CHRISTMAS: WHAT IS YOUR UNDERSTANDING?



WAS CHRIST BORN?

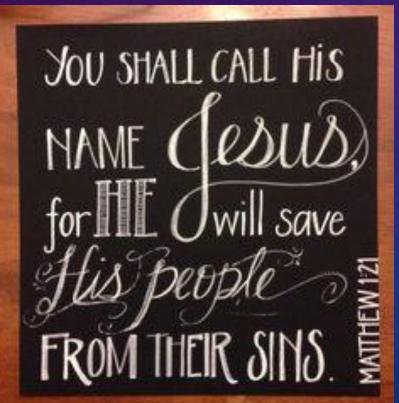
'The BC/AD system was developed in 525 AD by Dionysius Exiguus, a Catholic monk, who had been commissioned by Pope John I, specifically to determine the correct date for Easter as well as keeping track of the time that had passed since the birth of Jesus. (For more information on the BC/AD calander click here).

Dionysius' dates do cause an issue because his calendar would result in Jesus having been born after the well-established date of Herod's death; ...the same person who is recorded in Scripture as being ALIVE when 'Jesus of Nazereth' was born. We must also note that since the Scriptures do not directly state the year and time of Jesus birth --not even on the ancient Jewish Calendar--, there can be no conflict **between** any man-made calendar <u>and</u> the Scriptural record on this point. Need we say, from both within Scripture and from outside historical data, there are clear historical events, people and rulers that create an indisputable time-frame for the *birth* of Jesus Christ?'

Adapted from-- http://jesushasthelastsay.com/Th01

WHERE WAS CHRIST BORN? AND, WHEN...???

Biblical Account



Extra-biblical Evidence

Historical details point to an approximate year of Jesus' birth in Bethlehem of Judea between 6-4 B.C.

"BUT, IT SEEMS THERE'LL ALWAYS BE A DOUBTING THOMAS AMONGST US. WON'T THERE BE??? 🔅 " SECTION I: HISTORY

THE NUANCES SURROUNDING THE BIRTH OF THE CHRIST

Aviram Oshri: Judea VS Galilea



John Dominic Crossan and J.S.



DO THE FOLLOWING ADD 'SUBSTANCE' TO OUR DISCUSSION? OR, DO THEY MERELY RAISE MORE QNS TO THE **WONDROUS MYSTERY** OF CHRIST'S BIRTH?





IT SEEMS EVERYONE HAS A "VALID" EXPLANATION, NOWADAYS. SO, HOW DO 'WE' CHOOSE WHICH SOURCE TO CONSIDERIN OUR PURSUIT FOR *TRUTH*?

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January 2017											
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A TIP OR TWO:

Do Not **Shy Aware** away from Qns!

CAN WE BELIEVE THE BIBLE?

1. DOCUMENTS

2. ARCHAEOLOGY - OLD TESTAMENT

3. ARCHAEOLOGY - NEW TESTAMENT

4. HISTORICAL AND SCIENTIFIC DIFFICULTIES.

Verify Your **Base** of Data as Often as need be!

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THE CASE FOR Christ

A Journalist's Personal Investigation of the Evidence for Jesus

LEE STROBEL

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Easter egg (media)

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia



This article needs additional citations for verification. Please help improve this article by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed. (August 2011)

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An Easter egg is an intentional inside joke, hidden message, or feature in a work such as a computer program, movie, book, or crossword. According to game designer Warren Robinett, the term was coined at Atari by personnel who were alerted to the presence of a secret message which had been hidden by Robinett in his already widely distributed game, *Adventure*.^{[1][2]} The name has been said to evoke the idea of a traditional Easter egg hunt.^[3]

This practice is similar in some respects to hidden signature motifs such as Diego Rivera's including himself in his murals, Alfred Hitchcock's legendary cameo appearances, Fritz's appearances in the works of Chris van Allsburg, and various "Hidden Mickeys" that can be found throughout the various Disney Parks.

Atari's Adventure, released in 1979, contained the first video game



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When viewed on the Wikipedia website, this picture reveals a hidden "Easter egg" if the user clicks on or hovers their mouse pointer over the



SECTION II: FACT-FINDING

(YOUR ATTENTION AND INQUISITIVENESS IS SUMMONED FOR THIS ROUND!!)

"NOW, WHY WON'T WE ASK SDA CHRISTIANS FOR THEIR STANCE ON 'CHRISTMAS'? ☺?!"

'Questions:

Do Adventists celebrate Christmas or other Christian holidays?

Why have Christians adopted the date of 25 December as Christ's Birthday when His birthday is not even mentioned in the Bible?

Is it ok to celebrate Christmas even though it was originally a pagan celebration?

Answer: Seventh-day Adventists do not celebrate Christmas or other religious festivals throughout the calendar year as holy feasts established by God. The only period in time Adventists celebrate as holy is the weekly Sabbath (from Friday sunset to Saturday sunset). [see Numbers, Gen. & Matthew]...

CONT'D

- ...Adventists do find, <u>however</u>, that these holidays provide good occasions to focus on the Christian aspects, that is, the biblical message of the death and resurrection of Jesus (at Easter), and of His incarnation and coming to earth as a human being (at Christmas). But we do not find these festivals to be obligatory, that is, demanded by God. Nowhere in the Bible is it prescribed that we have to celebrate Christmas or Easter.
- While Easter and Pentecost have their parallels in Judaism, Christmas is, naturally invented later. <u>The historical reason for adapting December 25 as the birthday of Jesus has no</u> <u>biblical foundation</u>, but is due to the change of year from darkness to light, which happens in the midst of the winter in the northern hemisphere...

CONT'D

-
- Calling Christmas a pagan celebration is only P-A-R-T-L-Y true. December 25 was
 observed as the birthday of Mythras, the god of the soldiers of the Roman legions. Though the
 timing of Christmas has its origin in a pagan festival, the content does not the birth of Jesus is
 spoken of in the Bible (excerpt that the date has been rather shy of being discovered).
- The "traditions" the Western world today follows at Christmas time are less than 250 years old. There are, however, aspects of the modern Christmas celebrations which Adventists do not encourage, such as the overwhelming materialism and extravagant consumption.'

Adapted from--- http://www.adventist.org.au/celebrating-christmas

CONCLUSIONS

SEPARATING 'FACT' FROM FICTION; 'TRUTH' FROM EMOTIONALISMS AND ERROR ALIKE 😌 😌



MATTHEW 2:1-12 (NIV, AMP OR NKJV)

"...'But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, "a are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.^{[b]'}..."

[.'^[b]"<u>Matthew 2:6</u> => Micah 5:2,4; ...O.T. ref.]

Matthew 2:1-12

The Visit of the Wise Men

2 Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men[a] from the east came to Jerusalem, ² saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose^b and have come to worship him." 3 When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; 4 and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. 5 They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

⁶ "And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,

are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;

for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel."" ⁷ Then Herod summoned the wise men

secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. 8 And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him." 9 After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. 10 When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. 11 And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. 12 And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.



HTTP://MYONLINEPEDIA.COM/ HAPPY-MERRY-CHRISTMAS-20 16-BADA-DIN-PHOTOS-HD-WA LLPAPER-WISHES-25TH-DEC-20 16/

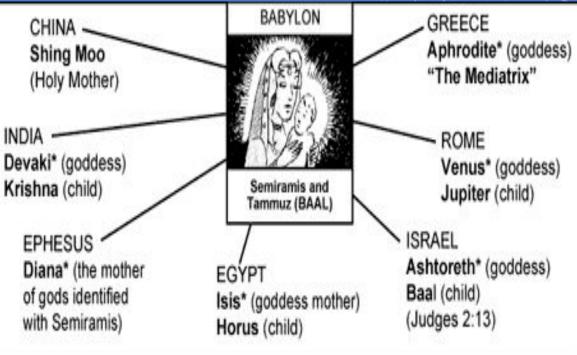
'In Hindi, Christmas is called "**bada din**". Huge numbers of people --specially Christian Religion *people*-- celebrate Christmas in India each year; and, its preparation starts one month before!!! The 'Christmas party' is famous in all around the world, (one can safely say!). Lots of Hindu people celebrate this day as "Bada Bin" and make some form of <u>party</u> with friends.' Christmas waves a magic wand over this world, and behold, everything is softer and more beautiful.

HTTP://ADVENTIST.RU/EN/ 2015/01/30/ROZHDESTVEN SKIE-VSTRECHI-2/ "On Saturday evening, January 10 a Chrìstmas cert was held CHOTA fire centra magy. $(\mathcal{F}) \cap \mathcal{P}$ Г amazing words of - A · • **9** Hi I born, unto h son is £1ven:" [Isa. 9:6;



FOOD FOR THOUGHT:





**Even in Tibet, China, and Japan, the Jesuit missionaries were astonished to find the counterpart of Madonna and her child as devoutly worshipped as in papal Rome itself." (page 20, THE TWO BABYLONS, by Hislop, published by Chick Publications, Inc.