

Truth and Spirit Ministries

Holiday Observance

What are your thoughts on Halloween and Christmas and celebrating the Holidays?

I personally believe that we should not be participating in a day that has anything to do with Satan and the kingdom of darkness. The scriptures teach us that we should have nothing to do with works of darkness but instead to reprove and expose them.

(Ephesians 5:11) Halloween is associated with works of darkness and has nothing within it that would honor Christ. Whatever we believe or do not believe should be in line with the Word of God and whatever we do should honor Christ.

As for the other holidays such as Christmas and Easter, I believe that many people know by now that these days originated from paganism but later were integrated with Christian tradition, such as the birth and resurrection of Christ. We know that Jesus did not command the Church to commemorate these days in scripture, that Jesus was not born on Dec. 25 and that you cannot get 3 days and 3 nights between Good Friday and Easter Sunday!

The one thing that He did command the Church to observe was to keep the Lord's Supper (commonly called communion) and Jesus explained that by doing this we were proclaiming His death (*sacrifice*) until He comes again. This has been made clear to us in the New Testament scriptures. Regarding traditional holidays however, I believe that it is up to each person's convictions about such days and it depends on why and how they observe these holidays. *(By the way, I love Thanksgiving. How can we go wrong by observing a Holiday in which we thank God for all our blessings, eat a big, delicious dinner and spend time with our families?)*

Some are not observing these holidays for pagan reasons, but instead to honor Christ in their hearts. Since only God knows the motives of our hearts, He alone is judge. I also believe that such physical things such as days, food and drink are not as important as those things that are spiritual. I come to this conclusion based upon Romans chapter 14. The Apostle Paul explained that the reasons why people observe certain days, or eat certain foods or drink is left up to the person's conscious and that this is between them and the Lord and that He is the One who will judge such matters. I believe that we should allow the Word and the Spirit to lead and guide us in all things.

By the same token, Paul also made mention of the fact that a believer's faith is weak when they put too much emphasis on physical things such as days, food, etc. *(Romans 14)* The scriptures make it clear that we are all to grow in the grace and knowledge of God and spiritual maturity as well. When we first come to Christ, we may start off believing certain things because of our upbringing, background etc., but when we come

to see a particular truth that has been given to us by God, we should be willing to conform to his revealed will as given through his word. We can also seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit, who imparts to us what is from the mind of God. (*1 Corinthians 2:9-13*)

-answer by Denise Bostic