



The First Christmas

THE FAKE CHRISTMASSES

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Cherreguine Bible Doctrine Ministries 2003
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(AND OUR FAKE CHRISTMASSES)

Christmas supposedly celebrates the unique and incomparable divine gift to all mankind, the birth of the Son of God, Jesus Christ. The Lamb of God and the Savior who takes away the sins of the world died for the sins of the entire human race. The birth of Christ did not take place on the month of December. However, the month is not important as much as the reality and purpose of His birth.

He was born to die so the through Him we might have everlasting. The babe in the manger would demolish the barrier between sinful and depraved humanity and the perfect God.

Unfortunately, someone and something took over the place of Christ, abolishing the true meaning of Christ's birth. Santa Claus for example supplanted Christ. Shopping sprees and the preparation for delectable foods for the occasion replaced the spiritual happiness brought by the Savior Himself. Exchanging of gifts has diverted our focus away from the greatest gift. The so-called Christmas the world has known could never be the birth of Jesus Christ.

Eight things that made distinct the night Christ was born was **a night of life and death**. *"And she gave birth to her first-born son; and she wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a manger."* (Luke 2:7a). The babe in the manger was the Son of God made flesh and dwelt among men (John 1:2, 14).

Religion popularized the concept that *"Christmas"* is the story of the birth of Christ totally omitting the purpose on which He came to die for the sins of the world *Christmas carols* and songs in general, provide wrong information about the birth of Christ on which emphasis is put on the materialistic festivity.

He is the God-Man with undiminished deity and the only perfect humanity united in one Person forever (Colossians 2:9).

Christ is eternal God, but His physical birth a process where all human life begins. At birth, Jesus Christ was wrapped in swaddling clothes, the garments used to shroud the dead. From the beginning of His earthly life He was identified with death. The shadow of the cross loomed over Him from the very moment He was born. At His birth, God proclaimed to the entire world that Christ's death is more significant than His life.

"For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 6:23). Thirty-three years later the Lord Jesus Christ bore all our sins of the entire human race (past, present, and future) when He died on the cross. No sin was forgotten or excluded. He died for every person. *"And He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross that we might die to sin and live to righteousness"* (1 Peter 2:24a).

The unique birth of Christ is God's proclamation of the unique death of Christ on the cross *"Christmas is Christ with His cross*. Santa Claus has nothing to do with the birth of Christ. Satan has exalted Santa Claus above the Lord Jesus Christ.

The night Christ was born was **a night of good news**. *"And the angel said to the, "Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which shall be for all the people; for today in the city of David there has been born for you a Savior, who is Christ the Lord, "and this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths, and lying in a manger."* (Luke 2:10-12).

The supernatural appearance of the angel rendered the shepherds speechless with fear and awe. But the good news declaring that salvation from God was brought down to man promptly transformed the fear to an awe-inspiring joy. *"For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men."* (Titus 2:11). The only genuine message of *"Christmas"* is the free gift of salvation through Christ.

The *good news* was all about the Savior, Christ Jesus the Lord because all humanity is under the penalty or wages of sin, which is separation from God (Romans 3:23). The proclamation of the birth of Christ as true humanity was for the purpose of saving mankind from the very penalty of sin, he became a Man (true humanity) to die for the sins of the world (including you).

The angels brought the good news for all people of all ages, and without exception. Salvation was provided for all since the substitutionary death of Christ is (unlimited atonement) for every member of the human race. *For there is one God, and one mediator also between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself as a ransom for all, the testimony borne at the proper time* (1 Timothy 2:5-6)

“And He Himself is the propitiation for our sins; and not for our only but also for those of the whole world” (1 John 2:2). A wish for a “Merry Christmas” is absolutely nonsense without the Gospel of salvation personally believed and received. A Christ-less Christmas is nothing but a feast void of reality and relevance.

The night Christ was born was **a night of heavenly worship**. *“And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men”* (Luke 2:13). On the night Christ was born the elect angels set the precedent.

The celebration of the birth of Christ should elicit a personal response and adoration of Him. The genuine spirit of Christmas is based on personal faith in the God-Man Jesus Christ. *“And they said, believed in the Lord Jesus, and you shall be saved, you and your household”* (Acts 16:31).

The night Christ was born was a night of potential peace (with God). *Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward all men!* (Luke 2:14)

But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him (Hebrews 11:6) *Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ* (Romans 5:11).

Your mental attitude towards Jesus Christ is the only factor whether you have peace with God or none. God is well pleased only with those who believe in Jesus Christ. And they alone have the peace that you cannot find on anyone or anything in this world.

Only such an individual possesses inner peace and happiness that is not available in the world. Only the Bible doctrine can change the mental attitude of any person and provide him the ultimate peace and happiness, others can simply wish for peace.

The night Christ was born was **a night of reverent seeking**. *“So it was, when the angels had gone away from them into heaven, that the shepherds said to one another. “let us now go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has some time passed, which the Lord has made known to us”* (Luke 2:15-16).

Those shepherds were not ordinary and the sheep were not ordinary. The shepherds were carefully chosen to watch over the flocks from which lambs without blemish were selected for Temple sacrifice. The sacrifices foreshadowed Jesus Christ as the true Lamb of God.

“Knowing that you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold, from your aimless conduct received by tradition from your fathers, but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot” (1 Peter 1:18-19).

The shepherds who tended the flocks night and day could not attend Temple worship, yet the angels revealed the good news to them, and not to their religious leaders.

The fact that they went immediately to Bethlehem, exhibited their vibrant faith in God. They accepted the good news with faith and immediately exercised their free will to obey.

The *faith that acts* is the result of doctrinal perception and assimilation. The shepherds have understood the doctrinal viewpoint conveyed by the angels concerning the Savior.

The babe in the manger is *the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world!* They received and believed what the religious leaders of Israel failed to understand and perceive. Self-righteous arrogance will always reject the grace of God.

The shepherds left the sacrificial lambs to witness the greatest event of their lives, the birth of the Lamb of God, the Savior of all mankind, leaving the sheep was very dangerous thing to do, but Christ was more important to them than anything else.

They went to seek the Lord: *Seek the Lord while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near* (Isaiah 55:6). *Behold, now is the accepted time; behold now is the day of salvation* (2 Corinthians 6:2b). *And he who come to Me I will in no way cast out* (John 6:37b).

In contrast, the pious religious leaders of Israel, who attended the Temple worship three times a day, responded in disbelief, a rejection of the Gospel, the good news of salvation (Matthew 2:4-6). Their religious beliefs and dogmas were more important than the truth of Bible doctrine.

Human intelligence, knowledge, power, education and status in life cannot help a person understand the Word of God. The religious leaders responded with disbelief, while the humbled shepherds responded with non-meritorious faith. The night Christ was born was **a night of witnessing**. "Now when they had seen Him, they made widely known the saying which was told them concerning this Child.

And all those who heard it marveled at those things, which were told them by the shepherds (Luke 2:17-18). People were amazed and speechless when they heard that the Messiah had come. The shepherds made the salvation message very clear.

"He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on Him" (John 3:36). So they said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved, you and your house!" (Acts 16:31).

No experience in the Christian life can bring the greatest joy than the experience of presenting the gospel to others. Even angels in heaven rejoice whenever a sinner believes and receives the free gift of salvation. The first Christmas has only one message: *Christ the Savior is born!*

The night Christ was born was **a night of quiet reflection**. "*But Mary kept all these things and pondered them in her heart*" (Luke 2:19). Mary, the mother of Jesus set the biblical precedent for remembering the birth of Christ, which is by quiet reflection of truth.

Christmas celebration by expensive festivity and sumptuous cuisine has nothing to do with the birth of Christ. A person are excited in counting the number of days before the pagan feast they called Christmas but hardly thinks of the Savior.

The night Christ was born was **a night of rejoicing and thanksgiving**. "*Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told them*" (Luke 2:20). Real worship of God is a mental attitude not an outburst of emotion. Real worship demands three important requirements: Salvation, on the part of the worshippers, Scripture (metabolized Bible doctrine) in the souls of the worshippers, and the Spirit-filled of the worshippers. Genuine worship comes from the soul that is residing and functioning inside the divine dynasphere. The basis of all worship is the truth of Bible doctrine.

Note that from His “birthday” came His “death-day”, and through His “death-day” comes our “eternal life day”, and we are not commanded to remember His birthday but His “death-day”.

The God-Man Jesus Christ: *“Out of darkness of sin and despair, God’s salvation, the fairest of fair, was born in a manger”.* The little baby in the manger had two natures; a divine nature and a human nature. The divine nature was perfect in every way and is the eternal God. The human nature was genuine and real, and yet without sin.

These two natures are inseparably united, yet without the loss of their separate identity. The human nature of Christ will always be the human nature, and the divine nature of Christ will always be the divine nature. Christ is both God and Man in one Person forever. He is no less than God because of His humanity, and He is no less than human because of His deity. He is the only unique Person, the God-Man forever.

The Son of God had to become a man to be the Savior, to be able to die. He must become true humanity to be the High Priest, as well as the Mediator. He must have a human body to fulfill the Davidic Covenant to occupy the throne of David forever. As a true humanity, The Lord Jesus Christ was perfect man, without old sin nature and without Adam’s original sin in His body. Christ is *the only Unique Person of the universe* who walked in the face of the earth.

The birth of Christ brought 3 radical changes in the woman, in the Son of God and in the lives of sinners. *“Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel”* (Isaiah 7:14). It was man who sinned and it must be a Man who must die. Only the genuine humanity of Christ has the legitimate representation (of the entire human race) before God, being perfect.

The only possible way that Jesus Christ, the eternal God, could come into the world as a man without sin was by the Virgin Birth. Thus, 1 Timothy 3:15 say that the woman shall be saved by means of childbearing, that is, *the bearing of one particular Child through the virgin birth.*

The miracle was the virgin birth, not the virginity of the woman. The miracle has the power of God in bringing into the world the Son of God through the womb of a virgin, incapable of bearing a child without a man.

To come in the flesh, in the likeness of sinful man, yet without sin, was the will of God the Father. As eternal God, Jesus Christ could not pay the penalty of sin because God is eternal, immutable and not subject to death. He needed a human body with a human nature, but He had to be not only true humanity but also perfect humanity. Therefore, the virgin birth was the only way for God to become true humanity.

Christ came by means of radical changes (changes that only God has the power to do) in the virgin who bore a Child without human father, God prepared the second radical change in the Son of God who became a Man. *“But (Christ) emptied Himself taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. And being founding the appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross”* (Philippians 2:7-8).

If a sinner is to have fellowship with God and be qualified to live in His presence forever, there must be radical change in his life.

In God’s sight, no human being is righteous except the perfect humanity of Christ. Therefore, an imperfect man can come to God only through the merit of the perfect Christ.

As it is written, "There is none righteous, not even one; There is none who understands, All have turned aside, together they have become useless; As it is written, "There is none righteous, not even one; for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God" (Romans 3:10-12, 23).

To be in right relationship with God, man must not only have his sins forgiven, but also be as good as God. We do not have that kind of righteousness and we cannot have such kind of righteousness by ourselves. We need the spiritual change that only the spiritual birth can bring.

This is not by human good works or effort to be right before God. Only God can do this radical change in our lives. *But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even those who believe in His name, who were born not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God (John 1:12-13).*

Salvation is the complete work of God; man has no part in it. There is nothing we can add or contribute to the finished work of Christ. Only the work of Christ is acceptable before God because He is perfect and without sinful nature. Man can only accept or reject the free gift of salvation. God in his grace has provided everything necessary for a man to have eternal life, the forgiveness of sins, and to have fellowship with Him.

But this grace is of no use until we receive it by faith. Every person must use his free will to believe God's free gift of salvation in Christ Jesus. *But to the one who does not work, but believes in Him (Jesus Christ) who justifies the ungodly, his faith is reckoned as righteousness (Romans 4:5).*

Christmas is the story of Christ's death not His birth. We cannot accept the claim of the Catholic leaders that the Lord Jesus Christ was born on December 25, A.D. 1 for several reasons: December is

winter time in the Palestine region and the whole land will be wet. On that occasion, according to the scripture, the shepherds were out of the fields watching their flocks by night (Luke 2:8).

The shepherds will never bring their flocks out into the field during the rainy season because the sheep will get sick and die. The baby was wrapped only in swaddling clothes and yet He did not freeze to death (Luke 2:7) because it was not the month of December.

The registration of all citizen of the SPQR (*Senatus Populusque Romanus*: The Senate and people of Rome) took place during summer (Luke 2:1). Luke mentioned Quirinnus the governor of Syria sometime in March where he signed the decree for the worldwide census. The census took effect 30days after it's signing.

It was bishop Liberum of Rome (The Fox) who officially proclaimed it in A>D> 354 that all Catholics celebrate Christmas day on December 25. December 25 was adopted by the Catholic from the Roman feast of the Unconquered Sun, which falls in the midnight of December 24, which they substituted as the birth of Christ.

Tradition claimed that Jesus Christ was born of midnight but there is no way to prove that. The Bible did not say He was born at midnight. The claim of the tradition that Jesus Christ was visited by the three kings whose names were *Gaspar, Melchor & Baltazar* about ten days after He was born is purely fictional. The Bible did not say that they were three kings, but *magi* who brought three kinds of gifts.

They were not three but they presented only three pieces of gifts. They were not kings but sorcerers or magicians. The bible did not mention their names. They came two years after when Jesus was no longer wrapped in swaddling clothes but already walking.

Dionysius Exiguus, the man who invented the modern calendar widely used by the Catholics around the world assigned December 25, A.D. 1 as the birthday of Christ. Dionysius invented the year of birth of Jesus Christ as commanded by the Pope without scientific basis and without mathematical formulation.

He created the Gregorian calendar in the sixth century based on spurious records and which were not historically accurate. Dionysius counted the first year as 1 A.D. with the year preceding Christ's birth. Scientist and astronomers were obliged to subtract one year, so that 4 B.C. becomes 3 B.C. In short, they manipulated the day and date of Christ's birth in order to correspond to the pagan festivity.

The Lord Jesus Christ was born in Bethlehem, but not on December 25, 1 A.D. the nominal Christians are celebrating the feast of the unconquered sun god *Saturnalia* not the birthday of the Lord Jesus Christ. The feast of Saturnalia had been celebrated by the Romans long before Dionysius invented the so-called birth of Christ.

Christmas is all about Yule, which means 12 days of gluttony and cavorting Scandinavian nudists, the word came from Norse (ancient people of Norway). Christmas tree, which came from the tree of worshipping Scandinavians, who passed their pinetheism to the pagans. It was the Roman Catholic Church authorities who modified it into Christmas tree fetishism.

The ancient Egyptians, Chinese and Germans had their tree gods, which they decorated in some occasion especially at midnight. *Tree worship* or fetishism is the belief in the supernatural power of some inanimate object. Fetishism in some form is common to most cultures, and often has magical significance. Fetishes are believed either to be possessed by spirits or believed to have a magical influence gained from spirits of the world.

Santa Claus, which came from the Netherlands and was introduced to the Dutch, the name of which evolved from *Nicholas* to Santa Claus, the name varies from one language to another. *Washington Irving* gave Santa Claus the superman power to fly in 1809. Cartoonist *Thomas Nast* made him with puffed cheeks and marsupial paunch look in 1813, becoming more popular than the Lord Jesus Christ.

Satan Claus is a cute substitute for the Savior of mankind. Christmas celebration means expending money. The Spanish word for spending money is "*pagar*", from the same root word we get terms "*pagan*" and "*pascua*" which translated Christmas. Therefore, Christmas means spending money.

Fire and lights, which came from ancient Germans and Normans who burned their evergreen trees to ward off evil spirits. The ancient Chinese used firecrackers to scare big evil spirits. *Christmas lanterns* especially the five-pointed star that symbolized Satan, the god of this world, who brings the fund-raisers, and gift-seekers. Christmas means burdensome solicitation or donation envelopes, and the giving away of crisp paper money.

Christmas lights signify that you are a believer of Christmas (not necessarily Christian) and that your moneybag is ready. Today, "Merry Christmas" means *give money*. For many, it is *unchristian* not to share (give) money to those who knock at your door during the season. Christmas has become a season of *compulsory giving* and *shameless asking*.

Christmas season is time for parties everywhere, a time for endless merry making and celebration without recognition of Jesus Christ. People take advantage of holidays and use it for family reunion, family thanksgiving or even political rallies. This will result only to waste of money and a lot of headaches.

Christmas means solicitation of contributions and donations. Religious, charitable and civic groups are all around seeking money, knocking at every door urging people to give under the atmosphere of false generosity. *Kriss Kringle* - which means Santa Claus with his stupid exchanging gifts using evil curses against their enemies?

Christmas means more depressed, lonely people feeling hopeless, causing a rise in cases of suicide. The so-called "*Christmas spirit*" creates atmosphere of loneliness rather than happiness. Materialism triggers grief from want or greed more.

More robbery and hold-up cases because materialism is the spirit on the air and majority is in financial crisis or jobless. Christmas means higher prices of prime commodities. The business is blooming for the greedy salesman while majority of the people are suffering from poverty.

Christmas time means religious hypocrites giving gifts of sardines and few kilos rice to the poor but keeping the imported items for themselves. Traditional politicians giving gifts from public funds with their own name printed on plastic bags ideal and good time for campaigning and a very effective political gimmickry. Christmas is all about hypocrisy, heresy, gimmick, lies, commercialism and human dead good works or the satanic viewpoint.

Christmas is not for Christians! "Christmas" supposedly celebrates the unique and incomparable divine gift to all mankind, the birth of the Son of God, Jesus Christ. The Lamb of God and the only Savior who takes away the sins of the world is the very heart of Christmas. The virgin birth is related to the doctrine of Incarnation of the Lord Jesus Christ. The Lord Jesus Christ Himself (John 8:23, 17:8, Heb. 10:5). The divine act whereby the eternal Son of God, the Second Person of the Holy Trinity, without ceasing to be what He is, God the Son, took into union with Himself what He before that act did not possess, a human nature, "and so *He* was and continues to be God and man in two distinct natures and one Person, forever.

Scriptural support for this doctrine is complete, (John 1:14; Romans 1:3; 8:3; Galatians 4:4; Philippians 2:7-8; 1 Timothy 3:16; 1 John 4:2, 2 John 7 and also Eph. 2:15; Col. 1:21-22; 1 Pet. 3:18; 4:1).

The incarnation of the Lord Jesus is confirmed by :

- The Father and the Holy Spirit (Matt. 3:16-17, John 5:32)
- Luke (Luke 1:31-32, 35, 2:7)
- Apostle John (John 1:11, 14, 1 John 1:1-3, 4:2)
- Apostle Paul (2 Cor. 5:16)
- The writer of Hebrews (Heb. 1:1-4)

"Christ-mass" celebration was purely Catholic in origin and has been opposed by a minority of genuine Christian leaders. Usually one or more of three factors have been involved in this opposition:

- The rejection of ecclesiastical authority in its attempt to establish official feast days, of which Christmas is one;
- The objection to the drinking, partying, and immorality associated in every age with Christmas festivities;
- The long-standing and continuing associations of Christmas with pagan religious ideas and practices.

The Christmas is the story of death rather than the story of birth because the Lord Jesus Christ became a man to die in behalf of the entire human race. The first Christmas made salvation a free gift for every member of the human race. Jesus Christ was born to die everyone.

New Year celebration connotes heathenism and paganism. Its origin is difficult to determine since most ancient pagan religions have their own version of the New Year revelry based on their own calendar. Ancient religions based their New Year celebration on the movement of the sun, moon, stars and earth. In short, the basis was on astrology not astronomy. Astrology, is the supposed science of the effect of celestial bodies on human affairs, and related to idolatry, which is worship of the heavenly bodies known as the ancient *astrolatrea*.

An astrologer is a person who claims to know and interpret supposed influence of the stars and planets on person or events. No person can foretell the future events in our lives based on the movement of sun, moon, stars and planets. Only the omniscient God knows our future.

The New Year Celebration is based on *Taoism*, feng shui and combination of primitive pagan practices. Practices like preparing fruits on the table to invite abundance of food for the coming year. The noise making and fireworks is to drive away evil spirits (like the spirit of famine, poverty, bad luck, fear), which are the primary teaching of cult. Believers are not supposed to share in the *table of demons of the cup of demons or sacrifice to demons* (1 Cor. 10:19-22).

Sharers in demons refer to the activities, practices, of believers that are outside the Biblical doctrines. The believer is said to be sharers in demons whenever he consult his zodiac prediction for guidance or consults astrological page in a newspaper for his daily *horoscope*.

The cup of demons and table of demons refer to practices, traditions and rituals of the world adapted by the believers. Paying homage to the dead on November 1st, hanging Christmas lanterns or putting up a Christmas tree is partaking in the cup of demons. Celebrating new moon, New Year, is actually celebrating the feast of some astrological deities [gods]. It is not Scriptural and it is demonic in nature. It is not legalism but simply the exercise of free will to reject demonic doctrines.

Firecrackers are to scare away evil spirit originated from ancient pagan practices of driving out the evil spirits from animals. The midnight meal is an adaptation of midnight offerings of foods and drinks to pagan gods. The New Year celebration is a mixture of ancient superstitions and cultic traditions disguised as Christian celebration.

The modern New Year revelry is the celebration of a pagan feast that has successfully distracted the Church Age believers.

“What do you mean then? That a thing sacrificed to idols is anything? No, but I say that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to demons, and not to God; and I do not want you to become sharers in demons. You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons, you cannot partake of the table of the Lord and table of demons.” (1 Corinthians 10:19-21).

New Year celebration is bothersome, costly and waste of time, but can become source of pride for others. Some believers spiritualize such celebration by canonizing it as Christian practice. The New Year celebrations is always related to feng shui. *Feng shui* is a more than 3000 years old Chinese Philosophy and an art of placement and balance of *yin* and *yang*. *yin* and *yang* means “wind” and “water” which claims to create spiritually and healthy balance for an appealing home.

Feng shui is a balance of yin and yang that is finding harmony between energy flows. Practitioners believe that certain places are luckier, certain shapes are more seductive to a balanced life, some symmetry are preferred over angles. Feng shui’s popularity is alarmingly high. Developers, builders, home owners are all consulting feng shui masters. Even Christians are not spared by the influence. It deceives the elite, intelligent, the rich and poor alike.

Let us consider several things about feng shui; It originated from the cultic practices of astrology, fortune telling, charms of ancient Eastern religions, and a mixture of science and superstition. Feng shui, disguised as science has successfully infiltrated the souls of the “*knowledge thirsty*” believers who have no positive volition toward the Scripture. Feng shui cannot guarantee peace, prosperity, happiness or protection since it is based on human viewpoint.

God alone has the Master Plan for the life of every person based on their personal decisions as foreknown by God on the eternity past and included in the divine decree. To trust feng shui for your future health and wealth is to accept satanic lies and human viewpoint. There are numerous feng shui objects and charms that look harmless and decorative but are actually religious objects of worship.

To display Feng shui icons and object is to open your home to demonic influence. Feng shui like any other icons has power supplied by Satan whose demons attends and minister to their devotees. Feng shui is a false hope and a false object of confidence for your wealth and health. Nothing in this world can guarantee your good health and future except God. The New Year and feng shui provides false hope and dependency.

But not even the perfect Garden of Eden was able to guarantee good and healthy future. Your good future begins at the very moment you believe and accept the free gift of salvation and it continues in your spiritual growth and maturity. No objects (like feng shui fishes and plants) can create a happy and lasting marital relationship. Good health and wealth comes from the justice of God through His grace pipeline.

Feng shui designed porcelain jars and items (like frogs, horses) are all related to ancient Chinese folk religion that dominates the ancient Chinese culture. Feng shui is a demonic cult dressed as science and philosophy. To many people, it is innocent and harmless looking. Some feng shui rituals and traditions are widely welcome without suspicion that they are demonic like the blood of animals or man offered during the digging of a building foundation (1 Corinthians 10:20).

Feng shui is a booming and a growing religious cult that has infiltrated the doors of many homes undetected and unsuspected by many, including some believers.

New Year celebration concerns itself about prosperity for the coming year, blindly wishing the best out of everything even from the wrong and bad decisions. In the Old Testament Israel, there were daily (Lev. 23), weekly, monthly, and yearly festivals, and great stress was laid on the regular observance of them in every particular situations (Num. 28:1-8; Ex. 29:38-42; Lev. 6:8-23; Ex. 30:7-9; 27:20).

Those festivals were religious related to Mosaic laws, and had an important bearing on the maintenance among the Jewish people relating to a feeling concerning nationality unity.

The times fixed for their observance were arranged so as to interfere as little as possible with the industry of the people. The Passover was kept just before the harvest commenced, Pentecost at the conclusion of the corn harvest and before the vintage, the feast of Tabernacles after all the fruits of the ground had been gathered in. Such festivals are no longer applicable to the Church Age. There is no need to duplicate or imitate such feasts because we are already in a different dispensation.

The celebration of the New Year is not related to our Christian life and practice. It has nothing to do with our faith and Bible doctrine. Therefore Christians must never waste their money, time and energy for those non-essential celebrations. Celebrating such feasts make our lives more complicated, burdensome, and makes us slaves to traditions invented by the cults. There is nothing spiritual about Christmas and New Year celebration or party.

As Christian, we may prepare food and eat as you wish but do it as normally as you do on ordinary days. Do not prepare sumptuous food because it's New Year. The polka dots clothing and various preparation like lighting and firecrackers must be disregarded. There is nothing spiritual about the changes of year and avoid the sin of spiritualizing the carnal things like praying at exactly 12:00 Midnight.

Any day of the year is a day of recognizing the blessings and sovereignty of God, not just on New Year eve. There is no such thing as lucky year or lucky day.

Every day is a day of opportunities and privileges in the grace of God, and a day of gratitude toward God and His perfect plan, will and purpose for your life (1 Thess. 5:18). Success comes from God not from your lucky star, moon, or planet. You make your own history; you create your own story. Inter planetary movement does not affect your future, destiny or future. New Year revelry is fun but it can contribute nothing to your good welfare and future.

Kenosis, comes from the Greek verb "*kenoo*" which means "*to deprive oneself of a rightful function, to debase oneself*". It explains how the supreme God condescended to become a man and suffer the humiliation of the cross (Philippians 2:6-8).

- *The state of His humiliation*: having taken the form of a servant, having become in the likeness of men (Philippians 2:7).
- *The state of His preincarnate eternal state*, as being in the form of God, being equal with God (Philippians 2:6).

The truth expressed here concerning His pre-incarnate state is that He had to be equal with God in order to have the form of God. He could not be God the Son without being God. He who showed us the *morphe* (the form of God or the essence of God), had to be equal with God. Prior to His incarnation He was in the form of God.

He was by essence, God, and after His incarnation, in spite of His voluntary humiliation, He was still in the form of essence of God. But in spite of His essence as a Deity, He took upon Himself the true essence of a servant – the form of a man. How could the sovereign, infinite, perfect and immutable God become a servant yet remain God?

The answer is not speculation but history, the historical life of Christ in the hypostatic union on earth. God has resolved the issues. The answer to this question reveals the dynamics of Christ's integrity. To become a servant, Christ had to veil His pre-incarnate glory and power (John 17:5).

All throughout His life on earth (during His Hypostatic Union) Christ refused to use or exercise the attributes of His deity apart from the mission given to Him by the Father (Revelation 13:8). Satan tempted His humanity to use His divine Deity for His own benefits.

As a perfect Deity, Christ remained in this perfect omniscience, but at the same time as a true humanity, He was born ignorant (He was not born with Bible Doctrine implanted in His soul) but He learned Bible doctrine, little by little, precept by precept (Isaiah 28:10) from the early age. By the age of twelve, the Lord Jesus Christ has already reached spiritual maturity and continued to advance to ultra super grace life and beyond.

As God, Christ remain omnipotent, existing equally in heaven and on earth (John 13:13), while as a Man, Jesus Christ endured primitive technology and all the discomfort of His day. As Deity, His omnipotence held together the universe, maintaining and sustaining it, including all the needs of all His children around the world (Col. 1:17).

During His incarnation, Jesus Christ did not exercise His divine attributes to benefit or glorify Himself. Instead, the Father's design of the divine attribute dynaspshere assigned to God, the Holy Spirit with the mission of sustaining and glorifying Christ (John 8:56, 16:14). Divine Dynaspshere explains kenosis because humility does not stand all alone in the divine system but rather the foundation of all virtues by what Christ voluntarily chose to do, not just what He voluntarily chose to restrict (Philippians 2:5-8).

Kenosis is the most dramatic demonstration of objective divine love of the members of Godhead for each other. Since the divine dynasphere met the absolute standards of God the Son in His perfect humanity during the Hypostatic Union, we can place our confidence in the divine dynasphere as our Christian way of life. From His omniscience in eternity past, Christ knew every detail of divine dynasphere, because its tremendous divine dynamics is identical to His own.

Every Church Age believer has this privilege available at the moment of salvation. Residence and function of the divine dynasphere is not automatic. Every believer must exercise his volition to re-enter the divine dynasphere.

The perfect humanity of Christ advance through all stages of spiritual growth, reaching spiritual maturity at the early age of twelve years old (Luke 2:40), and continued to advance up to the highest level of spiritual for His perfect humanity. His attainment of spiritual self-esteem characterized by the virtue of personal love toward God and its attainment of spiritual autonomy characterized by virtue impersonal love toward all men (Luke 2:52).

The humanity of Christ did not use His Deity to advance spiritually, but completely relied on the spiritual resources available inside the divine dynasphere. The humanity of Christ signified His positive volition to the plan of God the Father submitting to the baptism of John. His immersion symbolized His obedience to the plan of the Father for His first coming. God's plan for the perfect humanity of Christ is unique and cannot be imitated or duplicated by anyone.

Christ's declaration of His submission to God's will elicited the strongest possible attestation of our Lord's spiritual maturity (Matthew 3:17. John 1:14). As true humanity, Christ had utilized the divine dynasphere to advance in every phase of spiritual adulthood and reach the ultra-supergrace maturity.

At the outset of His public ministry, He was immediately taken into the desert, to face His evidence testing (Matthew 4:1-15). The humanity of Christ was tested severely all throughout His ministerial days. The account recorded in Matthew chapter 4 is only summary of the daily testing He faced. The cross was the final phase of His evidence testing. The humanity of Christ won tactically, every testing which the devil took advantage in an attempt to destroy Him.

The 30 years of Jesus in Nazareth. The information for which is confined only to the birth stories and one brief incident when Jesus was about twelve years old (Luke 2:41-52). Only 11 verses are related to His 30 years in Nazareth, compare to over 1800 verses related to His last 10 days before His death. The last 10 days was far more important because of it is related to His spiritual death.

His home life in Nazareth for 30 years has little relevance to our spiritual life because of their negative volition and open for rejection of the Messiah and the Word of God. The people of Nazareth called Him nothing but the "*carpenter*" or the "*son of the carpenter*" is an obvious indication of their hardness of the heart, or obvious rejection of the free gift of salvation (Matthew 13:55).

The mystery of the hidden years also reveals the reality that any believer has the same potential for maximum for spiritual maturity in any given situation or circumstances. The real issue about the hidden years is not what He did, what He did not do, or where He has been, but WHO AND WHAT HE IS inside the divine dynasphere while all the demons and the cosmos diabolicus attempted to ambush Him. That is, how He maintained His perfect impeccability in the midst of sinful men. The real issue is not about the virginity of Mary but the birth of the Son of God into perfect humanity without the old sin nature and Adam's original sin (kenosis). This is the History of Christmas, the death on the cross.