



Jesus, Gentle Shepherd
This cane of red and white
Proclaims the sweet
love story,
Born on Christmas night.
This cane, you see,
when turned around
Begins your name of Love;
And now becomes
a symbol
Of peace proclaimed above.
The lively peppermint flavor
is the regal gift of spice,
The white is Your purity
And the red Your sacrifice.
And so this cane
reminds us
Of just how much You care,
And like Your Christmas
gift to us,
It's meant for all to share.

According to legend, there was a candy maker who wanted to invent a candy that was a witness to Christ.

First, he used a hard candy because Christ is the rock of ages. This hard candy was shaped so that it would resemble a "J" for Jesus or, turned upside down, a shepherd's staff. He made it white to represent the purity of Christ.

Finally, a red stripe was added to represent the blood Christ shed for the sins of the world, and three thinner red stripes for the stripes He received on our behalf when the Roman soldiers whipped Him. Sometimes a green stripe is added as a reminder that Jesus is a gift from God.

The flavor of the cane is peppermint, which is similar to hyssop. Hyssop is a mint that was used in the Old Testament for purification and sacrifice. Jesus is the pure Lamb of God Who came to be a sacrifice for the sins of the world.

So, every time you see a candy cane, remember the message of the candy maker: Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd, is the sinless rock of ages who suffered and died for our sins.