

The Message of the Candy Cane



The Candy Cane can remind us of what Christmas is all about.

In shape, it forms the letter “J” reminding us of JESUS.

The name “Jesus” means “Saviour”: “Thou shalt call His Name Jesus for He shall save His people from their sins” (Matthew 1:21). He came into this world on a saving mission (John 3:17).

The letter “J” also starts the word JEHOVAH, reminding us that Jesus is God. He’s the Mighty God, the Ruler whose goings forth have been from everlasting (Isaiah 9:6; 7:14). That awesome God became a man, and the Word became flesh and dwelt among us (John 1:1-3,14).

The J-shape also reminds us of that little word JOY: “The angel said to the shepherds, Fear not: for, behold, **I bring you good tidings of great joy**, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord” (Luke 2:10-11).

The Candy Cane is also in the shape of a shepherd’s crook, or a shepherd’s staff, reminding us that the Lord Jesus is the Good Shepherd. He said, “I am the good Shepherd, **the good Shepherd giveth His life for the sheep**” (John 10:11). The Lord Jesus was born so that someday He could lay down His life for us. The Good Shepherd came to seek and to save that which was lost (Luke 19:10).

The Candy Cane is white with red stripes. The white reminds us of the purity of our sinless Lord. The angel said to Mary “**that holy thing [Person]** which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.” Our Saviour was holy and sinless. The One who knew no sin (Christ) became sin for us (2 Corinthians 5:21).

The red stripes remind us of the precious blood of Christ. “With His stripes we are healed” (Isaiah 53:5). On the cross He shed His blood for us. “In [Christ] **we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins**, according to the riches of His grace...For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God (Ephesians 1:7; 2:8).

These two colors also remind us of what the Saviour has done for the person that believes in Him. “Though your sins be as **scarlet**, they shall be as snow; though they be **red like crimson**, they shall be white like wool” (Isaiah 1:18).

May this Christmas season be very special to you as these wonderful simple truths find a home in your heart. The candy cane can remind us of these great facts. May we not forget the true meaning of Christmas.

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