

Good Christians

It's Christmas eve and everyone here is sick and in bed. Oh, except me. I was sick but you can't keep a good man down. This time of year, is weird for me. So many things seem to go wrong in my life around Christmas. I've lost several relationships. Christmas with my mother was always awkward. I wasn't a Christian all my life. Church, Christianity, and Christmas just don't mix for me. I grew up without Jesus in December. It honestly means nothing to me.

How could I be a good Christian and not love Jesus at Christmas? That's it really, I know so many Christians that only post about Jesus at Christmas and Easter. It drives me wild. Why? When God walked into my life everything, I once knew changed. Yet, I didn't see Jesus at Christmas and Easter. I knew Him everyday. My Christianity is 24/7 not just twice a year. Jesus wasn't even born in December. He probably didn't die around Easter for several reasons. My questions have always been, where is everyone for Jesus the remaining days of the year?

I have passion attached to December 18 because it was my split-up day. I have passion for my wedding on April 17. I was saved on Jan 24. Yet, Dec 25 is Santa day. For 33 years it's all my heart knew. Easter and eggs tweak my heart. I have passion for graduation and many other things. I have been a Christian for almost 24 years. My passion for Jesus is found in each day. So much so, that I can't stand twice a year Christians. I do like Christmas eve services. Does it yank my chain? Actually, no it does not. I have seen the horrified looks. Yet, you can't tell my heart to jump.

What does God have to say? God records a small version of the birth of Jesus twice in the gospels. Why don't the other two gospels mention it? Aren't Mark and John good Christians?

The death of Jesus is told in all four books. Yet, each one tells a slightly different account of the

same event. I think God cares about the birth and death of Jesus. Yet, it's the other parts of Jesus that make-or-break Christianity. Resurrection is important. Jesus coming down as a baby is important. More or less important than the sermon on the mount or healing of a blind man? Jesus means so much more to me that two days are not enough. 52 Sundays are not even close.

I know that well meaning Christians want me to have their passion for Christmas and Easter. My Jesus will be just as important to my heart on Jan 2nd and July 5th. I am very concerned with well meaning Christians. I know a church that will serve the community "only if" it's done the churches way. I know Christians that give only when asked but not by their own heart. Sometimes we need to open our passion well beyond Christmas. Gosh, I've witnessed several churches fundraise for themselves at Christmas. Is that what good Christians do?

I suppose I should have more passion for Christmas. Make it a Jesus day. Yet, Jesus looked to the broken. He yearned for the lost. I don't think He ever mentioned His birth. Most of His teaching was on compassion and giving. He said he came to serve. I have witnessed the passion of good Christians twice a year. Their eyes never leave those who are new. Yet, God knows many Christians don't see those same people most of the time. A person on fire for Jesus August 3rd is probably more passionate than December 25 Christians. Loving people on any given day has power in it.

People say, aren't you excited for Christmas eve services? I am an honest person. I always say meh. I can't feel or see the passion as they do. I have asked them to serve just because they can. They always say meh. Unless, they can preach the gospel. Yet, the gospel message is feeding the poor. Listening to the lost. It's understanding the misunderstood. They say the best chance to have those talks are at Christmas and Easter. When they can't hear or see people any other day of the year, how do they know that?

The group Casting Crowns has a song called “Does anybody hear her.” Read this line
*“Does anybody hear her? Does anybody see? Or does anybody even know she's going down
today? Under the shadow of our steeple with all the lost and lonely people. Searching for the
hope that's tucked away in you and me. Does anybody hear her?”*

I know why they wrote it. It's because day after day lonely people come and go from church. They see the passion on Christmas Christian faces but they are ignored the very next day. Why are you pumped for December 25? Why don't you have Jan 6th circles on the calendar? Just an ordinary day you could see aside for Jesus. A day to set aside for the lonely. Why are you waiting for them to come to you twice a year? Didn't Jesus go to them, to you on any given day?