

Friends,

If you're like me, one of your LEAST favorite things about the holiday season is having to take down all the holiday decorations and lights. I always think it's interesting to notice when people take everything down. As we all know, some folks like to take them down December 26th, seemingly the second after Christmas is over. Others like to wait to take them down until after New Year's Day, once the new year has officially begun. Still others like to keep them up until mid-January, well after the holiday season is over. Last winter, I had one neighbor who even had Christmas wreaths up on the front of his house in April!

Personally, I enjoy seeing those few outliers who still have their homes decorated for Christmas long after everyone else has everything all boxed up and put away. Perhaps they can't get enough of the holiday season or maybe they're just procrastinating, but either way, I think there's something almost prophetic or providential about those who keep their lights and decorations up long after everyone else.

That's because it reminds us that the good news that we celebrate at Christmas doesn't end once the holiday season is over. As we go back to work and school after a holiday break, and get busy with our normal everyday duties, the light of Christ still surrounds us. Indeed, the good news of Christ's birth and presence with us is true throughout the year.

So the next time you see that house all lit up with Christmas lights long after the holidays are over, or notice a home with Christmas wreaths up in April, just remember it's a sign that the end of the holiday season does not mean the end of what we celebrate at Christmas. Rather Christmas is just the beginning of something we can celebrate all year.

Blessings,
Pastor Jordan