

Advent & Christmas

Origin
Meaning
Practice

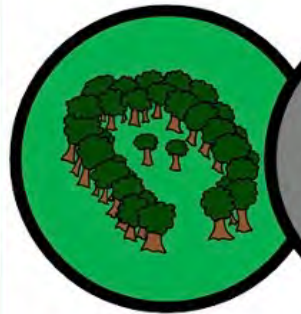


ROCC Equipping Class - November 2021



Upcoming Equipping Classes

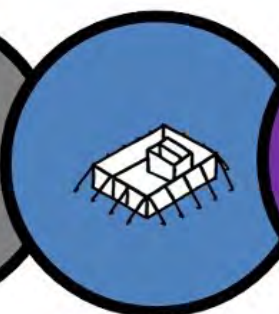
The Tabernacle of God: From Genesis to Revelation



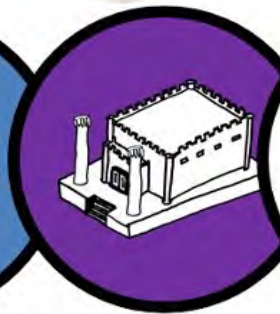
Eden



Mt. Sinai



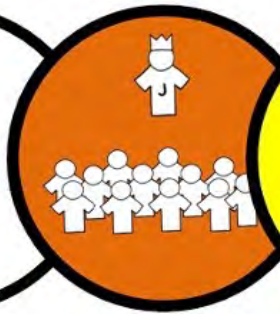
Tabernacle



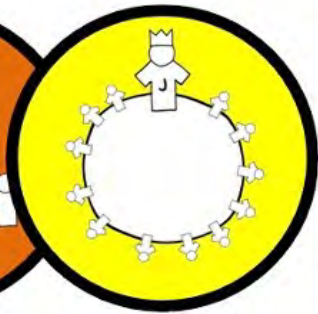
Temple



Jesus



Church



New Creation

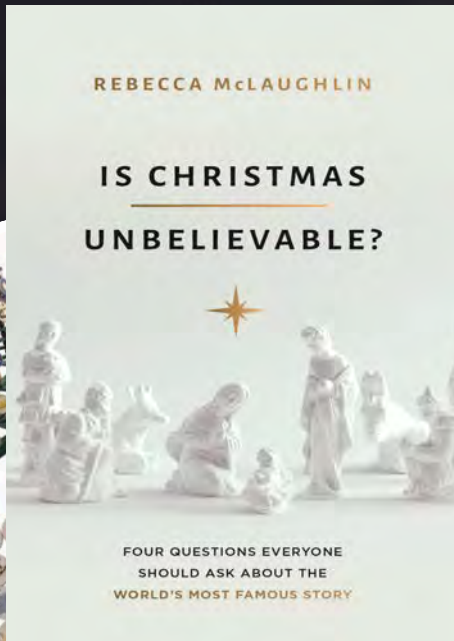
January 9, 16, 23 EC | 10:45A Community Room



BIBLICALliteracy
LEARN • LOVE • LIVE

February 6, 13, 20

CERTAINTY: THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE (Community Small Group)



REBECCA McLAUGHLIN

IS CHRISTMAS UNBELIEVABLE?

FOUR QUESTIONS EVERYONE
SHOULD ASK ABOUT THE
WORLD'S MOST FAMOUS STORY

Events/Themes	Scriptures	Symbols
Birth of the Jesus Tree	1 Sam 16:1-13 Job 11:1-10	The Tree
Creation	Gen 1:1-2:3	Dove
The First Sin	Gen 2:4-3:24	Tree with Fruit or Apple
The Flood	Gen 6:11-22, 7:1-9:6, 12:1-17	Rainbow or Ark
The Promise	Gen 12:1-7, 15:1-6	Field of Stars
Offering of Isaac	Gen 22:1-19	Ram
Assurance of the Promise	Gen 27:41-28:22	Ladder
God's Providence	Gen 37, 39:1-50:21	Sack of Grain or Coat
God's Leadership	Exod 2:1-4:20	Burning Bush
Passover and Finding the Torah at Sinai	Exod 12:1-14:31	Lamb
Exodus	Exod 15:1-20:20	Tablets of the Torah
Exodus	Exod 15:1-20:20	Ram's Horn Trumpet
Early Heroes	Josh 1:1-11, 6:1-20	Clay Water Pitcher
Beginning Kingdom	Judg 2:8-23, 6:1-6, 11:1-31	Crown
Shepherd People	1 Sam 3:1-21, 7:1-8:22, 9:1-10:9	Shepherd's Crook or Staff
Great Goods	1 Sam 16:1-23, 17:58	Stone Altar
Peace and Joy	1 King 1:1-16, 18:17-46	An Empty Tent
Peace	2 King 18:1-19:19, 32:1-27	Fire Tongue with Hot Coal
Peace	Isa 1:18-20, 6:1-13, 8:11-9:7	Tears
Peace	Jer 1:4-10, 2:4-13, 7:1-10, 8:22-9:1-11	Stone Watchtower
Peace	Hab 1:1-2:1, 3:16-19	City Wall
Peace	Neh 1:1-2:8, 6:15-16, 13:10-22	Scaling Shell
Peace	Luke 1:27-30, 3:1-207, 18:30	White Lily
Peace	Luke 1:26-38	Mother and Child
Peace	Luke 1:39-56	Pencil and Tablet
Peace	Luke 1:57-80	Carpenter's Square or Hammer
Peace	Matt 1:19-25	Star or Candle
Peace	Matt 2:1-12	Manger
Peace	Matt 2:1-20	Chi-Rho Symbol
Peace	Luke 2:1-20	
Peace	John 1:1-18	

Advent & Christmas Resources



Advent & Christmas: **Origin, Meaning, Practice**

**To gain a deeper appreciation
for the biblical, historical
Christmas narrative, and**



Advent & Christmas: **Origin, Meaning, Practice**

**... a better understanding of
the uniquely Christian practice
of **Advent**.**





Advent & Christmas: **Origin, Meaning, Practice**

Week 1: The First Christmas

Week 2: Advent: What, Why, How?

Week 3: Christmas Traditions

Advent & Christmas

(3 of 3)

Christmas Traditions



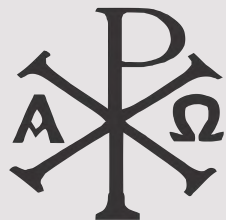
ROCC Equipping Class - November 21, 2021



Christmas 2021

How did we get here?

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Church Commemorations

First ...



Resurrection / Easter 2nd C.



Church Commemorations

Then ...



Lent / Nicaea Council AD 325



Church Commemorations

Next ...



Epiphany / Nativity AD 326



Church Commemorations

And finally ...





Advent / AD 380



Church Commemorations

- It's “complicated”
- West vs. East
- Church vs. Rome / Pagans



Church Commemorations

- Still no “Christmas”
- Emphasis on Fasting,
Repentance, Prayer, Feasts



Church Commemorations

Until ...



Cristesmaesse

AD 1038

or ... Cristes-messe (AD 1131)

Christ's Mass





Christ's Mass

Christ = *Χριστός*

(Messiah, Anointed)

Mass = *missa / missio*

(unleavened bread / dismissal)

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Christ's Mass

Christ = *Χριστός*

X-mas (Greek chi)

As early as AD 1100 ...

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Nativity / Nativus (Born)



St. Francis
of Assisi
(1223)

A Cave Near
Greccio, Italy



Creche = OE '*manger*' / 1640 '*crib*' / 1854 '*nursery*'



Secular Commemorations

First ...



Roman Winter Festivals



Secular Commemorations

Met ...

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Druid / Celtic Winter Festivals



Secular Commemorations

**So that,
by AD 1000 +/-**

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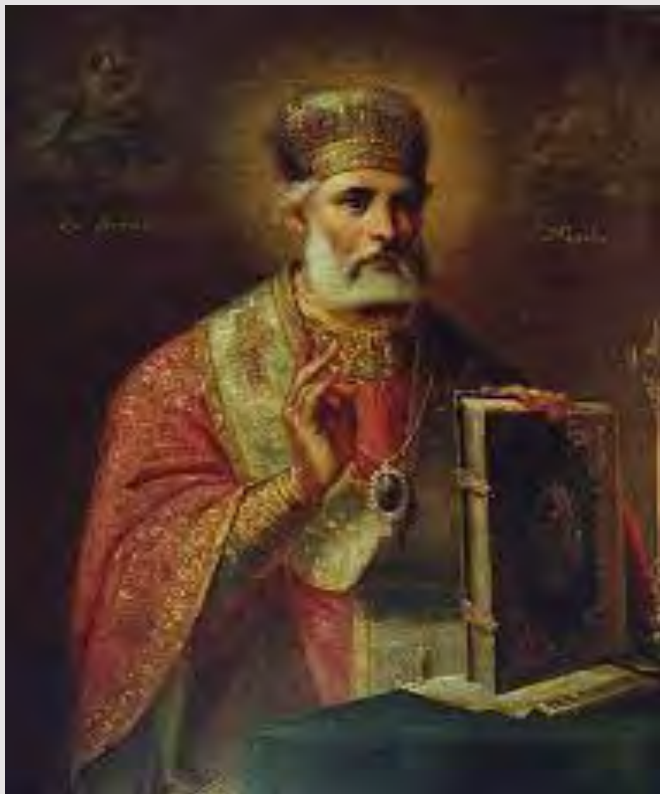
Seasonal Traditions And Blurred Lines



**Mistletoe, Yule Logs,
Evergreens, Twelve Days,
“Caroling,” Gift Giving, Feasts**



But what about ...



This Guy!



Saint Nicholas

AD 280 Monk (Myra / Turkey)

Legend of piety, kindness

Gave away all inheritance

Traveled to care for others





Saint Nicholas

St. Nicholas Day – December 6
Most popular in Europe (even
throughout the Reformation)
Holland – Sintar Klaas





Saint Nicholas

New York Dutch – 1774

Santa Claus – 1804

**“An Account of a Visit from St.
Nicholas” – Episcopal Minister**





Saint Nicholas

**Perfect Storm (1840's) –
Stores, Children Gifts, Santa
Global - Father Christmas,
Kris Kringle, Père Noël**



WHAT TO DO?





Christmas Traditions

“The Bottom Line”

Acknowledge the Tension
Approach Intentionally
Avoid Disillusion

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