

**Jesus, you wouldn't mind...???**

Jesus, I know you told us that the customs of the heathen are vain, and you told us not to learn the way of the heathen. I know that you told us that philosophy (philos: affection, sophia – wisdom, love of wisdom), vain deceit, and traditions of men and rudiments of this world would spoil us and lead us into captivity, which is darkness, if we follow these traditions or rituals.

Jesus, I realize you told us not to add or diminish from your Word (Deut. 4:12, 18). And I know you said your Word was pure (Prov. 30:5 & 17:27), and I understand you said your word is unchangeable (Malachi 3:6), **but** you won't mind if we keep a drunken pagan festival in your honor as long as we change the name so it sounds kind of Christian even though it is fire worship. You won't mind, will you?

Now, Jesus, we're not going to be able to stop the drunks and the pagan worshippers from continuing to keep their ancient customs. There will be a record number of suicides this time of year. The poor will feel oppressed, but we will take a dinner to them at xmas time and tell them "we'll be back again next year". And Jesus, we know there will be a record number of wrecks caused by drunk drivers, and the liquor stores will be thrilled to see the season come. Playboy Magazine even has a special Christmas edition, and adultery will run rampant as husbands and wives abandon their vows at drunken parties.

And you will be real happy when you'll hear my ideas, Jesus. We've gone back in history and found fire worshippers of the ancient world who had a festival that went from December 17 thru December 25. That was the birthday of their fire god Mithra or Hercules, and they worship pagan gods.

Now, Jesus, here is my idea. We are going to take this drunken festival of Saturn or Saturnalia, and we're going to put your name on it. We will call it Christmas, but we'll drop the last "s" to disguise it and keep it from looking like Roman Catholicism, OK?

They offered their children in the fire and ate them, but I assure you Jesus that most of the world will be celebrating this festival the same way they did thousands of years before you were born, but I want you to believe me when I tell you, we don't do it that way. And when they ask us why we are dragging the church into something so evil, I'll tell them "Well, we don't do it that way, we are using paganism to glorify God."

Jesus, doesn't that make you happy. You don't mind, do you? After all, preachers say it's OK as long as we use this pagan festival to spread the gospel. If they say it, you won't mind, will you? I promise Jesus we're not going to keep the customs of the heathen like they keep them; we're going to keep them different.

Grace and Truth Ministries  
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