



It's Christmastime

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Have you ever been introduced to someone new, by someone who knows you well? In those introductions have you ever been surprised by something that was said? Have you ever been shocked? A few weeks ago I was being introduced, and it was noted, "Mrs. Kim doesn't like Christmas."

Upon hearing that, my forehead wrinkled, then I couldn't let it go. I had to interrupt the introduction. "I don't like Christmas?"

"Yes, you say you don't like all of the talk about Black Friday and you refuse to participate."

Now the whole introduction had to be averted. "Okay, let me clarify, I love Christmas! I love the season in which we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. I love it! What I don't like is what the celebration of that sacred event has become. I don't like the pressure to spend money - money that I may or may not have. I don't like the fact that all year I try to keep up with my bills, pay down the credit card, then there is the expectation that I am going to be frivolous and charge it up again on the day after Thanksgiving. It's not Christmas that I dislike, it's the way we are expected to celebrate it that I don't like."

Although, I felt as if I had duly clarified my position on Christmas, that comment, "Mrs. Kim doesn't like Christmas," lingered in my mind. It has echoed in my mind! Have I said or done things that would indicate that I don't like Christmas, itself? Could that conclusion have been drawn when I said I was going to celebrate Christmas only during the even years? Or could it have been when I said, last year, that we were doing a "lite Christmas," and I bought slim-fit tree for the corner as a symbol of my reduction in participation? Or maybe it was when I said, Jesus received three gifts (gold, frankincense, and myrrh) and my children would get something they want, something they need, and something to read. Hmm...maybe I have been giving off some, "I don't like Christmas vibes."

So, I've decided to stop being a King Herod and be a part of the Magi. (Mat.2) We put up our Christmas tree on Friday, the BIG tree, not the slim-flit, and revived it with all new ornaments! I bought an inflatable snowman for the front yard. I may bake some eggnog cakes for our neighbors, too, since I haven't done that in a while. I still refuse to use credit for Christmas gifts, so they may be light, but they will be from the heart and they will be beautifully wrapped! It's Christmastime, y'all!

