

## Romans 14:15-17

***Yet if your brother is grieved because of your food, you are no longer walking in love. Do not destroy with your food the one for whom Christ died. Therefore do not let your good be spoken of as evil; for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.***

Well, if you are reading this, then like me, you survived Thanksgiving, the food, bad salad and your family (some crazy and some not) and now you are working your way towards Christmas.

We all love Christmas time and look forward to the celebration of Jesus' birth here on the earth. Unfortunately, some Christians use this as a time to be unloving towards the non-believers. How so? Simply they bash those who would dare to use words like, Holidays, or Winter Season, or Xmas, or any other names that just irks you when they are talking about this time of year, that we know as the birth of Jesus Christ?

Well, here are a few things to think about as a Christian.

Do you know where the word Christmas is in the bible? What, you don't know? Then maybe you know what books of the bible talk about celebrating Jesus' birth (Christmas) after Jesus was born? Ok, you don't know where that is either, then how about where in the bible does it say that Jesus was born during December and there was snow?

You probably know the answers to these questions and the answer is that nowhere in the bible are any of these things spoken of. In fact, if you read the bible, the ongoing celebration in the New Testament was not of Jesus' birthday, but His resurrection from the dead after He was crucified. Our hope is not in Christmas, but we place our hope in His death that cleanses us from our sins, and resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

Yet how many are so focused on the name of a holiday that they are being unloving and uncaring towards those who are not believers over something that the bible does not even teach?

I'm going to do a little something with today's devotional verses to help clear this up once and for all. (note my changes in blue or in bracket[ ])

***Yet if your brother is grieved because of your [title of Christmas], you are no longer walking in love. Do not destroy with your [man made title of Christmas] the one for whom Christ died. Therefore do not let your good be spoken of as evil; for the kingdom of God is not [titles of holidays], but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.***

I don't know how much clearer that could make it. Let the world celebrate what was actually a pagan holiday in the first place the way they want to. Stop trying to make the world live like they

are Christians. Don't they already think Christianity is just a bunch of rules anyway, so why are you giving them more rules that are manmade rules and not what God said at all!

† **Colossians 2:21-23** *"Do not touch, do not taste, do not handle," which all concern things which perish with the using--according to the commandments and doctrines of men? These things indeed have an appearance of wisdom in self-imposed religion, false humility, and neglect of the body, but are of no value against the indulgence of the flesh.*