

Chapter 1 : SANTA CLAUS: The Great Imposter

Saint Nicholas traditions in many countries. Activities, crafts, recipes, stories & more. Games, stories & other fun things.

What should parents tell their children about Santa Claus? Although Santa Claus is a mythical figure, his creation is based in part on a great Christian man named Saint Nicholas of Myra, who lived in the 4th century. Nicholas was born to Christian parents who left him an inheritance when they died, which he distributed to the poor. He became a priest at a young age and was well-known for his compassion and generosity. Nicholas passed away on December 6 sometime around the 300s or 400s AD, and the day of his death became an annual feast in which children would put out food for Nicholas and straw for his donkey. It was said that the saint would come down from heaven during the night and replace the offerings with toys and treats—but only for the good boys and girls. There are many different versions of the legend of Saint Nicholas, but all are the inspiration for the jolly, red-suited gift-giver that we now know as Santa Claus. Many Christian parents are torn as to whether or not they should play the "Santa game" with their children. On one hand, he makes Christmas fun and magical, leaving wonderful holiday memories for years to come. On the other hand, the focus of Christmas should be on Jesus Christ and how much He has already given us. So, is the story of Santa Claus an innocent addition to Christmas festivities, or is he a subject that should be avoided? Parents need to use their own judgment in deciding whether or not to include Santa during the holidays, but here are some things to consider: Children who believe that the gifts they receive Christmas morning are from a magical man with unending resources are less likely to appreciate what they have been given, and the sacrifices their parents make in providing them. Greed and materialism can overshadow the holiday season, which is meant to be about giving, loving, and worshiping God. Children whose parents are on a tight budget may feel that they have been overlooked by Santa, or even worse, deemed one of the "bad" boys or girls. An even more troubling aspect of telling our children that Santa comes down the chimney each year to leave their gifts is that it is, obviously, a lie. We live in a society that believes that lying for the "right" reason is acceptable. This is contrary to what the Bible tells us. Of course, telling our children that Santa is real is not a malicious deception, but it is, nevertheless, a lie. Although it is probably not typical, some children honestly feel deceived and betrayed by their parents when they find out that Santa is not real. Children trust their parents to tell them the truth, and it is our responsibility not to break this trust. If we do, they will not believe more important things we tell them, such as the truth about Christ, whom they also cannot physically see. Children can still play the "Santa game" even if they know it is all pretend. They can make lists, sit on his lap at the mall, and leave out cookies and milk on Christmas Eve. This will not rob them of their joy of the season, and gives parents the opportunity to tell their children about the godly qualities of the real Saint Nicholas, who dedicated his life to serving others and made himself into a living example of Jesus Christ.

Chapter 2 : The Truth About Santa Claus – San Joaquin Magazine

Santa is a teacher, and I have been his student, and now you know the secret of how he gets down all those chimneys on Christmas Eve: he has help from all the people whose hearts he's filled with joy.

The larger the dowry, the better the chance that a young woman would find a good husband. Without a dowry, a woman was unlikely to marry. Mysteriously, on three different occasions, a bag of gold appeared in their home-providing the needed dowries. The bags of gold, tossed through an open window, are said to have landed in stockings or shoes left before the fire to dry. This led to the custom of children hanging stockings or putting out shoes, eagerly awaiting gifts from Saint Nicholas. Sometimes the story is told with gold balls instead of bags of gold. That is why three gold balls, sometimes represented as oranges, are one of the symbols for St. Nicholas is a gift-giver. One of the oldest stories showing St. Nicholas as a protector of children takes place long after his death. The townspeople of Myra were celebrating the good saint on the eve of his feast day when a band of Arab pirates from Crete came into the district. They stole treasures from the Church of Saint Nicholas to take away as booty. As they were leaving town, they snatched a young boy, Basilios, to make into a slave. The emir, or ruler, selected Basilios to be his personal cupbearer, as not knowing the language, Basilios would not understand what the king said to those around him. So, for the next year Basilios waited on the king, bringing his wine in a beautiful golden cup. As the next St. Meanwhile, as Basilios was fulfilling his tasks serving the emir, he was suddenly whisked up and away. Nicholas appeared to the terrified boy, blessed him, and set him down at his home back in Myra. This is the first story told of St. Nicholas protecting children—which became his primary role in the West.

Chapter 3 : Santa Claus - The Truth Revealed - Those Conspiracy Guys

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So grab a plate of Christmas cookies, pull a chair up close to the fireplace and enjoy. See you all in ! It was snow as bright as moonbeams, as bright as sunlight, as bright as Glowing so brightly that it almost hurt his eyes to look at it. But each drop, no EVERY house and apartment building. And there it was: Instead of yelling he ducked back behind the couch and watched, eyes peering over the top. Watched as the light-tornado wheeled around his mother, so fast, so bright, that he could hardly even SEE her. Most of her, anyway. And what he SAW The light poured in through the top of her head, through her eyes, through her chest, through her toes. It lifted her upâ€”still sleeping! And as she floatedâ€” she started to change: Her hair became white, her nose became red, her belly ballooned like the most pregnant woman in the history of the world. Her feet grew boots, her head grew a hat, her nightgown grew fur. And then the MOST amazing thing happened: Andâ€”slowly, SLOWLYâ€”those twinkling eyes, that Smile of smiles, fixed itself on the two boy-eyes peering, in wonder, over the top of the couch. And what Cody felt then he could never really say: Or longer, if he could. But in that wink of an eye, Santa was gone. Except, under the tree: Except, out the window: Shooting up into the heavens, gathering together like a fireball, like a white-hot cometâ€” and fading away into the night: Cody looked at his mom. And he was crying. Like moonbeams, like sunlight. Mom stirred in the chair, smiled the softest sweetest smile Cody had ever seen. And then she drifted back to sleep. Cody sat at her feet, warming himself, warming his SOUL, by the lights of the tree. And soon, he, too, was drifting off to sleep. And as he drifted, a wonderful thought rose up, like a balloon, inside him. Giving him great comfort.

Chapter 4 : The Truth About Santa Claus | Catholic Answers

The Benefit of the Truth: Studies have shown that kids who are lied to by their parents are more likely to lie themselves. No one wants to raise a liar, but the correlation between make-believe stories about Santa Claus and the Tooth Fairy may not be exactly the same as full-out fibs.

This article is available as a printed booklet. To order this booklet go to the "Tracts" section on the order items page. Is Santa just a jolly, harmless, friendly fellow? Before we look at Santa, let us establish some basic Bible facts: The Bible clearly teaches a powerful, rebellious, subtle, evil being called the Devil, Lucifer or Satan. And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, which deceiveth the whole world: Satan rebelled because he desires to be like God. I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: Lightning, like Satan, always travels the path of least resistance. The Bible also likens the devil to a "roaring lion" The lion is a predator of opportunity. So it is with Satan. He is actively "seeking" those "whom he may devour". Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour: In Paradise, he fell not upon Adam, but upon Eve. It is no accident that the Lord Jesus Christ distinctively warns several times against harming or offending these "little ones". The younger years are by far the most spiritually fruitful in the life-cycle of an individual. Any church bus worker or youth worker knows young children are very receptive to the gospel of Jesus Christ. For children that child-like faith is natural. It is what the Lord Jesus described in Matthew As we get older; the sensual, youthful lusts and logical, carnal mind begin to dominate our lives. And as that happens, our heart becomes hardened and seared to the spiritual things of God. Under the subtitle "Displacing the Myths," the report said: Barna 65 The report goes on to say, "The data shows clearly that the prime evangelistic years are those before a person becomes a teenager. Can we not see the overwhelming evidence of this Satanic attack on our children? Many parents have been "lullabied to sleep" with the deception that our children are innocently immune to the attack of Satan. But the Bible paints a much different picture. In Mark chapter 9, God details a frightening occurrence. A man brings his "spirit possessed" son to the Lord Jesus Christ. And he said, Of a child. Jesus said, "This kind can come forth by nothing, but by prayer and fasting. What was different about this possession? I believe the answer is found in the only question the Lord Jesus asked. Jesus Christ asked the man "How long is it ago since this came unto him? These hard to cast out kind are those that enter in a child. Train up a child in the way he should go: The flip side is: George Harrison, a devout follower of the Hindu god, Krishna, understood this life-long influence, Harrison told Rolling Stone Magazine: It has been truthfully said, "The hand that rocks the cradle controls the world. That brings us to Santa. Where does Santa Claus fit in the life of a young child? What about the teaching of Santa Claus in the psyche of a child? Is there more to jolly old St. Nick than meets the eye? Is Santa a clever, seemingly harmless, subtle see Genesis 3: Is Santa the handiwork of Satan? Remember the harmless question the subtle serpent asks Eve in the garden? And yet so deadly. In fact, it can be good, or even pleasant. And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat. The Devil is a master of disguise. The Bible says in 2 Corinthians He might just appear as a pleasant, friendly, fellow, with "a broad face and a round little belly, That shook when he laughed, like a bowl full of jelly. Let us take a look a Santa. The oft-repeated tale of Santa Claus goes like this: According to the legend, Santa began as a fourth century Catholic bishop named Saint Nicholas. The cult of St. Nicholas was one of histories most widespread religious movements. Nicholas historian, Charles W. Nicholas was, before the Reformation, the most intensive of any nonbiblical saint in Christendom. Random House, , p. Among the more popular legends of St. Nicholas is the rescue of three poverty-stricken girls destined for prostitution. These girls were poor and did not have the dowry for marriage. Nicholas saved them from a life of shame, by providing marriage dowries of gold. They then were able to get properly married. Another amazing miracle in the life of St. Nicholas is the three young boys who were sadistically murdered by a wicked innkeeper. Their bodies were chopped up and preserved in pickle barrels, with the cannibalistic intent of feeding their flesh to unsuspecting house guests. Of course, the amazing St.

Nicholas resurrected the boys and their mutilated bodies. During the Middle Ages, hundreds of plays and paintings told and re-told the amazing feats of St. Next, according to legend, Santa magically appears in the Netherlands around the seventeenth century. During this time, Sinter Klaas a. Santa Claus was officially born. Dutch children began the tradition of placing their shoes by the fireplace on December 5, for the mystic fourth century Bishop, Saint Nicholas. Our next stop on the Santa highway is the year in the New World called America. Searching for the "American dream," Dutch settlers sailed from the Netherlands and established the Dutch colony called New Amsterdam today called New York. The Dutch colonists quickly settled into America, bringing their customs, and of course, their beloved Sinter Klaas. The following history-making words from *The Knickerbocker History* became the public inauguration of Santa Claus. Who could have possibly imagined the significance these simple words would soon have? Nicholas came riding over the tops of the trees, in that self-same wagon wherein he brings his yearly presents to the children. Nicholas had smoked his pipe, he twisted it in his hatband, and laying his finger beside his nose, gave the astonished Van Kortlandt a very significant look; then, mounting his wagon, he returned over the treetops and disappeared. Frederick Ungar Publishing Co. Nicholas Eve; which stocking is always found in the morning miraculously filled; for the good St. Nicholas has ever been a great giver of gifts, particularly to children. Moore quietly wrote a trivial poem titled, "A Visit from St. Nicholas" for his own children as a simple Christmas present. Moore had no intention of publishing his poem, but in it was published anonymously, by a friend, in the *Troy Sentinel*. Santa quickly began flying through America. Let us investigate the traditional Santa story a little closer. The first major problem in the Santa Claus saga is the person of St. There is very little evidence, if any, that the man St. The accounts of his life are confused and historically unconfirmed. Countless legends have grown up around this very popular saint, but very little historical evidence is available. Del Re, Gerard and Patricia. Nicholas was officially hammered down. Despite the fact, St. Nicholas and forty other saints were deleted because "of doubt that they ever existed. Irving claims the early Dutch planted the legend of Sinter Klaas in America.

Chapter 5 : St. Nicholas Center Discovering the Truth About Santa Claus

The shocking truth is Santa Claus originated from a character identified as the devil or Satan. Something else that fashioned our modern day Santa was the popular medieval Christmas plays of the tenth through the sixteenth century.

Embed from Getty Images Santa Claus is real. The red hat, the beard, the boots – all of it. It is true and it is real. When parents re-tell the Santa Claus story – however they re-tell the Santa Claus story – they are not duping their children and setting them up for a cultural fall from grace. No, the Santa Claus story is a gift – a story that has deep, nourishing value to your children who benefit from its re-telling every year. Santa Claus is not real. It is only Mom and Dad. So how do you feel right now? How did it feel to read the first version and then how did it feel to read the second version? I say feel because our children are much more interested in and attracted to how we feel than what we think. If we soaked up the first version and relaxed into the knowledge that Santa Claus is real, that is worth noting. If we sat up a little taller and nodded our heads to the second version, that is important too – because whatever is living inside us as adults and parents also lives also in our children. I subscribe to the idea that children are sponges. I believe that they not only notice what we are doing and saying, but they also take in our feelings, our dreams, and our imaginations. They may not be able to articulate this, but I believe it is all there, ready to be communicated once they have a few tools in their toolbox. So what does this mean – and what should we do? First of all, spend a little time observing your own feelings about Santa Claus. Personally, I believe in Santa Claus. I also believe in fairies – but that is a different conversation. I believe that Santa Claus lives in me and my wife and even in my children when they wish to give a special gift that they made themselves. It is the delight, the wonder, the anticipation, and the time and energy given to creating something special. I wonder – is that him? Become a supporter and enjoy The Good Men Project ad free Since my imagination has room for the story of Santa Claus, the story is true. And since delight, wonder, and possibility are all real currency in my parenting – I go with version one. That smile is confirmation to me. And that means that the magic – and the truth – is still there.

Chapter 6 : The Truth About Santa! A lovely idea! | Letters from Santa Blog

The Santa Claus we know nowadays is a stout, lily-white guy in a bizarre velvet suit who's loved by children for enslaving hundreds of Legolas' cousins. And truth be told, all St. Nick and Santa Claus have in common these days is the white beard.

What do you tell your kids when they ask? Every parent addresses whether and how to keep their child believing in Santa in their own way – none is right or wrong. But I have to admit, I do have some strong feelings about my own personal preferences when it comes to the truth about Santa. After all, she not only has letters from Santa to prove Santa exists, but she has even spotted him putting presents under the tree! She has been asking questions recently that skirt the topic – questions, or observations really, that make me wonder what she might have heard, but neither of us will go to that place. And my heart is so glad for that. I remember the same dance with my own mother. Should we keep them Believing in Santa? Then things got tricky. She – more reassurances. Was that the right thing to do? I feel badly for potentially leaving her completely confused – that was not nice, and a little unfair. To her credit, she has continued to express belief in Santa and her Elf on the Shelf every moment since. I want to drop a gift on her doorstep Christmas Eve on behalf of Santa Claus. Hubby Helper says that would be wrong. I know he is right, but jeez – she wants so badly to believe! I know there are many parents who feel that they are somehow lying to their children when they perpetuate their belief in Santa. I have never personally felt this to be true. As a mom, I feel that part of my job is to help childhood be as magical as possible. To believe in magic, to me, means to believe in the unknown, the invisible, even the impossible. To believe in the magic of Christmas means to believe in the goodness of people, in the joy and happiness that each of us can bring to another, and hope for a better and brighter world future. Sure, we could and should be doing this everyday, all year long. But for some, life gets in the way. And at the root of all that giving and caring? Quite the opposite – we have a sincere joy and excitement for the season of Santa! Surely there is no harm in maintaining our own truth about Santa? The Littlest Helper attends a beautiful Montessori school, surrounded by amazing people everywhere, from the classroom leaders to the other children, to the families they come from. One of them recently shared this on our school facebook page, and I wanted to share it here with you. And I hope you do too! This way, the Santa construct is not a lie that gets discovered, but an unfolding series of good deeds and Christmas spirit. When they are 6 or 7, whenever you see that dawning suspicion that Santa may not be a material being, that means the child is ready. We get a booth, order our drinks, and the following pronouncement is made: Not only are you taller, but I can see that your heart has grown, too. In fact, your heart has grown so much that I think you are ready to become a Santa Claus. You probably have noticed that most of the Santas you see are people dressed up like him. Some of your friends might have even told you that there is no Santa. Tell me the best things about Santa. What does Santa get for all of his trouble? Well, now YOU are ready to do your first job as a Santa! We then have the child choose someone they know – a neighbor, usually. She really was horrible – had a fence around the house and would never let the kids go in and get a stray ball or Frisbee. He noticed when we drove to school that she came out every morning to get her paper in bare feet, so he decided she needed slippers. So then he had to go spy and decide how big her feet were. He hid in the bushes one Saturday, and decided she was a medium. We went to Kmart and bought warm slippers. The next morning, we watched her waddle out to get the paper, pick up the present, and go inside. The next morning, as we drove off, there she was, out getting her paper – wearing the slippers. Over the years, he chose a good number of targets, always coming up with a unique present just for them. These people were and are very poor. We did ask the dad if it was ok. When it came time for Son 2 to join the ranks, my oldest came along, and helped with the induction speech. They are both excellent gifters, by the way, and never felt that they had been lied to – because they were let in on the Secret of Being a Santa. To maintain a focus on the spirit of Santa is a wonderful path to take, in my humble opinion. And Hubby Helper does. I would love to hear how YOU have managed, or intend to manage, this conversation in your family. We all handle this the very best way we can, in the way that feels true and honest to ourselves and our children. So – what is your Truth about Santa??! Keep the Magic alive for your child!

Letters from Santa [www.](#)

There are some people in this world who do not believe in Santa Claus. They are rather foolish, but the truth is that for someone so famous, we know very little about the real Santa Claus.

However, personal experience and enthusiasm about the Love, Santa book are all my own. When my little girl came to live with me at the age seven, when I first became her legal guardian, she believed in Santa Claus. Since then, I take full responsibility for keeping her in the dark about who Santa really is. Telling kids the truth about Santa Claus is tricky business. Explaining the truth about Santa without destroying the magic of the season is harder than you might realize. Love, Santa is a wonderful tool to help parents explain the truth about Santa Claus when the time comes for that conversation with your children. The book follows a little girl named Lucy throughout early childhood, as she forms a heartwarming relationship with Santa by exchanging letters with him each Christmas. The letters start out as what you would expect from a child. Lucy tells Santa what gifts she desires. She also asks about the North Pole and Mrs. The letters are tucked into envelopes that are adhered to pages of the book. One year, when Lucy is a little older, she writes a letter to her mother instead: Mom, are you Santa? The response that her mother gives is perfect, and in all honesty much better than what I could have come up with myself. Her mother responds to say that no, she is not Santa. Because Santa is bigger than any one person – we bring him out through kindness to one another and the power of imagination. She further explains that parents help Santa do a job that would otherwise be impossible. Santa is love and magic and hope and happiness. If I had just told my little girl that there is no Santa, I know without a doubt that she would be devastated. This explanation that Santa is the spirit of Christmas, and that parents are the ones who wrap the gifts to put under the tree was just enough of a truth for her to handle. You can find Love, Santa in stores now. Recommended for parents and kids ages for telling the truth about Santa. How do you explain Santa to your children?

Chapter 8 : What should parents tell their children about Santa Claus?

When Santa Stops Being Real. When your child starts guessing the truth about St. Nick. my nine-year-old son Justin has asked me straight out if there is a Santa Claus. Every time I say no.

Contact Search Site If you enjoyed this, then why not tell your friends? It also shows us the most popular subjects. So we can make more like them, just for you!! But here we dig a bit deeper and find out the truth. We see how his image has changed over time and travel back in search of his origins. After you watch this video you will know a lot more about this rather elusive man. They are rather foolish, but the truth is that for someone so famous, we know very little about the real Santa Claus. What we do know is that many of our Christmas traditions can be traced back to the pagan Yule-Tide festival. Part of Santa Claus may well be the pagan Green Man. Odin was the head of the Norse Gods. Rather than a sleigh, Odin had a horse called Sleipnir. Odin had a white beard similar to Santa Claus and children would leave food for his horse. They would often receive presents in return. Saint Nicholas was born about A. He died December 6, A. Saint Nicholas Saint Nicholas was known for secretly giving gifts. He was also Bishop of Myra. A famous story of his generosity is about one of his parishioners, who was a very poor man. He had three daughters, but because of his poverty the man could not provide a dowry so that they could marry. Because of this the man was thinking about selling them to become prostitutes. Saint Nicholas heard about this. This meant that the man now had money so that his daughters could get married. Saint Nicholas was buried in Myra, which is modern day Turkey. Here his body lay for years. At that time there was a major tourist industry centered around pilgrims visiting holy relics. So Bari sent 70 sailors on the long voyage to Myra. Over years later Saint Nicholas still resides in the town and remains a major tourist attraction. An evil shopkeeper killed three young boys. He then sliced them up and put them in a pickling barrel. He was going to sell them, pretending the three boys were pickled pork. Saint Nicholas who was visiting realized what had happened. He made the sign of the cross over the barrel and a miracle happened. Out jumped the boys alive and well!! This falls on the 5th December. People dress up as Sinterklaas Saint Nicholas and presents are given to children. Moore, who was a Professor of Biblical Learning. Clement Moore The poem established many of the ideas that we have of Santa Claus. In the poem Moore describes Santa Claus as plump and jolly with a beard. He also writes that Santa Claus uses a sleigh drawn by eight reindeer. The poem gives each of them a name. This was drawn by Thomas Nast who was a political cartoonist. Thomas Nast This image became very popular and over the years Nast drew other cartoons of Santa Claus. They were widely copied. These illustrations were very influential in the way we see Santa Claus today. This featured Santa Claus drinking Coca-Cola. Before these pictures, Santa Claus was dressed in many different colors. Sundblom chose red for his Santa Claus. This is not the case, but they certainly popularized them. His influence is still spreading throughout the world. Even if we are not quite sure who Santa Claus really is, now you can see that he really does exist. Cutting Room Floor As all our videos are under 6 minutes in length, we sometimes cannot fit in all the great things we want to say. He created the character Rudolph and wrote the poem for his employers Montgomery Ward. This was as part of a Christmas promotional campaign for the retailer. It tells the tale of a ninth reindeer, who has a red-colored nose that is so bright, that it is used as a light for the other reindeer to find their way. I share your concern about the atmospheric testing of the Soviet Union, not only for the North Pole but for countries throughout the world not only for Santa Claus but for people throughout the world. However, you must not worry about Santa Claus. I talked with him yesterday and he is fine. He will be making his rounds this Christmas. More Of Our Christmas Videos.

Chapter 9 : Orthodox Presbyterian Church

The true story of Santa Claus begins with Nicholas, who was born during the third century in the village of calendrierdelascience.com the time the area was Greek and is now on the southern coast of Turkey.

Please forgive me for asking this question. My wife and I are going around in circles with each other concerning Christmas. My wife is committed to keeping the Santa tradition; thus we debate. Am I wrong for pushing the issue? I, too, was brought up by adults who led me to think that Santa really existed. And I think my parents did this for the simple reason that everyone else did it too. So when I became a Reformed Christian and a father I, too, had to deal with this issue. So I will simply try to tell you what I did, and why. I decided, as the responsible head of my family, that it was in fact a doctrinal issue. The issue is the biblical doctrine of truth-telling. As you know, the Bible has much to say about the subject of "speaking the truth in love" Eph. It was my growing conviction that God requires us to speak truth in every situation that led me to refuse to bring up my three daughters in such a way as to encourage them in any way to believe that Santa really exists. We allow other such stories into our lives, recognizing that they tell of characters who are "pretend" and not real examples: Cinderella, hobbits, Mickey Mouse, Alice in Wonderland, etc. I see no biblical reason to say that a made-up story is necessarily wrong, as long as it is not palmed off as a true story. It seems to me that even the parables of Christ may be like this. I do not believe that we are required to say that the parable of the sower is a literally true story of a particular actual person who went out sowing seeds. No, we have there a vivid use of something that is not literal to tell us about something that is true, but on a higher level. So, as I see it, the issue is truth telling. The truth is that there is no Santa Claus at the North Pole. And it does not hurt children in any way to know that from day one. They can still enjoy the silly song about Rudolph the red-nosed reindeer. Let me conclude with some words from Solomon that seem somewhat strange even almost contradictory at first sight: Be not overly wicked, neither be a fool. Why should you die before your time? It is good that you should take hold of this, and from that withhold not your hand, for the one who fears God shall come out from both of them" Eccl. But we are startled a bit to hear this warning against being "overly righteous"! We are indeed to "be perfect But that can be a real danger. We can so easily over-react. We can so easily go to extremes. It seems to me that this is what some do with respect to the Santa myth. May the Lord grant you the wisdom to reject what is evil completely, without being "overly righteous. At least one new question is posted each week, so there should always be something new here for you to read. For those who would like to look at previous questions and answers, they will continue to be available as well. The questions come from individuals like yourself. If you have questions about biblical and theological matters, you are invited to send them by e-mail by using the "Pose a Question" link on the OPC home page or by clicking here. Matters of church discipline, disputes, or debates go beyond the scope of our work. We recommend that you present your concerns in these areas to the appropriate judicatory. In most cases this will be to a local pastor, elder, or session. We do not want the website to replace personal involvement in, or commitment to, the local, visible church. While we will respond to every serious questioner, we are not bound to give a substantive answer to every question, should we deem the question to be beyond the scope of our purpose or our own ability to answer. You will receive an answer by email. Please be patient as many of our respondents are busy pastors. The response to your question may take up to two weeks. Some of the questions submitted will be chosen to be posted here, along with the corresponding answers. The answers come from individual ministers in the Orthodox Presbyterian Church expressing their own convictions and do not necessarily represent an "official" position of the Church, especially in areas where the Standards of the Church the Scriptures and the Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms are silent.