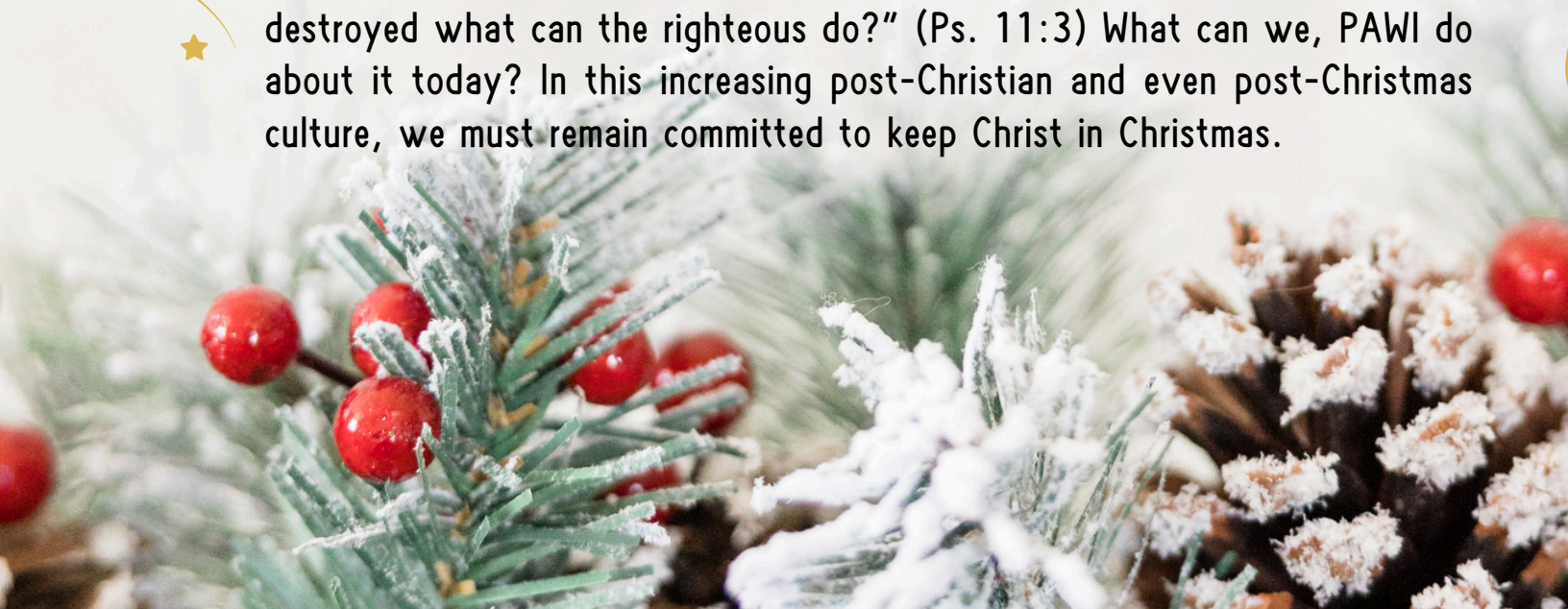


Keep Christ in CHRISTMAS

For ninety-eight years, Neiman Marcus, an American department store published a gift catalog, "The Christmas Book". This year they've renamed it, "The Holiday Book". The Dallas Morning News reported that the book's name was changed "in the spirit of inclusivity" as it welcomes customers of all backgrounds, religions and traditions, to celebrate the season.

This certainly begs the question, without Christmas, what season or which holiday? Isn't this like publishing a wedding or baby gift book without acknowledging the reality of weddings and babies? This shows our post-Christian world's attempt to get Christ out of Christmas. Progressively, we are observing that "Happy Holidays" is replacing "Happy Christmas". The spotlight in many places is on Santa, not on Jesus Christ. Black Friday and Cyber Monday have gained significant popularity.

To borrow the Psalmist's question; "When the foundations are being destroyed what can the righteous do?" (Ps. 11:3) What can we, PAWI do about it today? In this increasing post-Christian and even post-Christmas culture, we must remain committed to keep Christ in Christmas.



KEEP christ IN christmas

The challenge to our believers and churches is keeping Christ in Christmas, that is, making room for Him. Let us demonstrate the Christmas we want the world to celebrate. When our Christmas season is filled with the celebration of His birth and life, others will take note and see something different. Keeping Christ in Christmas means making the season a time of renewal, reminders and reflection on God being man. Let us make this a time of high attendance and rejoicing in our assemblies, for acts of generosity and service and sharing with others the true reason for Christmas.

Christmas traditions play a huge part in the profitability of many businesses. The economies of the Caribbean anticipate the boost provided by Christmas shopping and other seasonal activities. While we remain an integral part of our cultures, we must resist the temptation of sacrificing the Christ of Christmas for the commercialization of Christmas.



*Rev. Sonny Williams, General Bishop of PAWI,
with his wife Sis. Morine Williams*

My wife Morine joins me in wishing all Bishops, Credential Workers, constituents and their spouses, family and friends, a Christ-centric Christmas and a purpose driven 2025.