

The True Spirit of Christmas or The Greatest Gift



What does Christmas mean to you? Does it represent weeks of hurried shopping, followed by days of endless parties? Does it bring up feelings of loneliness because you can't, or would rather not be with your family during the season? Or perhaps the season brings up feelings of guilt, or patterns of inadequacy regarding yourself, or members of your family?

On the positive side, some of us may actually experience feelings of celebration and joy because you feel that the holiday represents the birthday of a man named Jesus. Or it means that you have the opportunity to be with friends and family, to give and share with

them. Our cultural conditioning, family conditioning, and personal experience has set the tone for the way we each experience Christmas. This experience can be one of joy, sadness, or a mixture of emotions. Over the years I've had my share of the ups and downs at Christmastime. How about you?

For me, the key lies in the way I had previously sometimes viewed my world, my opinion of myself and who I thought I was. If I identified myself as anything other than one with God, I found that I was setting myself up for trouble because the minute I start to identify with human conditions, or any kind of condition not created out of a consciousness of Love and Oneness, I start to experience a world of limited, conditional living.

If we are going to have a true experience of Christmas I feel it is important to spend time steeped in the Christ Consciousness. Jesus was a way shower. He preached and demonstrated the way to attain Christ Consciousness. Many times Jesus stated, "*I and the Father are One,*" "*You are Gods,*" and "*The things I do, you will also do, and even greater.*" His message could not be any clearer than that!

He was pointing out the way and yet many religionists still persist in seeing the downside of how He had to die on the cross "so we could be saved." This just doesn't make sense to me or anyone who knows that God/Love is present everywhere.

Why would God the omnipotent, omnipresent need to send “his only begotten son” and have him murdered, to atone for something we supposedly did wrong? A loving God would never do anything like that, but He might send humanity a Way Shower, someone who could demonstrate the Truth of life and of our True nature. Jesus’ entire life was a continual demonstration of his growing understanding and application of Truth Principles, His faith in God, and knowing His Oneness with All That Is. Even at the end of His Earth life, He showed that it was possible to rise up and overcome the ultimate illusion called Death that we all must face.

Christmas is a time to celebrate the birth of the Christ in All of Humanity. It represents another opportunity to realize the birth of the Christ Consciousness within yourself, and everyone else living on the planet. Christmas is a time to recognize that we all have the potential to live as Jesus did...to live in the realization that we are indeed one with the Father, and to be our true God selves. Why not have a new realization of Christmas this year and realize the Christ power within your Self!

The Sacred Name. In the book, *Bible Mystery and Bible Meaning*, by Judge Thomas Troward, ©1913. Troward asks, “What’s in a name?” Here he is speaking of the name, Jesus Christ. He states, “It is the combination of the earthly name with the heavenly; Jesus, at that time a very common name among the Jews, and Christ, which is not a name but a description, ‘the Anointed One.’ Each name is the proper compliment of the other, and together they indicate the sublime truth that the anointing of the Divine Spirit is the birthright of every human being, only awaiting our recognition of our true nature to show itself with power.

Jesus was born to average parents in a lowly manger, yet he was able to rise into his Christ Nature. He was showing us with his lifetime that we all have the same potential; the possibility to realize the Christ Consciousness ourselves. The seed has already been planted! What we must do is acknowledge its’ presence, to choose it, to nurture it in order to realize it right now. We can do this right where we are no matter how difficult the current life situation may appear to be.

I recall a personal experience that happened a few years ago. At about 11:30pm my upstairs neighbor and his 16 year old son broke out into a fight. There was a great deal of swearing and scuffling. They were really going at it and their dog’s barking added to the commotion. I was ready to go up there to try to do something to stop the fight but as angry and upset as I felt, I probably would have punched someone out, so I drew back. Then suddenly it occurred to me that I could sit down, take some deep breaths, calm myself and command the following. I started affirming, “*The Presence of the Christ enters this place. The Christ Consciousness is now present!*” Over and over I said these words with great conviction as I concentrated on my ‘third eye.’ At first, nothing seemed to change as the conflict seemed to be in a deadlock. But then, all of a sudden, the ruckus started to die down, and within a minute, the dog had stopped barking and there was

complete and total silence. All of this probably took place over less than five minutes. I was stunned and amazed at the outcome!

The power of bringing in the harmonizing intelligence of the Christ Mind is totally beyond our ego mind's comprehension. My small human ego mind would have had me involved in a physical fight and I could have easily made things worse by trying to settle things in that way.

No problem can resist the harmonizing activity of the Christ Intelligence because it is the Total Intelligence and awesome power of God that we are connecting with. God gave us the gift of the Christ Mind and we were also given the power to choose whether or not we wanted to use it, or to be like the Prodigal Son, and try to go it alone.

Why not make this Christmas Season different? Consider what could happen if each one of us simply decided to accept the greatest gift possible for any human to receive ... the gift of Christ Consciousness that is already seeded within each of us? It's yours if you accept it. The best part is, it's totally free to receive, as well as to give.

The best experience you can have is when you try to give it away, because it then comes back to you... multiplied. So let's make it Christmas every day. Starting right now. *"I am the Spirit of the Living Christ and I hereby acknowledge the Spirit of the Living Christ in you."*

Merry Christmas, and this time I mean it in a whole new way. Now that's the true spirit of Christmas! And it's also the Greatest Gift!