

The History and Truth of Santa Claus

What I have to say is what millions, even billions will disagree with me on. Deep down, a lot of adults KNOW that this is true, but will refuse to let go of their fictional fairy tales upbringing, and want to force it down their children's throats. Myths of lies such as "Santa, Easter Bunny, Tooth Fairy, Mother Nature, Father Time" and the other lies that parents teach their kids.

This discussion is about the REAL Santa (Nicholas of Bari) and the lies and confusion that it's been bringing children for over 400 years.

First let's start with one simple truth. Let's say April 18th, 1987 was a family member's birthday. Your family knows it's that person's birthday. But for some reason every year on that day, a family member or friend, dresses up as a giant unicorn. The person behind the costume got the costume from a shop, and loves to do a silly song and dance. Years later, family members joke around about the character and make up silly songs and a fictional story on where this "unicorn" came from. Only few sadly remember that person's birthday, and it's now drowned out by this giant unicorn.

Even after this family member passed away, children remember only the singing, happy, crazy giant unicorn, because so and so's birthday was drowned out.



Going from Nicholas of Bari (aka Saint Nicholas, the persecuted Christian Pastor in 313AD). Nicholas's story became twisted and became fabricated on with lies and more stories. His images became added inspired by the Norse god, Odin. The name, "Santa Claus" came from the West Frisian's (part of Germany) language saying, "Saint Nicholas" which is pronounced as Sinterklaas." It wasn't 'til the 16th century of England, where during the Reign of Henry the 8th, that stories were brought up on the lost tale of the Christian Pastor, Nicholas of Bari, and were made into "Father Christmas." The Western Civilization (US) adopted it and so started the god of Christmas, the fictional Santa Claus.

Let's try to add to this story, a different story.

You have a child and that child stole your car keys at the age of 5. You've been telling that child for 5 years, to NEVER tell a lie. If you tell a lie you'll lose your job, sleep on the couch, lose a friendship/relationship, etc. Nothing good happens to anyone when they're lied to.

Your child is now 8 years old and still believing in Santa Claus. You and your spouse really upped the lies of Santa to your kid. Playing bells, leaving boot prints in soot at the base of your chimney and putting hair follicles in the milk and cookies.

Yup, you really did it... you made this fictional character seem so real, that for 2,912 days of their life, they've been forced the Santa lies, that he is both keeping track of you 24/7? That child could snap... especially to their parents knowing that they've been lied to, for under three thousand days of their whole life... and you expect them to NOT lie and tell them the penalties of lying to people and blackmailing them that if they're not "good", they'll get a certain form of punishment?

What does any of that have to do with celebrating Jesus's Birth? We celebrate His Birth because it brought, His Life, Death and Resurrection on the Cross so we can be Saved through repentance and faith, and not have to go to hell. There's no gift card, money, toy, present of any kind that earth can give to you. No one can top Jesus' gift of eternal life through Him.

The History and Truth of Santa Claus

In December of 1988, Comedian/Actor Dana Carvey did a sketched called, "Church Lady" where he (dressed as an elderly woman) would take a sign of Santa and re-arranged the letters, saying, "Hmmm. Santa... all in red... taking up all the attention away from Jesus....(re-arranging the letters and saying), "Could it be...SATAN?!" (Satan, being Hebrew, meaning "evil one", aka Lucifer, the fallen angel who has rebelled against Jesus since day one).

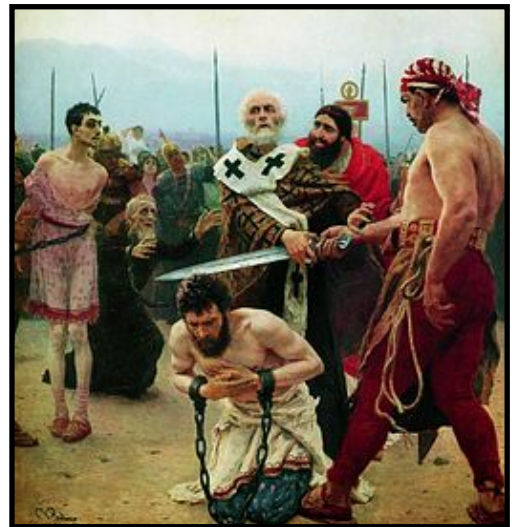


"Before 'Jolly Old Saint Nick' became the MYTH known as 'Santa Claus', he was Nicholas of Myra, a Pastor in modern day Turkey. Nicholas was born into a wealthy family, and would give his wealth away. In one occasion, he gave the dowries of three sisters by dropping gold coins in their windows. He had a reputation of giving gifts away in secret by putting gold coins inside the shoes that were kept outside their door.

When Decius became Emperor of Rome, he would kill Christians and harm them severely, and one of them was Nicholas. In 313AD and the percussion ended, Nicholas was released from his cell and covered in his own blood and people called him, 'Nicholas the Confessor.'

There was a story where Nicholas attended the Council of Nicaea in 325AD (Where they wrote the Christian creeds) when Arias sang his blasphemous song about Jesus being created by God, Nicholas (knocked him out) and that was the REAL Nicholas.

But in time, legend turned into myth and Nicholas became 'Santa Claus.'" Now, surely you've heard it suggested that if you teach your kids that Santa is REAL, you are LYING to your children! The SANTA MYTH is also bearing false witness of a real person. A Brother who we share our inheritance in Christ. Nicholas gave what he had to help others. He confessed Jesus is Lord, and he was beaten (nearly to death) for it. Nicholas was zealous for sound doctrine.



Telling kids that he's a MAGIC MAN, watching their behaviors from North Pole with elves and 8 flying reindeer, flying around the world on Christmas Eve giving out gifts and eating their cookies is NOT a batter story.

Don't take CHRIST out of a man who was ALL ABOUT CHRIST! 1 Timothy 4:7 "Have nothing to do with relevant silly myths." SANTA CLAUS is a relevant silly myth... when we understand the text." - (www.WWUTT.com)

The History and Truth of Santa Claus



"Ah, Christmas. The time of year we celebrate the birth of Santa, oh I'm sorry.. I mean Jesus. Whoops, sorry about that. Those two have so much in common and I'm afraid I often get them both confused.

I mean, we usually think of them both as having beards and surrounded by happy little children scurrying about. They both have quite an uncommon last name that starts with 'C' (Christ/Claus). And what's with all the nicknames? They both have a ton of nicknames like, Father Christmas, Prince of Peace, Saint Nicholas, Emmanuel and so on.

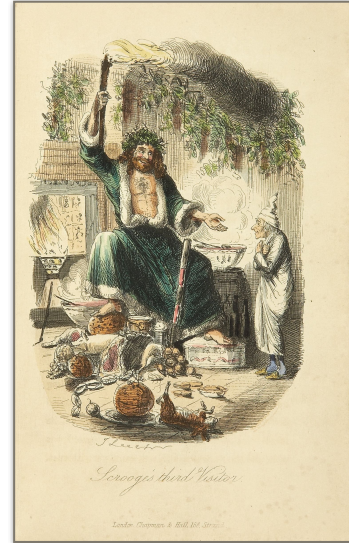
Speaking of names, does anybody else find it odd they they BOTH somehow know everyone's name? And not just that, I hear that they like to keep detailed records of all of us. But they both seem like pretty generous guys which is probably why we flood both of them with wish lists and desperately hope that they come through for us.

The History and Truth of Santa Claus

The more I think of it though, I guess there are a few important differences. For example, I don't think Jesus was known for wearing velvet. But Santa seems to be obsessed with it. Plus, no one has ever accused Jesus breaking in through the chimney and eating all the cookies.

In the end, I keep going back to Santa's naughty or nice distinction. If we're being totally honest, we'll probably be hoping that Santa isn't too strict. Or at least, we hope he's grading on a curve.

Jesus, on the other hand, came because none of us are nice enough. Of course, we keep trying to convince others and ourselves otherwise. Ultimately, Santa is about ME and the stuff I so desperately want. But Jesus is about something more. The Grace that we so desperately need. Come to think of it, maybe they don't have that much in common after all." - (Igniter Media).



"Don't forget if you've been debating to teach your children about, 'Santa Clause is real' or not, remember that Santa with his name re-arranged, spells Satan. Should you tell your children about Santa Claus? Now, we've had debates about this through the years, and we've tried not to be fist banging about it, but we've simply stated that it's absolutely wrong!

Parents can make their own decisions - but. I was watching a sermon by Alistair Begg and Alistair was talking about the whole idea of Santa Claus versus Jesus Christ. That Saint Nick is saying, 'You better be nice, because if you're naughty, you don't get stuff' That's NOT The Gospel. That's not Grace Alone. That is looking to somebody who will reward you for your works. That is not Christianity. Christianity says, 'Grace alone, faith alone through Jesus alone.' All sins forgiven when you repent and put your trust in Jesus Christ. And we do not get good things or bad things based on our performance. We get complete forgiveness based on the performance of Jesus.

Are we confusing our children? When we point to Santa Claus and then LATER say, 'That whole be nice thing and get stuff - there's nothing you do is nice because we're completely naughty and we need a Savior. Does it maybe confuse the Gospel? You need to decide that, mom and dad.'" - (Todd Friel/Wretched Ministries)

The History and Truth of Santa Claus



"This morning, just to think a little bit about the Christmas season as we live through it again this year, what comes to my mind is how enigmatic Christmas is, how paradoxical it is, how contradictory Christmas is.

I looked up the word 'paradox' knowing that it comes from two Greek words: doxa, which essentially means 'a fact,' 'a truth,' 'an idea,' para, 'alongside.' Paradox means "two truths laid alongside each other," which are both realities, and yet are somewhat contradictory. One classic Old English definition would be this, that paradox is something seemingly absurd and yet true.

And there are some serious paradoxes around Christmas; it has a split personality for sure.



There is ***Santa Claus, a mythical, supernaturally-empowered, fat elf who slides down chimneys, and whose entire verbal contribution to the world is 'ho-ho-ho.'*** I'm not sure how he's managed to have such a lasting impact. And juxtaposed to him is none other than the Son of God, the Lord Jesus Christ, who is supernatural, the God-man whose words are profound and deep and eternal and life-giving. And somehow this culture is caught somewhere between those two very different characters.

Mass confusion seems to exist: furious rushing everywhere, traffic madness, crowds; impossible schedules, while we all celebrate peace on earth, find very little of it, so that even suicide rates are at an all-year high at Christmas season.

Two thousand years ago one star lit the sky over the spot where the Lord was born; and now so many houses have lights, and so many lights shine in so many places. We're almost drowning in lights around the Christmas season. And many stores are lit up, you know, places where you can go and buy what isn't needed and won't fit. There's just a kind of Christmas chaos.

The first Christmas was a poor one: a manger, a stable. Christmas today is a display of wealth as millions of people spend billions of dollars to indulge in temporal things. First Christmas, wise men came to worship; and today, fools worldwide ignore the One the wise men worshiped. **Santa Claus gives you what you want because you deserve it; Jesus Christ gives you what you need even though you don't deserve it. Very different.**" (Dr. John MacArthur 12.24.2017)

The History and Truth of Santa Claus



In Closing, here are the lyrics to a song called, "It's about the Cross" by a musical group called, "Go Fish!"

It's not just about the manger where the Baby lay
It's not all about the angels, who sang for Him that day.
It's not just about the Shepards or the bright and shining star.
It's not all about the Wisemen who traveled from afar.



Chorus

It's About The Cross

It's About My Sins

It's About how Jesus came to be born once so that we can be Born Again.

It's about the stone that was rolled away

So that you and I may have could have real life someday.

It's about the Cross - It's about the Cross.

It's not just about the presents underneath the tree.
It's not all about the feeling that the season brings to me.
It's not coming home to be with those you love.
It's not all about the beauty of the snow I'm dreaming of.

Chorus

The Beginning of the story is wonder and great
But it's the ending that can Save you and that's why we Celebrate...

It's About The Cross

It's About My Sins

It's About how Jesus came to be born once so that we can be Born Again.

It's about God's Love nailed to a tree

It's about every drop of blood that flowed from Him when it should have been me.

It's about the stone that was rolled away so that you and I could life someday.

It's about the Cross. - It's about the Cross.



The History and Truth of Santa Claus