

## Hebrews 13:5

*Let your conduct be without covetousness; For He Himself has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."*

During Christmas you have those who are so easy to shop for, because you know exactly what they want, and what to get them. But then there are those people, like me, who making shopping difficult, because you never know what to get them, and when you ask us, we can't think of anything that we want or need.

But even though you may not like this, have you ever thought that the reason we are so difficult to shop for is because we are content with what we have "*be content with such things as you have.*", and are usually not in want for anything at all? I know my wife is like this as well, because I ask her what she wants, and it takes her a long time for her to figure out what she really wants, and once she does, it's usually only one or two things.

But others, can give you a big laundry list of things they want and they may even throw in there a few things that they actually need as well. These are also those who, after Christmas, will go buy more stuff, because it's on sale. But my thought process is that you can either save, say, \$20 off a item that cost \$100, which would cost you \$80. Or you can save \$80 by not going out and buying that item on sale. Because some people will go out and buy things simply because they are on sale, not because they really need them.

But do people do this in their walk with the Lord too? They seem to want more of the world, so much so that they are willing to have less of the Lord so they can have more stuff.

† **1 Timothy 6:6** *Now godliness with contentment is great gain.*

For God did not send His only begotten Son, Jesus into this world so that man could celebrate it by going into debt, or to celebrate covetousness.

† **John 3:17** *"For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved."*

Yet how many make buying and getting stuff the main focus of Christmas. People seem to forget that the Christmas holiday was created by man, and not by God, because God's knows that we would turn the celebration of Jesus' birth into a buying frenzy, which is covetousness and that's why the author of Hebrews says "*Let your conduct be without covetousness; be content with such things as you have.*"

So does that make its wrong to celebrate Christmas?

Good question, but let me ask you this, is it wrong to celebrate Easter? “No”, you will say “because it’s the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus from the dead.” Which is true, yet how many in the world celebrate it as an Easter Bunny coming in the middle of the night and leaving a basket full of toys and candy for the kids. So if they do, does that make it wrong for us to celebrate it as the Resurrection of Jesus Christ? No, not at all, because it truly is when Jesus rose from the dead, based upon the Passover celebration.

So to answer your question of, is it wrong to celebrate Christmas? It’s not if you are truly celebrating the birth of Jesus, and not making it about getting stuff from others, or going into debt to give to others, or celebrating a fat guy coming into your home in the middle of the night and lying to your kids about him, telling them that Santa gave them these gifts and not you, then it’s totally fine to celebrate it.

So let the world have its celebration of Easter Bunnies and Santa Clause. But that should never stop us from our true celebration of the Birth and Resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ. And if people are offended by the title of Christmas, then just tell them, “I’m celebrating Jesus’ birthday, not Christmas, so join me in wishing Jesus a happy birthday. **Happy Birthday Jesus!**” After all, no one should be offended by celebrating someone’s birthday, especially the birth of the Savior of the world, Jesus Christ.

† **Matthew 11:6** *And blessed is he who is not offended because of Me.*

† **Matthew 15:12-14** *Then His disciples came and said to Him, "Do You know that the Pharisees were offended when they heard this saying?" But He answered and said, "Every plant which My heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. Let them alone. They are blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind leads the blind, both will fall into a ditch."*

† **1 Corinthians 1:23 (NLT2)** *So when we preach that Christ was crucified, the Jews are offended and the Gentiles say it’s all nonsense.*

† **Psalms 119:36** *Incline my heart to Your testimonies, And not to covetousness.*