



May these be the happiest days of your life . . . and remembered for many years.

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Wishing You Much Happiness At Christmas And In The New Year

Whitehurst Insurance Agency
STELLA CARVER
EDNA ROBINETT
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MARSHALL, N. C.



Many Christmas legends and customs are part of the folklore of our ancestors in all parts of the world. Many of them, too, are a mixture of early Christian and pagan observances which time and Christianity have given new meaning.

Santa Claus, our American giver of gifts, is little known elsewhere in the world. In Eastern and Southern Europe, it is the Wise Men who arrive bringing gifts. In Hungary the gifts come from the Angels, in Poland from the stars, in Greece, St. Basil is the gift-bearing patron saint.

Popular tradition has it that the candle we place in our windows at Christmas is a custom originated by early Christians to whom the candle represented the star that guided the Wise Men to the stable at Bethlehem. One interesting legend tells of a shoemaker who, though poor, always placed a candle in his window at night to guide weary travelers, and so inspired the villagers that upon each window contained a lighted candle.

The holly bush, long associated with Christmas, and with many legends was once called the holy-bush, because in its natural state the berries ripen at Christmas time.

The Wassail bowl, which today is Christmas punch, is said to have come to us from the ancient Saxons. Wassail was a word of greeting which meant literally, "What Halls?", or "How fare you?"

At Christmas time, traditions of the Old World live again. Finattas, doves and festive straw chains from South Europe; wheat sheaves, paper and carved wood from Scandinavian countries; angels, stars, Czechoslovakian bells and gold German stars are all bits of Old World charm that we re-create in our homes.

Good Tidings



"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good-will toward men." . . . May your holiday be filled with the true spirit of the season. To all a very Merry Christmas!

Sprinkle - Shelton Wholesale Co.
MARSHALL, N. C.

TWO MINUTES

WITH THE BIBLE
BY CORNELIUS B. STAM, PRES.
MIDWAY BIBLE SOCIETY
CHICAGO 34, ILLINOIS



Accepted

In Ephesians 1:6 the Apostle Paul sings a doxology, as it were, "to the praise of the glory of God's grace, wherein He hath made us accepted in the Beloved"

—(Eph. 1:6.)

In the story of the Prodigal Son it is touching to see the Father accept his wayward son back to his bosom—and so generously! He does not merely admit him back into his home; he clothes him with

his best robe, puts a ring on his hand, shoes on his feet and kills in celebration of his return.

for him the fatted calf so that they can all "eat and be merry"

But the prodigal was after all the Father's son, whereas Paul bids us "Gentiles in the flesh" to remember that originally we were

"without Christ—aliens from the commonwealth of Israel—strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without

God in the world." (Eph. 2:12).

Hence it is even more touching to contemplate God's gracious acceptance of us who were not sons but "Aliens" and "Enemies" (Col. 1:21).

The word "accepted" in the above passage actually comes from the word "grace" (Gr. karis) with the verse begins:—"His grace, wherein He hath engraced us in the Beloved one."

Thus God looks upon us now with delight; He delights to favor and bless the believer because He sees Him in Christ, His beloved Son.

This passage reminds us how God once broke through the heavens to declare: "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased" (Matt. 3:17). And now He is

* This Is The Law *

—by—

ROBERT E. LEE

* For the N.C. Bar Association *

Signatures of Wives

Mary Jones married John T. Smith. How should she sign her name to contracts and other legal documents?

The generally accepted legal way is for her to sign by simply writing "Mary —, Smith." If she

delighted with us and blesses us with "all spiritual blessings in the heavens" because we are "in Christ" the Beloved. Not that we have attained to this position. Far from it, for "He hath made us accepted"—He hath engraced us in the Beloved."

prefers, or if the form of the contract specifies full middle name, she may write "Mary Jones Smith."

This is the customary form of signature used by a married woman when she signs as maker of a promissory note or as lawyer of a clerk. Government savings bonds corporate shares, shares in federal savings and loan associations, shares of building and loan associations, deeds to land, titles to automobiles, and insurance policies are generally issued to married women in this manner.

Indorsements or transfers of ownership of property evidenced by writing should, of course, follow the form of name used such documents. For example, if Mrs. Smith receives a check payable to Mrs. John T. Smith, she should indorse by writing "Mrs. John T. Smith."

There is nothing illegal in Mrs. Smith signing her contracts or

documents as "Mrs. John T. Smith." They are not valid if she does. In fact, many wives sign their checks in this form. Their signature cards at the bank are in this form. If such wives want to affect a change of signature at the bank, they should advise the bank.

A person can use any name or scribbling he wants as a signature. In business and legal matters, it is merely more correct for a married woman to sign her name as "Mary J. Smith" or "Mary Smith."

The prefix "Mrs." is not used as part of the signature.

Emily Post says: "The only times when a lady of quality signs her name 'Mrs.' are these: in a hotel register, to a business telegram, to a servant in her own employ, or to an order letter possi-

bly to a tradesman. And then it must be 'Mrs. John Smith.'

The proper way for a married woman to sign a business or formal letter is to write "Mary J. Smith" or "Mary Jones Smith," and then underneath, in parenthesis ("Mrs. John T. Smith.") The name if for information only, and is not the signature.

In writing to friends and acquaintances who know perfectly well to whom is married, she may simply sign "Mary Smith." To acquaintances who may possibly have difficulty in knowing actually to whom she is married, she may add under "Mary Smith," in parenthesis, "(Mrs. John T. Smith)."

Employees, Directors and Stockholders

Wish You Every Happiness During

The CHRISTMAS SEASON



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HOT SPRINGS

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