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## ready for christmas?

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## ready for christmas?

by John Zinkand

day after thanksgiving, kickoff  
for christmas countdown.  
shopping days till xmas no longer  
differ from the actual count  
for sundays have joined the ranks.  
no rest for days of rest.

from now till then  
time grows short to get  
your bargains from santa, elves, reindeer  
all enlisted in mammon's army  
(salvation's out in the cold)  
tinsel, tree, canes (cardboard peppermint)  
all are ready for christmas  
or "holidays" for those who  
don't want to offend merchants  
of different faith or none at all.  
yet all confess the christmas creed:  
(established well, empirical fact)  
gullible public, cash, card in hand  
is ready to buy something, most anything  
cheap, expensive, gaudy, pretty,  
practical, worthless, unwanted—  
whatever—they want to buy it—  
thank god, for they all are  
ready for christmas.