

John 1:1-14 **Santa Christ**

Introduction:

Sinclair Ferguson tells a story when he was a little boy shopping with his father during the Christmas season. Sinclair said to his father, “Daddy who is that funny looking man?” Amazement spread across the faces of the bustling shoppers who were thinking. How can any boy not know who Santa Claus is? Today there is no difference, Santa Claus still thrives in the hearts and minds of people during the Christmas season, and in fact we have confused the Savior’s birth with a kind of Santa Claus.

I. Christ Becomes Santa Christ

A. John’s thesis paper – John 20:30-31

1. The “Word” became “flesh”
2. The “Word” is the central point of this chapter. (Rev. 19:11-16; I John 1:1-2)

B. Theophanies:

1. Jacob wrestled with Christ – Gen. 32:24-30; John 1:18
2. Joshua saw Christ on the battlefield – Josh. 5:13-15
3. The Three Hebrew children saw Christ in the fiery furnace – Daniel 3
4. Abraham meet Melchizedek, like the Son of God – Heb. 7:1-10

C. Santa Claus Christology:

1. Pelagian Jesus

- Have you been good or bad? (man naturally good) – Rom. 5:6-10

2. Semi-Pelagian Jesus

- He gives good gifts to those who already have done the best they could – Luke 19:10 (Martin Lloyd-Jones)

3. Mystical Jesus

- The spirit of Santa Claus

II. The Christ of Christmas

A. What did Jesus come for?

1. To destroy the works of the devil – I John 3:8
2. To save His people from their sin – Matt. 1:21; John 15:16-19

B. The Mission of Our Lord Jesus

1. He came to deal with the debt of our sin - Isa. 64:6
2. He came to be our substitute in life and death and resurrection.

III. The Christ of the Virgin Birth

A. The purpose of the virgin birth was not to prove His deity – John 1:1; 3,10

B. The purpose of the virgin birth was not merely the reason of Jesus sinlessness- II Cor. 5:21; Heb. 4:15,16; Luke 1:47; Ps. 51:5

1. Mary’s sinfulness was not transmitted to Jesus because Jesus was sanctified by the Spirit – Heb. 2:14,17;
2. God became man – “God with us” (Immanuel)

Conclusion:

1. *There is a call to worship the true identity of Christ – John 1:14*
2. *There is a call to be true witnesses of Who Christ is and what He came to do – John 1:6-9; II Cor. 4:4*

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