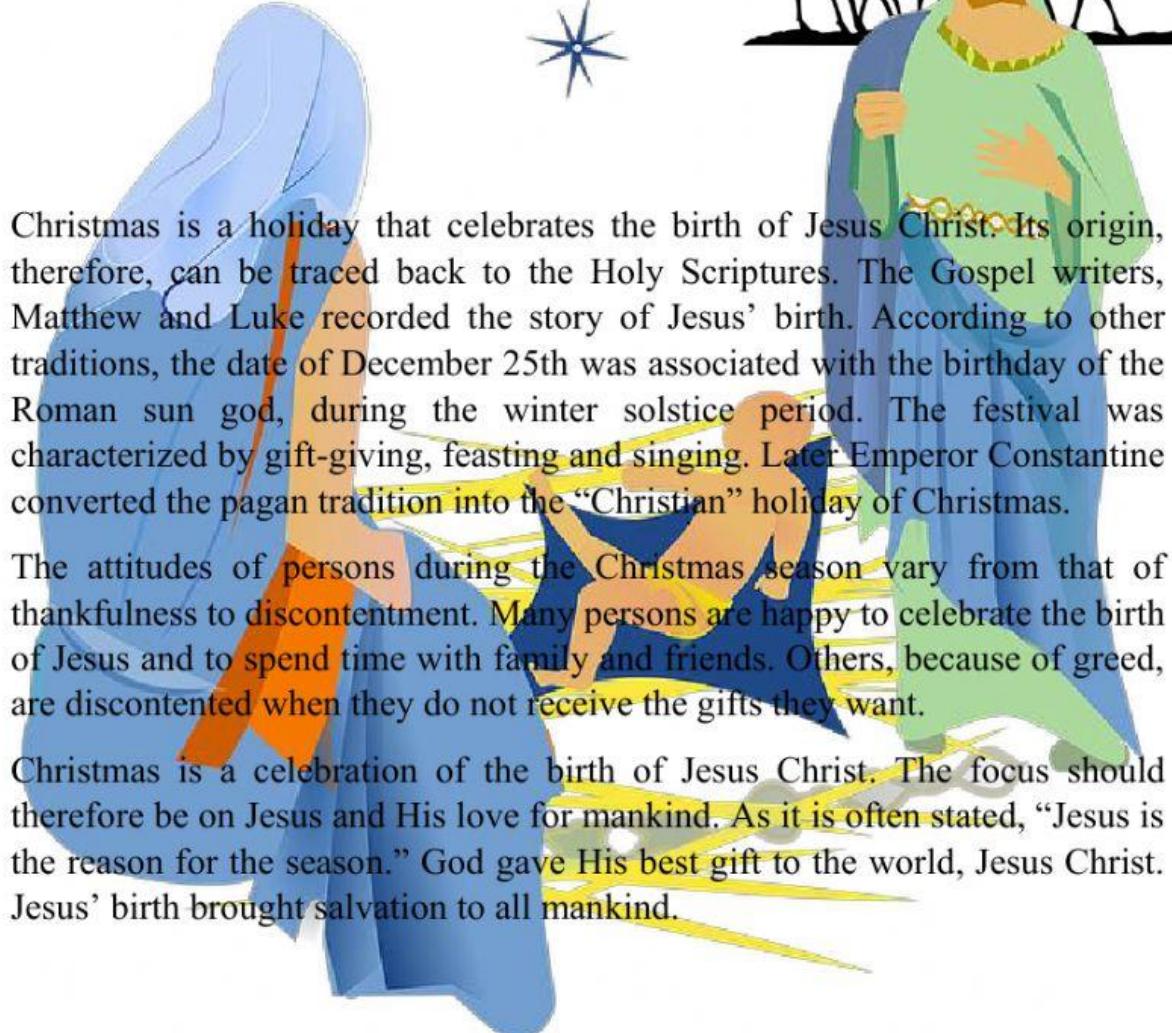# Celebrating Christmas

Christmas is a holiday that celebrates the birth of Jesus Christ. Its origin, therefore, can be traced back to the Holy Scriptures. The Gospel writers, Matthew and Luke recorded the story of Jesus' birth. According to other traditions, the date of December 25th was associated with the birthday of the Roman sun god, during the winter solstice period. The festival was characterized by gift-giving, feasting and singing. Later Emperor Constantine converted the pagan tradition into the "Christian" holiday of Christmas.

The attitudes of persons during the Christmas season vary from that of thankfulness to discontentment. Many persons are happy to celebrate the birth of Jesus and to spend time with family and friends. Others, because of greed, are discontented when they do not receive the gifts they want.

Christmas is a celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ. The focus should therefore be on Jesus and His love for mankind. As it is often stated, "Jesus is the reason for the season." God gave His best gift to the world, Jesus Christ. Jesus' birth brought salvation to all mankind.