

After the Lights Go Out

By: David Burruss

Well, Christmas is officially over. The tree might still be standing, but the twinkle is starting to fade. The presents are unwrapped, the cookies are mostly gone, and the radio stations have already moved on from "Silent Night" to regular programming. For many, that also means putting Jesus back on the shelf, at least until Easter rolls around again.

But here's something we all need to pause and consider. Jesus never asked for this kind of seasonal attention. In fact, these holidays as we know them, Christmas and Easter, are not found in the Bible. They are not biblically authorized, and that should make us think.

Before you tune that out, really ask yourself: Have I ever studied that for myself? Or have I just gone along with what I was told?

Jesus didn't come so we could celebrate Him twice a year. He came so we could follow Him with our whole lives, every single day. Luke 9:23 says, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me." Daily. Not yearly. Not just when it feels festive.

The truth is, it's easy to be a holiday Christian. You show up at church for Christmas and Easter, sing some familiar songs, maybe post a verse online, and then slip back into everyday life unchanged. But that's not what Jesus is after. He's not looking for part-time followers. He is calling us into a deep, daily relationship with Him. One where we walk in truth, not tradition. One where we seek His Word above what culture, family, or even religion has handed down to us.

John 8:31–32 says, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." But how can we know the truth if we never open the Bible for ourselves? How can we follow Jesus if we are more devoted to holidays than to His actual commands?

Let this be the year you stop leaning on what you've been told and start truly seeking the truth in God's Word. Your soul depends on it. That might sound heavy, but it's real. There's too much at stake to treat faith like a seasonal habit.

And if you've been a Christmas and Easter Christian up until now, don't let guilt hold you back. Let conviction move you forward. Revelation 3:20 says, "Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me." That invitation is still open. Right now. Jesus is knocking. Not for a holiday visit, but for a lifelong relationship.

So yes, the lights are coming down and the decorations are going back in the box. But don't pack Jesus away with them. He is not a seasonal Savior. He is the Way, the Truth, and the Life every single day of the year.

Let this be the year you truly seek Him. Not through tradition. Not through holiday hype. But through His Word, through prayer, and through daily surrender. Because knowing Him for real is worth everything.