

If it's not 'Christmas,' what are we celebrating?

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There has been much controversy about the separation of church and state, removing the word “Christmas” at Christmas, and who is right in this melee.

I have a suggestion for those separatists who think Christmas is about keeping church and state dichotomized.

To the retail and business community: If we literally take the notion that the separation of church and state is the line in the sand, then you will become extinct at Christmas. It's a very simple premise: You pay taxes to local, state and federal entities, right? Well, I'm sorry, but you can't allow customers to shop at “Christmas” because they are purchasing goods at this “holiday” and paying taxes to Caesar the State.

To the separatists: If this time of year, Dec. 25th, is not Christmas, then President Ulysses S. Grant's declaration making Christmas a legal holiday in 1870 should be repealed. However, the basis of Christmas is not the holiday, but a celebration of faith for millions around the world.

If we are not celebrating an event of significance, then what are we celebrating? More importantly, stop spending money in December because a portion goes to the state, and by all that is right and holy, if you spend money at this holiday season, you violate your own mantra.

If you want to stop all nativity scenes on public property or stamp out the word “Christmas” in December, then skip December all together. I celebrate Dec. 25 for hope and life.

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