

# Will God Be on Santa's Christmas List This Year?

by Julian Leicester



As December's chill fills the air and festive cheer peeks around every corner, the season of giving is upon us once again. Santa's sleigh is loaded, and his famous list is ready, meticulously checked twice. But as we bask in the glow of tinsel and fairy lights, a peculiar question lingers: *Will God be on Santa's Christmas list this year?*

This year has been anything but merry. From wars that left nations grieving to famine stealing smiles from children's faces, from businesses shutting doors to families breaking apart—it's as if the world has had coal stuffed into its stocking. Anxiety and mental health struggles have skyrocketed, relationships have frayed, and many people, in their despair, have turned to the skies and asked, *Why, God? Why?*

Some have gone further, blaming God for the world's troubles. "If He's so powerful, why doesn't He step in?" they ask. It's a sentiment that resonates with many, especially in a year filled with hardship. But let's flip the script for a moment: Does God deserve to be blamed—or is it possible we've misunderstood His role in this season and beyond?

Let's imagine for a moment that Santa and God had a conversation at the North Pole. Santa might ask, "So, God, what would you like for Christmas?" God doesn't need a present this Christmas, because He is the present. In our hustle to find meaning, we forget that He is the source of every good thing in our lives. Every breath we take, every act of kindness, and every moment of joy—it all flows from Him.

Think about it. In every Christmas miracle, in every moment of resilience, and in every act of kindness, God is there. While Santa may bring gifts that dazzle and delight that bring temporary joy, God offers gifts of a different nature, hope in the darkest times, strength when we feel like giving up, and love when the world feels loveless. His gifts sustain and heal: peace amidst chaos, hope in despair, and love that transcends all understanding. These are gifts no wrapping paper can contain.

But how often do we forget this? Caught up in our hustle for the "perfect" Christmas, we lose sight of the fact that God is the source of everything that truly matters. He doesn't slide down chimneys, but He shows up in the little things: the courage to face another day, the ability to forgive, and the unexpected kindness

of a stranger. In many ways, God isn't just on Santa's list—He's the one who helps write it.

This isn't to say life's challenges aren't real or overwhelming. They are. But even in the most difficult times, there's a quiet reassurance that we are not alone. God's presence—like the Christmas star—guides us through, even when the path feels uncertain.

So, as we gather around the Christmas tree this year, let's take a moment to reflect. Santa may deliver the gifts, but it's God who makes the season meaningful. He's not the one who needs a gift; He's the one who keeps giving.

Will God be on Santa's list this year? Maybe. But the real question is, will we let Him into our hearts this Christmas? Because in doing so, we'll realize that the greatest gift isn't under the tree—it's the light of hope, joy, and love that God kindles within us all. This Christmas, let us be the faithful receivers of his greatest gift to mankind, his son, Jesus Christ our Lord and Saviour. Alleluia, our Saviour is born for us today.

(Julian Leicester's is a renowned mental health consultant in the nation. He has been a columnist in many major newspapers. Each year he writes a Christmas story that stirs the mind and hearts of Christians)