

THIS IS OUR SEASON

This will not be one of those letters that make believers feel bad because they are looking forward to the holidays nor is this geared toward the bible purist who says “how do we really know when Jesus was born”? This letter is geared toward everyone with a warm prayer that your holiday season is bright and full of cheer and goodwill.

The Bible tells us not to despise another mans feast days and there is no sin in the idea of celebrating historical events or esteeming one day above another for whatever reason. No, this letter is to act as reminder of the responsibility of the believer especially during these times and all times. Our job is to make this a bad time for Satan by rescuing souls for Christ right in the middle of the hustle and bustle created by the world. As people are gearing up for Thanksgiving and the shopping ritual of Black Friday we can't afford to get caught up in the human celebration of self importance and material giving and forget that we are recipients of the greatest gift and have a mandate to share this gift with all that will hear. No believer comes to the table with nothing to give because we have the testimony of our Savior and the witness of Christ on our lives. As people are looking at stained glass pictures of a baby Jesus being born or are arranging manger scenes in their front yards, they have no idea that as you walk by the power of The Prince of Peace is in the area. As you browse for sales and bump into strangers in the aisles you may be bumping into someone who can afford a game but needs a real gift that only the Christian carries in his or her heart and that is the words of salvation.

People are hurting even while spending and looking for gifts because this holiday is more of an addiction than an act of true homage to anything or anyone. People seem to crave the Holidays and just as suddenly seemed overwhelmed and can't wait until it's over. They enjoy the incredible high of spending and the temporary fulfillment of completing their shopping list but when they come down off that cloud and see what they spent and who they spent it on they are often sick and depressed over the day of the inevitable payback. They are unknowingly compelled by some invisible force of tradition to give gifts to the children, the spouse, the in laws and the other various family and friends. Don't forget the secret Santa on the job that many reluctantly have to make a purchase for. They have to make sure the kids have presents to give to everyone in their class and then they have to stress and wait for the present opening day to see if the people they bought things for even like the gift or if someone duplicated their gift. Does it fit? What's the refund policy? Is it a mess or is it the biggest witnessing opportunity of the year? **Matthew 11:28-30 says, “Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”**

We can't allow our minds to get hooked on the drug of consumption so that we forget that Jesus is the reason for every season and that our celebration and obligation to the lost is not from November to January but everyday. As the saved and the lost pass each other at the malls looking for Blue Ray and MP3 players we must be on the hunt for souls looking for every opportunity to relive stress and burdens by teaching people about the powerful arms and shoulders of Jesus. We are not to despise our brethren of enjoyment but what has to be asked is this. Is this really fun or bondage? .The face of the poor in this season is not the homeless man or the single mother with child in the shelter. The lost you come upon in this season may not have ragged clothes or tussled hair. Remember, this time of the year we feed the poor and clothe the naked better than at anytime. No, the lost this season are those compelled to hurt themselves financially and emotionally. The poor in this season are those who got tricked, again, into thinking that a day of giving gifts will change the state of their lives and the condition of their minds or that repetitive Christmas carols and frosty the snowman cartoons really might work to make the world a little nicer and the evening news less disturbing. The real destitute ones are those with families who grudgingly come to a full table with no real love to share and no true peace to speak of. **We are the light of the world and this is an opportunity for us to witness to the lost about the power of Gods salvation through His Son Jesus Christ.**

2 timothy 4:1-2 says, “I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom; Preach the word; be instant in SEASON, out of SEASON; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine.”