

The First Christmas Tree

Genesis 2.8-9; Revelation 21.1, 10; 22.1-2; Isaiah 6.8-13; 10.33-11.10

The Christmas tree is one of the most recognizable symbols of Christmas. It's part of the season. But wait: There's no tree connected with the birth of Christ. Why is it central to Christmas celebrations today? The answer may lie in the meta-narrative of history...in the Bible.

A brief history of the Christmas tree

Two trees, and the story of time to eternity

From the 'seed of Abraham' to 'the shoot from the stump of Jesse'

- Two forests cut down...and a tiny shoot

- The family, features, and future of Christ (Isaiah 11.1-10)



Christmas traditions have become so “secularized” in our modern, materialistic culture that we sometimes can’t even find time to slow down and consider the deeper meanings behind our traditions. This Christmas, make time with family or friends to stop running, and discuss some of the connections to the birth, life, death, and future reign of Jesus, and spiritual truth woven into our Christmas customs. Here are a few ideas...

- Christmas lights _____

- Santa Claus (what do you know about St. Nicholas?) _____

- Christmas gifts _____

- “Secular” Christmas songs with hidden significance _____

- Hanging stockings (naughty or nice) _____

- What other Christmas traditions have significance for you? _____
