the date of the celebration was set as a result of the winter solstice and not of the birth of Jesus. At the winter solstice, the Norsemen held their Yule-feast in commemoration of the fiery sun-wheel. They believed that ~~###~~ during the twelve nights from December 25th to January 6th they could trace the personal movements and interferences on earth of Odin, and other gods. This proves the ceremony to be, not Christian in origin, but pagan, if we admit that all other gods than Jesus were "pagan" gods. They may have been, but Christianity certainly stole their Christmas ceremony from them, along with a good many other beliefs etc.

If you will look in Funk and Wagnalls New Standard Encyclopedia, you will find these words about Christmas on page 339. "Many of the usages of the Germans and Romans were adapted from heathenism to Christianity. But the church sought to combat and banish the deep-rooted heathen feeling by

adding it's grandly devised liturgy, besides dramatic representations of the birth of Christ. Hence sprang the "manger-songs" and a multitude of Christmas carols as well as Christmas dramas which, in later times, degenerated into farces or "fool's feasts", and the custom of reciprocal presents and of special Christmas meats and dressings and dishes. The custom of decorating churches with holly and evergreens is a very ancient one".

The encyclopedia gives us much more along the same line. It will be interesting reading if you have a set of those reference books in your home. You will then get the low-down on Christmas. The ceremony and the story were borrowed from the "heathen" who had both Christmas and a virgin-born "god" long before Christianity was ever heard of. These are facts. They are matters of record. \$\$\$ It is useless for priest or preacher to deny them which they do, of course. But they cannot protect their ground and prove it safe by denials. The historical record stands. Upon it, and it alone, do I make my statements about Christmas, and about a score of virgin-born crucified gods years and centuries before the supposed time of Jesus.

But next Christmas, millions will celebrate the ceremony. Those who are church-members will flock to their churches by the million, to participate in a ceremony which is most certainly heathen in origin. Those who do not have church affiliation will probably look upon the Christmas season as a period of drunkenness and over-eating, and other debauchery. You know the truth of that statement as well as I do. Why question it? There is more drunkenness and debauchery during the week of Christmas in this Christian nation than in any other week of the year, with the possible exception of New Years.

But what then, shall we of The Psychiana Religion do during the Christmas week? Personally, I shall receive thousands of ~~of~~ Christmas cards,

and many presents. I always do. Moreover, in my home there is always a Christmas tree, well decorated. Of course, we receive gifts and we give them in return. We always have and, I presume, we always shall. There is nothing wrong with that. The whole ceremony is very delightful. The one thing necessary is that those of us who know the truth about the origin of Christmas, do not attribute any of the celebration to God. We must guard against such a narrow estimate of the character of God as to believe, even for an instant, that He, in His great wisdom and Power, had to descend so low down the moral scale that he considered it necessary for a woman to be discovered with child by the "Holy Ghost", which child was both a baby and Almighty God.

Christians tell us that the miraculous birth of that baby, by miraculous methods, was necessary to the salvation of men. No it wasn't. But even if it was, it certainly failed in its intent and purpose. The very fact that the Christmas week is made the years choice season for drunkenness and debauchery, provives with a logic which is very cogent, that God missed the boat in that scheme to redeem man. Of clurse, few of my followers believe in that type of God. We could know nothing of the Power of God if we did. God just simply does not operate in any such manner.

Just the same, I like the Christmas ceremony and as long as I am here on earth, and as long as Christmas rolls round, this family will be found enjoying the good things which accompany the Christmas season. There is nothing wrong with that at all. So long as it is a pleasurable custom, and so long as the practice of it hurts none, and brings pleasure to many, go ahead. I have no objections. The one thing one must guard against is attributing the truths of God to a celebration which is heathen in it's origin. Man will not find God through such practices and beliefs. The theory that Almighty God required the shed blood of His son as a sacrifice for all mankind, and to redeem all

mankind, is not true. It never was true. It never will be true. Nor can believing it make it true. If this story had have been true, believe me the whole world would have been redeemed to God ages ago. For whenever God begins to operate in human lives, they know it. But the believing of a parcel of theological writings, if they have no truth in them, is nothing more than a waste of time.

In spite of all the preachments and dogmas of Christianity, it is utterly powerless to save this world. The reason it is powerless is because it is not bringing the Truths of God to men and women. The Christian church is advocating certain beliefs about God, to be sure, but it is not revealing to the human race, the one thing that can save it from itself--that one thing being The Power of God. Of that, Christianity knows nothing. How can it when the very fundamentals upon which it stands were stolen from pagan religions of days before Christ?

The Blood of Jesus. The Virgin Birth. The Mass. The Lords Supper. Crucifixion and Resurrection. All very nice theories, but all equally impotent to reveal God to man. The theory that God revealed Himself to some church, designating that church and that church alone to act as a go-between is as ~~nonsensical~~ nonsensical as it is false. It contains no Truth, therefore the very best it can hope to do is hopelessly befuddle and frighten simple men and women into it's fold. But God is not to be found there.

It will be discovered that all the plans and requirements needed for man's complete redemption (if that be necessary) exist now. They may be found and used now. If ever the Power of The Spirit of God existed, it exists now. It is as powerful now as it has always been down through ceaseless and countless ages. But one may not find that Power in a Christmas ceremony, or in

any other ceremony, Christian, Buddhist, Mohammedan or what have you. The men who have walked and talked most often with God are men who have no church affiliation of any sort. History's tale of men who have walked with God discloses that fact. In very few instances were they members of any church. Usually they denied what the church teaches, then stepped out to blaze their own trail. They were known, sooner or later, for what they really were. They left behind them a message which had in it the power and ability to reveal God to the nations. The next great religious leader to come along will really be able to disclose The Spirit of God in such a measure that, as a result of that man's doctrine, the final barrier between God and man will be swept away.

It is absolutely necessary that man find the Truth about God. If man does not find that Truth in the near future, he will destroy himself. But when man does discover God, it will be through scientific, spiritual channels and not through blind belief in ceremonies which history proves to be pagan in origin. If there is one original thing in the Christian religion, I have not been able to find it yet, and believe me, I have sought for years. Personally, this Christmas will not be permitted to fade into memory without my having quietly, silently, contacted The Spirit of God. I don't know where I shall make that connection. But I do know that I shall make it. As a result, there will come to me added strength for the toils and the labors of a busy life spent in trying to reveal God to man.

Our members should set aside several portions of Christmas Day. In those few moments, they should stay quiet before God, desiring that He make His presence fully known. And He will. As you open up the channel in you, the Power of The Spirit of God will fill it to overflowing, and will do it in such a manner that no kind of "belief" will be necessary. What you have in you, you

dont need to "believe" for. What you do not have in you will never be placed there by believing in pagan-originated stories about God. You will make a mistake if you expect these exercises to reveal God. You will make no mistake if you look within, where God really exists. You will be able to find God within, if you look. Then, having found, tell others in your own way. But demonstrate first that you know God.

I hope Alfred likes this article. If he does, it will appear. If he does not, it wont. So if it does appear you will know that it has the full approval of my boy. I wish you all a very Happy Xmas and an equally happy New Year. May we be together with each other many more years. It's been a grand thing knowing you at a distance. Perhaps, some day, we shall know each other better, "When the mists have rolled away". May The Spirit of The Living God breathe upon, and into each one of you this Christmas, is the wish of

Sig cut FBR.