

“Christmas According To” Series:
Modern Skeptics



Pastor Bryan Keith Dugger - 12/02/2018

I. Secular Christmas

II. Christmas Miracle

Isaiah 9:6-7

III. Christmas Gift

1st John 5:11-12

IV. Christmas Hope

1st Timothy 1:15-17

V. Christmas Opportunity

Personal Reflection

Take time this week to pray & respond to the following:

The celebration of Christmas is an experience shared by believers & skeptics alike. Modern skeptics appreciate the tradition & themes of goodwill that are intrinsic to Christmas while simultaneously ignoring or outright rejecting its biblical basis. This rejection finds its source in a variety of reasons— ignorant ambivalence, a perceived lack of historical veracity of the Christmas story, a rejection of all things supernatural or an inability to accept that God would condescend to being born as a human being.

The tragedy of a “secular” Christmas is the missing of the gift & miracle of Immanuel—“God with us.” While many choose to focus on the materialism & decadence of the holiday, the reality is that the Messiah is the true gift & focus of Christmas. By sending His Son to save the world, God has offered humanity life without end. Moreover, He has empowered each person to choose whether they will accept or reject the greatest gift ever given.

How do you personally celebrate the Christmas season? How much of your holiday plans & traditions are essentially secular in nature? Is Christ present in your Christmas planning & celebration? Are you intentionally endeavoring to include the skeptics in your life so that they may have a chance to personally know Immanuel?

This Christmas you have an opportunity to be a testimony to the miracle of the first advent & an ambassador of God’s love to the world. Prayerfully ask God to help you make the most of those opportunities. Commit to include those who do not know Him in your holiday plans. Express thanksgiving to God for your present blessings & for those that He will reveal as you celebrate the true meaning of Christmas this year.