

For Leo's sake

"Christmas (Christ + Mass) an annual Church festival..... in memory of the birth of Christ." This definition is taken from Webster's Unabridged dictionary. Christmas should therefore be a time for religious devotion, and not a time for worldly festivities. The worldly idea came into our Christmas celebration from the Romans. They had a great festival to their god Saturn, beginning on the nineteenth of December. This festival gives us our word Saturnalia. We find many of their customs in our Christmas celebration. This should not be. We should put aside the things pertaining to idolatry and take up the things pertaining to the one true God.

It was the purpose in fixing our Christmas holiday, to make Christian the Roman Saturnalia, to Christianize this pagan festival.

There IS a spirit of Christmas, and today it is practically world-wide. A spirit of friendship and love for one's fellowman, made manifest by the giving of presents, paying visits, homecomings, etc. It is a period when human beings get just a little closer to each other. This is the spirit of Santa Claus. I hope for each one all the pleasures and joys that come with a correctly observed Christmas holiday. May Santa Claus be good to you!

Robert H. Wright, President

December 7, 1933