

# In Defense of Santa

By Red Miller

The secular celebration of Christmas is often criticized, and perhaps rightly so. It seems that each year the signs of the secular celebration comes earlier. Part of the reason might be that almost everyone, regardless of their religious persuasion celebrates Christmas in some way or another, even the atheist.

On the bright side it does help the economy. Back several years ago as a high school Sunday School teacher I was talking to the class about excessive secular celebration of Christmas and one of the students suggested that Santa was the only way some children might experience the love of Jesus.

That's an interesting thought and sometime back I ran across the following interesting thought.

"It's not Santa's fault that people forget the infant Jesus. Why does the world love Santa Claus? First of all, he's a joyous individual. People are attracted to joyous individuals as filings are to a magnet.

Next, Santa is interested in making others happy. He increases the happy moments in the life of everyone he meets. He loves his work; he gets fun out of his job. He is childlike, simple, humble, sincere, and forgiving.

Finally, he is a giver. His philosophy is to give himself away in service. He is a friend to everyone. He smiles. Perhaps we all could attain greater happiness if we emulated Santa a little more, for in many ways he is very much like Jesus."  
(Author unknown)

The commercialism of Christmas may have gone a bit far for some Christians, but for me Santa and his reindeer belong. It is not our job to judge the world but as Christians it is our job to show love and promote, "THE REASON FOR THE SEASON."

We need to witness to the love that came down in the Infant Jesus, the best gift of all, and our reason for joy. That joy continues for us today who believe in the miracle of the incarnation.

"THE WORD BECAME FLESH."

No other time of the year inspires so much excitement, no other holiday is celebrated as much as Christmas.

"GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST AND ON EARTH PEACE"

Anita and I wish you all a Joyful Holiday and a blessed 2014.

*In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy. Philip. 1:4*