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SO what is Christmas? And what for centuries has it been to differing but always identical mortals?

It was once the old pagan festival of dead Nature. It was the pagan festival when the hands of labor took their rest and hunger took its fill. It is now the festival of the immortal child appearing in the midst of mortal children. It is now the new festival of man's remembrance of his errors and his charity toward erring neighbors. It has latterly become the widening festival of universal brotherhood with succor for all need and nighness to all suffering: of good will warring against ill will and of peace warring upon war.

—James Lane Allen.

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