

Holiday or Holy Days

Most of us will have either recently been or are just about to embark on our holidays. Having survived the last minute packing, the feeling, is this really worth it and the anxiety on the way to the airport (what have I forgotten?), we usually have a wonderful time.

We have wondered sometimes if holidays are becoming a little out of proportion in our lives, a little too important, perhaps. We all need breaks and relaxation but for many, judging by the newsletters that we receive at Christmas, holidays are everything! We imagine in some homes that no sooner is one holiday over than brochures are out for the next. Living for the next holiday is a long way from the New Testament teaching on contentment. Even more important than that Jesus is the centre of our lives not holidays.

The derivation of the word holiday is Holy Day. That was how it all started. Recently, we had a visitor from London staying with us at Redacre. He said, "I could have gone somewhere exotic but if I had, I would not have gone home changed." He had grasped holidays as Holy Days.

We are not suggesting that we all go on a Christian Retreat for an annual holiday but perhaps, we should be making more space for God on our holiday – sightseeing in the Kingdom of God as well the canals of Venice or the Alps for example! It is a question of making time – time for prayer, for reading the bible, perhaps, a gospel at one sitting – drawing close to our first love, Jesus. Give thanks to the Father, the Creator of the mountains, the lakes, the sea – all that is beautiful.

In the meanwhile our holiday – what is to be, a holiday or holy days?



“O Lord, our Lord,
How majestic is your name in all the earth!”
Ps.8 v.1 (NIV)