



The Burning Bush - Online article archive

"Trying to restore Christ to where He never belonged!!



DUP MP Jim Shannon speaking in the House of Commons

"DUP MP on mission to keep Christ in Christmas". So ran the headline on the BBC internet news site on Thursday 14th December. It was referring to an attempt by DUP MP, Mr Jim Shannon, to initiate a debate on the subject of 'Christmas'. The MP is on a mission to persuade people to "keep Christ in their Christmas".

"Jim Shannon has tabled a motion in the House of Commons about the 'real meaning' of Christmas," the BBC reported.

The motion also wishes "everyone in this United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland a very Happy Christmas and a blessed New Year". The BBC report went on: "Although it is the season of goodwill,

the Early Day Motion may not go any further, as few are actually debated."

Well-intentioned as Mr Shannon's attempt at having this matter debated may have been, he is however, like many Christians, wrong in thinking that Christ was ever in "Christmas"!

Explanation

The term itself is explained on the "Catholic Online" internet site.

"The word for Christmas in late Old English is Cristes Maesse, the Mass of Christ, first found in 1038 . . ."

It is appropriate that we consider Romanism's explanation of the origins of the event since it is A ROMISH invention! Christ has nothing to do with "Christmas"! Therefore to attempt to "keep Him in Christmas" is a fallacious enterprise upon which God's blessing will not come.

Pagan origins

"Christmas" was but Romanism "Christianising" the mid-winter feast of paganism.

The first recorded date of Christmas being celebrated on December 25th was in 336 AD, during the time of the Roman Emperor Constantine (he was the first 'so-called' Christian Roman Emperor). A few years later, Pope Julius I officially declared that the birth of Jesus would be celebrated on the 25th December.

December 25th most likely was chosen because the Winter Solstice and the ancient pagan Roman midwinter festivals called 'Saturnalia' and 'Dies Natalis Solis Invicti' took place in December around this date - so it was a time when people already celebrated things.

The Roman Festival of Saturnalia took place between December 17th and 23rd and honoured the Roman god Saturn. Dies Natalis Solis Invicti means 'birthday of the unconquered sun' and was held on December 25th (when the Romans thought the Winter Solstice took place) and was the 'birthday' of the Pagan Sun god Mithra. In the pagan religion of Mithraism, the holy day was Sunday.

The 'celebrations' that mark 'the birth of Christ' today are, in truth, a modern 'Saturnalia'! Drunkenness and degeneracy are its common public theme. It is but resuming its true manifestation after a period in which Christians sought to clothe the pagan event with some rags of religion.

Mr Shannon is wrong in seeking to present the idea that Christ was ever in Christmas. He is engaged in a futile enterprise and it is one in which no glory is brought to the Lord. Rather, he perpetuates the myth of a 'Christian' festival and thus encourages Christians to identify themselves with what is a sham and a deceit!



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Far from the poverty that surrounded the Saviour and His earthly family when He was born, today we have a squandering of money in a most shameful manner. To engage in this is to debase the story of the Saviour's incarnation as recorded in the Word of God.

The putting down of this motion in the House of Commons is a piteous display of ignorance on the part of Mr Shannon that is sad to behold.

For further information on this folly see:

- **'CHRISTMAS – The Facts and the Fiction. A look at what many believe to be a 'Christian Festival'**
- **The Birth of Christ . . . WHEN and WHY?**

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