# THE DEATH OF CHRIST

Most people,and especilly church members,get enthustiac about celebrating the birth of Christ,giving gifts,singing song of the birth,and other songs of Santa,the reindeers and other things,the happy times they have had at other Christmas celebrations not mentioned in the bible record of the birth of Christ,and think they are worshipping Him. A great many of these who celebrate this way claim no allegeance to the Church which Christ purchased with His own blood,or any of the denominations.

The celebration of the birth of Christ has no authority from the scriptures nor the example set by the apostles who were the executors of Christ will(The new covenant,and is purely a man made celebration and evidently VAIN WORSHIP.And wilfully ignore the command which Christ and the apostles gave to keep His death in remembrance.

His suffering and death for the sins of the world was foretold hundreds of years before being fulfilled which He referrs to in Lu.24 44 And He said unto them,these are the things which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you,that all things must be fulfilled,which were written in the prophets,and in the law of Moses,and in the psalms concerning me.Let us notice some of these.So they weighed for my price thirty pieces of silver,which was fulfilled when Judas betrayed Him Mt.26,15 Again in Zec.12,10 -They shall look on me whom they have pierced,fulfilled Jn.19,37. Then again in Zec.13,7 Smite the shepherd and sheep shall be scattered,Fulfilled when He was brought before Pilate to be triedMt.26,56 They forsook Him and fled.Now let us turn to Lu.11 47 and read a few verses Then gathered the chief priests and Pharisees a council,and said what do we? For this man doeth many miracles 48 If we let Him alone ,all men will believe on Him,and the Romans will come and take away both our place and nation.49 And one of them named Caiphas,being the High priest that same year,said unto them,ye know nothing at all nor consider that it is expedient for us,that one man should die for the people,and that the whole nation perish not.and this spake he not of himself:but being High priest that year,he prophesied that Jesus should die for the nation.54 Then from that day forth they took counsel together to put Him to death.

Isiah 53 verse 1 Foretells the suffering and rejection He would endure,despised and reject of men,a man of sorrow and acquainted with grief,and we hid as it were our faces from Him;He was despised and rejected of men,and we esteemed Him not,surely He hath borne our sorrows,and carried our griefs,yet we did esteem Him stricken,smitten of God.Wounded for our transgressions,He was bruised for our iniquities the chastisement of our peace was upon Him;and with His stripes we are healed.Read on to the last of the chapter,And then Matthew,Mark, Luke and John bear witness that these prophesies were fulfilled on Him.And when He hung on the cross He said "It is finished".What is finished? Lu.24,All things which were written of me In the law of Moses,and in the prophets and in the Psalms must be fulfilled.

Lu.11 45,53 Christ reveals to the disciples of His coming persecution,suffering and death.Mk.8,31-32 And He began to teach them,that the Son of Man must suffer many things,and be rejected of the elders and of the chief priests and scribes and killed,and after three days rise again.Lu.22,37 For I say unto you,that this that is written of me must yet be accomplished in Me"And He was reconed among the transgressers:for the things concerning me must have an end.Jn.3,14Jesus said,And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness,even so must the Son of man be lifted up:that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish but have eternal life.Jn.12,32And I if I be lifted up,will draw all men unto me,This said He signifying the death He should die.

Mt.27 Records His crucifixion and death.

Mt.26,26-27-28 Records His last supper with the disciples,and as they were eating Jesus took bread and blessed it,and brake it,and gave it to them disciples,and said,take,eat;this is my body.27And He took the cup,and gave thanks,and gave it to them,saying drink ye all of it;For this is my blood of the new testament,which is shed for many for the remission of sins,Mk.14,22-25 Practically same as Matthew and Lu.22,19 He adds,This do in remembrance of me.-1 Cor.11,23-29 Paul For I have received of the Lord,that which I also delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which He was betrayed,took bread 24 and when He had given thanks,He brake it,and said,Take eat,this is my body,which is broken for you:this do in remembrance of me.25 After the same manner also He took the cup,when He had supped saying,This cup is the New Testament in my blood:this do ye as oft as ye drink it in remembrance of me.26 For as oft as ye eat of this bread and drink of this cup,ye do show the Lord's death till He come.

These commands of Christ(Do this in remembrance of me),and Paul's comment(Ye do show the Lord's death till He come;emphasizes the obligation to keep His death in remembrance ,which the first converts did as is recorded in Ac.2,42 And they continued steadfastly in the apostles doctrine,and followship,and in breaking of bread,and in prayers.Also Ac.20,7 We learn that the Disciples came together on the first day of the week to break bread. Turn to page 2.

indicating that they did this every first day of the week.As we learn from the old testament that every week had a sabbath day-the seventh day of the week.But the Sabbath day was not changed to the first day of the week as some claim.The Sabbath day was a memorial of Israel's deliverance from Egyptian bondage.The first day of the week is designated as the time for us to keep in remembrance the sacrifice Christ made to atone for our sins and deliver us from the power of darkness and translate us into the kingdom of God's dear son Col1,13-14.

Now let us turn to He.10,25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together as the manner of some is;but exhorting oneanother and so much the more as ye see the day approaching.Assembling for what? Ac.20,7 Upon the first day of the week whem the disciples came together to break bread.-For as oft as ye eat of this bread and drink of this cup,ye do shew the Lord's death till He comes,-Do this in remembrance of me.

WHY REMEMBER HIS DEATH?

Eph.5,25--Christ also loved the church and gave himself for it that He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water,by the word, That He might present it to Himself a glorious church,not having spot, or wrinkle or any such thing;but that that it should holy and without blemish. Ti.2,14 Who gave Himself for us,that He might redeem us from all iniquity,and purify to Himself a peculiar people,zealous of Good w works.--Rev.1,5 Unto Him who loved us,and washed us from our sins in His own blood.--1 Pe.2,24 Who His own self bare our sins in His own body on the tree,that we being dead to sin,should live unto righteousness,for by His stripes we are healed.-- He.2,14 Inas much as the children are partakers of flesh and blood,He Himself took part of the same, that through death He might destroy him that hath the power of death, that is the devil.--Ro.5,6 For when we were yet without strength,in due time Christ died for the ungodly.1 Cor.15,3 For I delivered unto y you first of all,that which I also received,how that Christ died for o for our sins according to the scriptures,that He was buried,and arose again the third day according to the scriptures.Is this not enough to teach us that we should keep His suffering and sacrifice in remembrance? We were without hope and without God in the world;Christ died that we might be cleansed of our sins,and have a hope of eternal life,"which hope we have as an anchor to the soul,bothsure and steadfast and that entereth into that within the vail".It is God's will that we keep this sacrifice in remembrance whether it seems reasonable to us or not. Or should we set aside His Command and celebrate a time to our own liking?and to suit our own pleasure? Joining unbelievers of all description and disregard the admonition of Paul Col.2,18 Let no man beguile you in of your reward in a voluntary humility and worshipping of angels,intruding into those things which he hath not seen,vainly puffed up by his fleshly mind.It cannot be proven which month or which day of the month Christ was born.

Let us now turn to Heb.10,19 Having therefore brethren,boldness to enter into the Holiest by the blood of Jesus.By a new and living way,which He hath consecrated for us,through the veil,that is to say,H His flesh;and having an High Priest over the House of God;Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith,having our hearts s sprinkled from an evil conscience,and our bodies washed with pure water 23 Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering;(For He is faithful that promised).25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourse selves together as the manner of some is,but exhorting oneanother;and so much the more as ye see the day approaching. For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth,there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins But a certain looking for of judgment and fiery indignation,which shall devour the adversary.--He that despised M Moses Law died without mercy under two or three witnesses.Of how much sorer punishment,suppose ye,shall he be thought worthy,who hath trodden under foot the Son of God,and hath counted the blood of the covenant an unholy thing wherewith he was sanctified,an unholy thing,and hath done despite to the Spirit of Grace.31 It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the Living God. Did the Jews who crucified the Lord commit a greater crime than these?They refused to believe what the prophets said of Him,and did just what the Prophets said they would and crucified Him,as Peter accused them in Ac.2.They were convinced of their srime and cried Men and brethren what shall we do?Verse 38Then Peter said un to them,Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name ofJesus Christ for the remission of your sins and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost,--They were Baptized.and Verse 42 They continued steadfastly in the apostles doctrine,and fellowship,and in breaking of bread and in prayers.--Ac.20 Upon the first day of the week the disciples came together to break bread.

"Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering."
"Let us continue in thefaith once delivered to the saints"

J.H.Lackey Church of Christ.