

In a *Peanuts* comic strip a few years ago, Lucy says to Charlie Brown, "Life is a mystery, Charlie Brown...Do you know the answer?"

In the next two frames, Charlie Brown responds, "Be kind, don't smoke, be prompt, smile a lot, eat sensibly, avoid cavities and mark your ballot carefully...avoid too much sin, send overseas packages early, love all creatures above and below, insure your belongings and try to keep the ball low..."

In the final frame, Lucy raises her fist and says, "Hold real still because I'm going to hit you a very sharp blow on the nose!"

- I. What is the reason for the hope that you have?
  - a. Yourself? Others? (Psalm 146:3-4)
  - b. Wealth? Possessions? (1 Timothy 6:17a)
  - c. Jesus? (Psa. 146:5; 1 Tim. 6:17b; 1 Pet. 3:15a)
- II. What is the reason for the season...
  - a. Of Advent? Follow the *Why's*, man
  - b. Of Christmas? So very glad you asked!
- III. What is the reason...for everything?
  - a. Yes, literally everything (Colossians 1:16)
  - b. And in everything, joy (John 15:11; 1 John 1:4)

*Jesus is the answer for the world today  
Above him there's no other; Jesus is the way  
Jesus is the answer for the world today  
Allelu...alleluia!*