

Should The House Of Yahweh Celebrate Birthdays?

Books of The Holy Scriptures

As Written in *The Book of Yahweh*

The following information is given to assist you with the true names of the Apostles and Prophets within The Holy Scriptures.

Book One (Old Testament)					
Genesis	<i>Genesis</i>	II Chronicles	<i>II Chronicles</i>	Daniyl	<i>Daniel</i>
Exodus	<i>Exodus</i>	Ezrayah	<i>Ezra</i>	Hosheyah	<i>Hosea</i>
Leviticus	<i>Leviticus</i>	Nehemyah	<i>Nehemiah</i>	Yahyl	<i>Joel</i>
Numbers	<i>Numbers</i>	Hadassah	<i>Megilla Esther</i>	Amosyah	<i>Amos</i>
Deuteronomy	<i>Deuteronomy</i>	Yahshub/Iyyob	<i>Job</i>	Obadyah	<i>Obadiah</i>
Yahshua	<i>Joshua</i>	Psalms	<i>Psalms</i>	Yahnah	<i>Jonah</i>
Judges	<i>Judges</i>	Proverbs	<i>Proverbs</i>	Micahyah	<i>Micah</i>
Riyyah	<i>Ruth</i>	Ecclesiastes	<i>Ecclesiastes</i>	Nachumyah	<i>Nahum</i>
I Samuyl	<i>I Samuel</i>	Song of Songs	<i>Song of Solomon</i>	Habakkuk	<i>Habakkuk</i>
II Samuyl	<i>II Samuel</i>	Isayah	<i>Isaiah</i>	Zephanyah	<i>Zephaniah</i>
I Kings	<i>I Kings</i>	Yeremyah	<i>Jeremiah</i>	Chagyah	<i>Haggai</i>
II Kings	<i>II Kings</i>	Lamentations	<i>Lamentations</i>	Zecharyah	<i>Zechariah</i>
I Chronicles	<i>I Chronicles</i>	Yechezqyah	<i>Ezekiel</i>	Malakyah	<i>Malachi</i>
Book Two (New Testament)					
Mattithyah	<i>Matthew</i>	Ephesians	<i>Ephesians</i>	Hebrews	<i>Hebrews</i>
Yahchanan Mark	<i>Mark</i>	Philippians	<i>Philippians</i>	Yaaqob	<i>James</i>
Luke	<i>Luke</i>	Colossians	<i>Colossians</i>	I Kepha	<i>I Peter</i>
Yahchanan	<i>John</i>	I Thessalonians	<i>I Thessalonians</i>	II Kepha	<i>II Peter</i>
Acts	<i>Acts</i>	II Thessalonians	<i>II Thessalonians</i>	I Yahchanan	<i>I John</i>
Romans	<i>Romans</i>	I Timayah	<i>I Timothy</i>	II Yahchanan	<i>II John</i>
I Corinthians	<i>I Corinthians</i>	II Timayah	<i>II Timothy</i>	III Yahchanan	<i>III John</i>
II Corinthians	<i>II Corinthians</i>	Titus	<i>Titus</i>	Yahdah	<i>Jude</i>
Galatians	<i>Galatians</i>	Philemon	<i>Philemon</i>	Revelation	<i>Revelation</i>

Should The House Of Yahweh Celebrate Birthdays?

The majority of us living in this day and age rarely, if ever, question the customs we all seem to have observed at one time or another. However, once Yahweh opens our mind to understanding, guiding us with His Holy Spirit to see His truth, or to find His inspired Work, we are sometimes surprised, and often disgusted, with what we find. It is a scriptural fact that one cannot come out of the deceptions of this world without the guidance of Yahweh's Holy Spirit. It is impossible to find and come to the only prophesied Work of Yahweh, otherwise.

Only through the action of Yahweh's Spirit are we able to recognize truth. By studying this same truth we find, that this deceived world has always followed pagan customs which are condemned in the Holy Scriptures that Yahweh inspired for our instruction!

People are unaware of and never question the evil behind these pagan customs, because of the subtle ways they have crept into modern religions. It is our desire to make everyone whom Yahweh is calling out aware of the detrimental effects of these deceptive teachings. We will prove through history where these customs came from and who or what is actually being worshiped when they are practiced.

Worship In Ancient Babylon

The oldest common feature of the ancient Near East religions was the worship of the great mother Goddess and her husband/son—the personifications of fertility. The worship of the Magna Mater, the great mother, knew no bounds in this ancient world. She was venerated as the mother of Gods and men, who gave life. The original of the mother, so widely worshiped, was Semiramis, her husband who died and was reborn as the son, was Nimrod.

Nimrod turned against Yahweh and built the Kingdom of Babylon. Babylon was the ancient and famous capitol of Babylonia, located about 55 miles south of modern Baghdad.

Its old Semitic name was Bab-ilu, or Bab-ili, meaning: Gate of God, a designation which became Babel in Canaanite, and Babylon in Greek and Latin.

When Nimrod rebelled against Yahweh, he built the Gate of God, which has fostered and nourished all the false doctrine of Godworship that this world has embraced throughout the ages—including this age! We read in:

● **Genesis 10:8-10, KJV—**

8 And Cush begat Nimrod: he began to be a mighty one in the earth.

9 He was a mighty hunter before the lord: wherefore it is said, Even as Nimrod the mighty hunter before the lord.

10 And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel, and Erech, and Accad, and Calneh, in the land of Shinar.

In these scriptures, Nimrod is called a mighty one. The words **mighty** or **mighty one** were translated from the Hebrew word **gheber—ghebur**. According to *The Hebrew and English Lexicon of the Old Testament*, by Brown, Driver, Briggs, page 150, this word translated **mighty one** actually means: *one who exalts himself, or a tyrant*.

גִּבּוֹר ¹⁵⁹ **adj. strong, mighty** (cf. Ar. جَبَّارُ) *one who magnifies himself, behaves proudly, a tyrant, who is bold, audacious*—Gn 10⁹

Nimrod is also called a mighty hunter. The word **hunter** was translated from the original Hebrew word **tzud**, which the *Analytical Hebrew and Chaldee Lexicon*, by Benjamin Davidson, page 641, says has a meaning of: *hunter of men, to ensnare, to beguile*.

[צִיד] *to hunt* wild beasts; *to lay snares* for birds; metaph. *to hunt, pursue men*. Pil. *to ensnare, beguile*.

The word translated **before** in the *King James Version* actually means: *against, opposed!*

Nimrod was not a mighty hunter in the sense of the word understood as being one who killed game for food. Nimrod was actually a tyrannical deceiver who came in opposition to Yahweh! These scriptures are correctly translated in *The Book of Yahweh*.

● **Genesis 10:8-10—**

8 Cush begot Nimrod; he began to be a mighty one on the earth.

9 He was a tyrant who deceived, who turned against Yahweh;

therefore it is said: Like Nimrod the tyrant who deceived, who turned against Yahweh.

10 And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel, Erech, Accad, and all of them in the land of Shinar; *that is, Babylon.*

●*The Two Babylons*, by Alexander Hislop, 1916-1959, page 37-39, gives us this information:

“A synonym for Gheber, The mighty one, was Abir. while Aber also signified a wing. Nimrod as Head and Captain of the men of war with whom he surrounded himself, and who were the instruments of ESTABLISHING HIS POWER, was Baal-Aberin, Lord of the Mighty Ones. But Baal-Abirin signified The Winged One.”

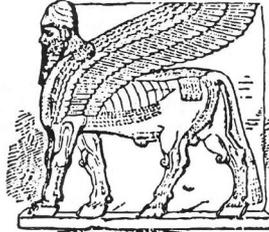
Now the understanding of this equivocal sense of Baal-aberin can alone explain the remarkable statement of Aristophanes (a Greek Poet who was relating MYTHOLOGY), that at the beginning of the world “the birds” were *first* created, and *then* after their creation, came the “race of the blessed IMMORTAL GODS.”† This has been regarded as either an atheistical or nonsensical utterance on the part of the poet, but, with the true key applied to the language, it is found to contain an important historical fact. Let it only be borne in mind that “the birds”—that is, the “WINGED ONES”—symbolized “the LORDS of the Mighty Ones,” and then the meaning is clear, viz., that MEN *first* “began to be mighty on the earth;” and *then* that the “Lords” or Leaders of “these mighty ones” were *deified*.

Remember that mythology is nothing more than stories or legends which originated in men’s imaginations. In some cases these were dreams; in other cases these were subliminal suggestions, placed in their minds by a spirit being—the latter instance being the most common.

Many of you have probably read the ancient myths of Perseus, son of Jupiter, who passed from country to country on wings divinely bestowed (given by god) on him; or of Belerophon and the feats he performed on his winged horse; or of Icarus, who, flying on wax-cemented wings over the Icarian Sea, had his wings melted off when he approached too near the sun. Yes, all of us have been indoctrinated in this world’s paganism, preached as propaganda in the public schools of this land. The myths of the Gods all referred to those who followed in the steps of Nimrod—the first lord of the mighty ones—who in that character, was symbolized as being equipped with wings.



Baal-Berith, Lord of the Covenant,



Bull from Nimrod. From VAUX, p. 236



Symbols of Nimrod and Baal-Berith

Nimrod, under the direction of Satan the Devil, was the actual father of the Gods, being the first of deified mortals. He was pictured among Nineveh sculptures as the horned one, in Assyria he was pictured as a gigantic horned man-bull, representing the great Gods. The same word that signified a bull also signified a ruler or prince. From the explanations of the winged ones and the bulls, these kings were Gods deified mortals who were thought to have immortality.

The religion of the ancient Near East, was nothing more than myths. This way of life has continued to remain as a religion opposed to Yahweh, in every race and culture to this present day.

It is from this source that the celebrations of men and gods birthdays originated. These were celebrations opposing Yahweh, but exalting men and gods.

Mythology—The Same Stories The World Over

From the earliest times, the wonders of life have made people pause to admire and to question the mysteries which they saw everywhere around them. They have eagerly tried to tell about and explain these mysteries. Although primitive people did not have the knowledge or culture to write down their explanations, they did have the ability to make up fanciful stories. These stories were about the daytime and evening, birth, sickness, death, springtime, harvest, winter, winds, stars, the moon and the sun. We call these stories myths, the orderly collection and careful criticism of them

is called mythology.

Compton's Pictured Encyclopedia and Fact Index, F.E. Compton & Co., Chicago, IL, 1948, Volume 9, page 327, gives us these facts about **mythology**:

THE TERM "mythology" applies to the whole body of fascinating stories which arose out of primitive man's efforts to explain the origin of the universe and of man, to solve the mysteries of the world and the facts of life. The term applies also to the scientific collection of myths and legends and their interpretation. Woven out of the fresh imaginations of ancient generations and carried down through ages of popular approval, mythological stories need no justification on the score of interest. But in addition to this reason for their survival, there are many others. A study of the myths helps us, for instance, to understand the early history and customs of the people who originated them. A comparison of the myths of different early peoples often indicates that they had the same origin, and thus sheds light upon prehistoric connections of race and culture. The broad human similarities to be found in the myths of widely separated peoples is of the utmost value to the student of sociology and social psychology.

To understand our ancestors and other ancient peoples, we must know what they thought as well as what they did. Mythology is thus an important study for history and social sciences because of the light it throws on early thinking. It is likewise a part of literature, for we cannot understand the writings of early peoples without knowing their mythology. Especially is this true of Greek and Roman literature, and what is most important of all for us—as this literature has had profound influence upon that of today, so has the old mythology become interwoven with the very fabric of our literature.

Please carefully notice the last phrase in this last sentence: "...so has the old mythology become interwoven with the very fabric of our literature." Yes indeed, the literature of today's religions, the modern worship practiced in churches and assemblies all over this world, is literally filled with pagan mythological customs of ancient Godworship, with no questions asked.

In this same Encyclopedia, pages 326-327, we find the following information:

Many myths of peoples far apart are remarkably alike. Myths of the ancient Greeks resemble not only those of India and Egypt but also those of the Norse countries and the American Indians. Although certain basic features are present in the myths of widely separated peoples, yet the character of each race is reflected in its stories. Greek myths reveal joy in life and love of beauty. Norse myths breathe a warlike spirit. Those of the Hindus are full of awe at the mysterious and

sublime powers of nature.

Worship of the deities made impressive and involved ritual a necessity so that human beings could put themselves in the right relation with the gods. Thus mythology is not only science in its infancy, but also religion; and an important part of this fascinating subject is the study of ritual myths for the light which they throw on the development of religions.

The mythology of these pagan nations as we just read, is the written record of their religions, which is still being taught in today's modern schools as well as deceived churches and assemblies. These written records of peoples far apart are yet remarkably alike. Yahweh willing you will see in the following pages of this booklet, just how much the application of ritual has played in the development of every religion opposed to Yahweh.

Roman Religion A Branch Of Babylon The Great

The origin of Roman Religion was prehistoric, consisting mainly of ancient primitive, rites and practices. These rites were observed and perpetuated with no attempt at explanation, with no reference to any 'divine' revelation or command, but solely because they belonged to ancestral custom. These rituals had either been found to work, or, more often, their neglect had been found to be disastrous. Hence, everywhere it was assumed that they must be observed with meticulous care. These rituals were usually, but not always, some form of sacrifice. There were however, many other rituals such as: supplications, lustrations, banquets set before the Gods (lectisterniums), circumambulations, processions, and other symbolic acts. Roman Religion was essentially a system of primitive-prehistoric ritual with many surviving features of animism, magic, and polydaemonism.

Webster's Deluxe Unabridged Dictionary, Second Edition, 1979, Simon and Schuster, NY., gives us the definitions of the following pertinent words:

- **an'imism**, *n.* [L. *anima*, soul, and *-ism*.]
 1. the belief that all life is produced by a spiritual force separate from matter.
 2. the belief that natural phenomena and objects, as rocks, trees, the wind, etc., are alive and have souls.
 3. the doctrine of the existence of soul as independent of matter.
 4. a belief in the existence of spirits, demons, etc.

● **mag'ic**, *n.* [L. *magice*, from Gr. *magike* (supply *techne*, art), the magic art, sorcery,

1. the pretended art of producing effects or controlling events by charms, spells, and rituals supposed to govern certain natural or supernatural forces; **sorcery**; **witchcraft**.

● **polydae'monism**, *n.* [*poly-*, and Gr. *daimon*, demon.] a form of religion in which a multitude of **demons or spirits** are thought to govern natural phenomena.

● *The Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible*, Abingdon Press, Nashville, TN, 1962 Volume 4, page 110, tells us about some of the primitive festivals celebrated in ancient Rome, which have come down to our modern day with their names changed in order to protect the guilty.

—the most authentic clues to the early religion of Rome are the festivals recorded in the pre-Julian calendars, fragments of more than twenty of which still survive though usually with added notes (in smaller letters) from a far later period. The “primitive” year began in the spring (January and February were ignored). March was the first month, the time for the spring sowing, the trimming of the vines and other agricultural activities; but it was also the month for polishing (or lustrating) the war trumpets, exercising and drilling the cavalry horses, and invoking Mars, the god or numen of war. The armed dance of the Salii, another expression of the war spirit, also took place; for war was annual, seasonal occupation, and began each year in this month. April followed with its **Fordicidia** on the fifteenth, **the sacrifice of a pregnant sow for the purpose of insuring or increasing fertility, the Cerealia on the nineteenth and the Parila or Palilia on the twenty-first, the Vinalia on the twenty-third in honor of the numina of grain, fruit, and wine(or vines) respectively, and the Robigalia on the twenty-fifth, designed to ward off rust from the growing crops. These are obviously ancient agricultural festivals, each with its appropriate rites.**

These same rites are being used and taught in today's religions, write for our free booklet, *An Easter Remembrance*, which shows the true historical facts about easter. You will be amazed to see these same pagan fertility rites practiced in this modern day celebration. Continuing in *The Interpreter's Dictionary*, page 110, we read:

However, we can make out the essential character of most of the “primitive” rites. E.g., the **Ambarvalia, or lustration of the fields, consisted in a circumambulation of the farm by its owner and his familia** (which included the slaves), all dressed in white, and leading a group of animals for the sacrifice—viz., a sow, a sheep, and a young bull(the *suovetaurilia*); Tibullus

says (11.1) that the last named was originally a male lamb. Another rustic rite was the annual sacrifice at the landmark, where the borders of farms adjoined; it was a ritual sacred to Terminus, and was accordingly named the Terminalia. Other rites were concerned with the sowing, harvesting, and garnering of the crops, and the making of wine or the preserving and storing up of seed for the coming year.

Three of the most fascinating modern examples of these ancient rites, can be found in our free booklets: *True Stories About Christmas; Halloween, Modern-Day Sacrifices Of The Dead*, and *The World's Thanksgiving Day*. Continuing from *The Interpreter's Dictionary*, on page 110, we read:

Still another “primitive” rite was the Lupercalia (February 15), somehow associated with the protection of small domestic animals from the wolves (*lupus*=“wolf”), but more specifically connected with fertility. At the SW corner of the Palatine mount, near an ancient cavern, a dog and some goats were sacrificed. Young men were smeared with the blood, which was then wiped off with wool (a lucky material) dipped in milk; then they ran about the Palatine settlement with strips of the fresh goatskins, striking with them everyone they met. These blows were especially welcome to women, for it was thought that they averted barrenness and ensured fertility. Other ideas were connected with the ritual, as is often the case with ancient rites; but the prevailing or most widely accepted interpretation seems to have been that of fertility magic.

Iurge you to obtain our free booklet: *The Real Meaning Behind Valentine's Day*, which proves that this ancient, primitive festival has survived to our present day. The only difference in this modern celebration is the fact that the name of this festival has been changed in order to venerate it with christian respectability. Continuing to read from *The Interpreter's Dictionary*, on pages 110-111, we find evidence of another ancient custom, also venerated with Christian respectability, which has survived to this present day:

It was this early agricultural religion which formed the fundamental and most permanent stratum of Roman religion. With the Etruscans and the Greeks had come temples, statues of gods (conceived now as personal beings, human in form), divination, and mythology. These new emphases had a transforming effect upon the religion of the city dwellers, though the old rituals survived in the rural districts. The offering of a young lamb to the spirit resident in a spring; a few beans or flowers offered to a tree nymph or to the family ghosts; the pious observance of ancestral customs, such as the ritual of the communal Lar or Lares, the family Genius, or the Penates (guardians) of the household storeroom—all

these are described by the Augustan poets, Vergil, Horace, Tibullus, Ovid. But they were in reality survivals from an age long past, and were now to be found chiefly on the farms and in the country towns.

It is within these obscure phrases that we find the origin of our modern birthday celebrations. Yes, through the primitive ancestral customs of pagan Rome, we find our modern counterpart still being celebrated today, with almost the same rituals.

The Ancestral Custom Of The Worship Of The Family Genius

Reading from the *New Larousse Encyclopedia of Mythology*, translated by Richard Aldington and Delano Ames, Crown Publishers, NY, 1987 Edition, page 217, we find this information about the Gods of the family:

Genius. The Genius was by definition the creative force which engendered the individual; it watched over his development and remained with him until the hour of his destruction. It presided over his marriage and over the nuptial bed, for this reason being entitled *genialis*. It appeared at the birth of the being whose function it was to protect. It formed the infant's personality. The power of the child's Genius depended on luck. If it was a boy its tutelary spirit was a Genius; if a girl it would be a Juno.

Little does today's modern world realize, that when they celebrate the birthday of a child, they are, in fact, dedicating that child to a pagan demon God. Furthermore, in these pagan birthday rituals, request is made to demon Gods to guide and teach this child. Please keep in mind the fact that these are the same demon Gods who opposed Yahweh, through Nimrod. Continuing to read from this same source reference:

The Genius and the Juno did not accomplish their protective mission unassisted. They had many auxiliaries. *Nundina* presided over the infant's purification. *Vaticanus* made it utter its first cry. *Educa* and *Potina* taught it to eat and drink. *Cuba* kept it quiet in its cradle. *Ossipago* and *Carna* saw to the development of its bones and flesh. *Abeona* and *Adeona* taught it to walk. *Sentinus* saw to the awakening of the infant's intellectual faculties, and such like.

In a word, the Genius fostered the growth and all the intellectual and moral faculties of the individual of whom it was a kind of abstract double. The cult rendered to the Genius

was very simple: on the day of birth it was offered wine and flowers, after which there was dancing. The Genius was first represented as a serpent. Later the Genius of the head of the family was depicted as a man in a toga. He was installed between the Penates and the Lar. With him sometimes appeared the Juno of the wife.

When today's modern world celebrates a birthday, most of these people do not know that they are practicing demon worship. These deceived people merely look upon this custom as an innocent ritual of praise, but to whom it glorifies and from whence it came, they do not know.

Funk & Wagnalls Standard Dictionary of Folklore, Mythology, and Legend, Funk & Wagnalls Publishing Co., Inc., 1972, page 444, gives us this information:

genius (plural *genii*) In Roman religion, a protecting spirit: essentially an indigenous Roman belief comparable to the late Greek concept of the dæmon and to the later Christian belief in the guardian angel.

Did you notice how this demon worship ties in with modern christianity? But instead of calling this what it is—a demon, they call it an angel.

KeeP in mind that this worship did not originate from the Holy Scriptures inspired to be written in your bible. This worship originated in pagan devil worship, in those who oppose Yahweh. This worship is condemned in the Holy Scriptures by Yahweh's prophets of old. We read this warning in:

● **Deuteronomy 12:28-32**—

28 Observe and obey all these words I command you, so it may go well with you and with your children after you forever, when you do what is lawful and holy in the sight of Yahweh your Father.

29 When Yahweh your Father cuts off the nations from in front of you, and you displace them and live in their land,

30 Be careful not to be ensnared into following them by asking about their gods (elohim), saying: How did these nations serve their gods (elohim)? I also will do the same.

31 You must not worship Yahweh your Father in their way, for every abomination to Yahweh, which He hates, they have done to their gods (elohim). They even burn their sons and daughters in the fire as sacrifices to their gods (elohim).

32 Whatever I command you, be careful to observe and do it, you shall not add to it, nor take away from it.

Remember in *Funk & Wagnalls Standard Dictionary of Folklore, Mythology, and Legend*, we just read that this genius, in

pagan ancestral religion, is nothing but a demon.

Collier's Encyclopedia, P.F. Collier, Inc., 1980, Volume 8, page 96, gives this information about **demonology**:

DEMONOLOGY, the science and art of religious practice which pertains to supernatural beings called (from the Greek δαίμων) demons, spirits, or genii. According to the type of demonology believed in, demons are human souls known as genii.

We are warned over and over throughout the scriptures to prove the spirits, to see whether they are of Yahweh or whether they are of the devil. We find this clearly written in:

● **I Yahchanan 4:1—**

Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, to see whether they are of Yahweh; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.

These demonic teachings of worship did not come from Yahweh; they came from pagan Godworshippers. Whether you ignorantly or knowingly worship a demon, you are still worshipping a demon. Notice what Yahshua Messiah said about this in:

● **Mattithyah 15:14—**

Let them alone. They are blind leaders of the blind. And if the BLIND LEAD THE BLIND, both will fall into the ditch.

● *A History of Private Life, I—From Pagan Rome To Byzantium*, Volume 1, by Paul Veyne and Arthur Goldhammer, 1987, pages 195-197, gives us this information about the sacrifices to these demons:

The principal rite of every cult was of course the rite of sacrifice, which people attended in a contemplative mood. It is important to bear in mind, however, that in a Greek or Latin text the word “sacrifice” always implies “feast.” Every sacrifice was followed by a dinner in which the immolated victim was cooked on the altar and eaten.

Digressing here, I must inform you that the hearth in each home of the ancient Roman’s was considered to be an altar. From *Compton's Pictured Encyclopedia and Fact Index*, 1948, Volume 14, page 290, we find:

VESTA. The hearth, in ancient times, was the center of family life. It was the place where the meals were prepared, the family gathered; above all, it was the place where sacrifices were offered to the gods, so that it came to be regarded as a sacred altar.

Continuing in *A History of Private Life*, pages 195-197, we read:

(Great temples had kitchens and offered the services of their cooks to worshipers who came to sacrifice.) The flesh of the victim went to the participants in the ritual, the smoke to the gods. Scraps from the meal were left on the altar, and beggars (*bomolochoi*) spirited them away. When sacrifice was made not on a household altar but at a temple, the custom was to pay for the priests' services by leaving them a set portion of the sacrificial animal; temples earned money by selling this meat to butchers. (When Pliny the Younger wishes to inform the emperor that he has eradicated Christianity in the province of which he is governor, he writes: "The meat of sacrificial animals is on sale once more," proving that sacrifices have resumed.) Which was it: Did people eat sacrificial victims or did they sacrifice animals they wanted to eat? That depends. The word for a man who made frequent sacrifice (*philothytes*) came to mean not a devout person but a host who gave good dinners, an Amphitryon.

The religious calendar, which varied from city to city, was filled with festivals, days when no one was required to work. These occurred at irregular intervals throughout the year. (Incidentally, the week, a period of astrological rather than Judeo-Christian origin, did not come into common use until the end of antiquity.) On feast days people invited their friends to sacrifices in their homes; such invitations were considered a greater honor than mere dinner invitations. Vapors of incense spewed forth from many houses on these great occasions, according to Tertullian. Among the important holidays were the national feasts of the emperors, the festivals of certain gods, New Year's Day, and the first day of each month. A custom cherished by Romans wealthy enough to practice it was that of sacrificing a piglet on the first of the month in honor of the household gods, the Lares or Penates. Once a year the birthday of the paterfamilias was celebrated with genuine fervor. On that day the family feasted in honor of its protective deity, or *genius*.

As you have read for yourself from this source reference: sacrifice always implies feast. The Apostle Shaul said in no uncertain terms that the things which the Gentiles sacrificed, they sacrificed to demons and not to Yahweh! We find this clearly written in:

● **I Corinthians 10:20—**

But I say that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to demons and not to Yahweh; and I do not want you to have fellowship with demons.

A sacrifice does not always mean killing an animal and then eating it. A sacrifice also implies that of merely offering to

the Gods. This is exactly what anyone does when they offer thanks for their food in the name of God. Therefore, do not eat any food offered to God. It has been sacrificed to God, therefore, defiling it, making it unfit to eat for those who worship Yahweh.

Life And Leisure In Ancient Rome, by J.P.V.D. Balsdon, 1969, pages 121-122, tells us that these Ancient Pagan Romans celebrated their birthdays with almost the exact same ritual that people in this modern world use to celebrate their birthday's today!

The birthday of a member of the family, an excuse for festivity, had greater religious significance in Rome than it is apt to have in the modern world. In the house a turf altar was erected, gaily decked with flowers, and on it offerings of food and wine were made, to the Genius in the case of a male member of the family, to the Juno in the case of a female member; candles were lit and incense was burnt until in A.D. 392 Theodosius forbade such pagan practices.

Everybody wore white. There was a birthday party, a dinner to which guests, relatives and friends, were invited and brought presents or, if they could not come, sent them.

Those who are still celebrating their birthdays with these rituals are still sacrificing to demons, just as it had been practiced according to the rites of ancestral custom from antiquity.

I would like to remind the reader that these customs came from nations who worshiped demons. These religious rituals of demon worship, are condemned in the Holy Scriptures themselves:

● **Deuteronomy 32:16-20—**

16 They provoked Yahweh to jealousy with their gods (elohim); they provoked Him to anger with this **ABOMINATION**.

17 They sacrificed to demons (gods, elohim), which are not of Yahweh, to gods (elohim) they did not know; to gods (elohim) newly them; I will see what their end shall be, for they are a perverse generation; children in whom is no faith.

18 You are unmindful of, and you forgot, The Rock that begot you; Our Father Who formed you.

19 When Yahweh saw them, He abhorred them, because His sons and daughters provoked Him.

20 And He said: I will hide My face from them: I will see what their end shall be, for they are a perverse generation; children in whom is no faith.

● **Psalms 106:37—**

And they sacrificed their sons and their daughters to these demons (gods, elohim).

Ignorantly or not, when one celebrates a child's birthday, they are **SACRIFICING**—by prayer or the action of celebrating itself—that **SON** or that **DAUGHTER** to **PAGAN GODS**, just as it has always been done in either ancient or modern rituals of Demon Worship.

The Apostle Shaul plainly says in:

● **I Corinthians 10:21-22—**

21 You cannot drink the cup of Yahweh and the cup of demons; you cannot partake of Yahweh's table and of the table of demons.

22 Do we provoke Yahweh to jealousy? Are we stronger than He?

Therefore, those who are sacrificing to demons by observing this ancient pagan custom of birthday celebrations, are certainly not partakers with Yahweh. It is this simple.

When one goes through any modern equivalent of this ancient pagan ritual of a birthday celebration, whether it is lighting candles or any of the other rituals previously mentioned, this child being honored is in fact being sacrificed to a demon God, to use as this God sees fit.

You are actually asking this demon God, through this ancient, yet modern custom, to teach your child rebellion and hatred towards Yahweh, just like the Gods themselves.

Is it any wonder that this world hates the name of Yahweh or that it hated Yahshua and His disciples? Should it be any wonder that this world now hates anyone who follows Yahweh's Laws? In the following scriptures we find this clearly written:

● **Yahchanan 15:25—**

But this is to fulfill what is written in their scriptures: They hated Me without a cause.

● **Luke 21:17—**

And you will be hated of all *men* for My Names sake;

● **Yahchanan 15:18—**

If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before *it hated* you.

● **II Timothy 3:12—**

Yes, and all who will live righteously, as Yahshua Messiah, will suffer persecution.

Is it any wonder that our own blood relatives turn against us, when Yahweh calls us out of this world? Yahshua Messiah plainly said this in:

● **Mattithyah 10:34-26—**

34 Do not think that I have come to send peace on earth! I did

not come to send peace, but a sword.

35 For I have come to set a man against his father, and the daughter against her mother, and the daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law;

36 And a man's enemies *will be* those of his own house.

All who hate the Laws of Yahweh have been sacrificed to demons. They have been taught to hate Yahweh, even though they have never known Him. In hating Yahweh, they also hate those who follow Him. Yes, they hate us without a cause.

The Prophets Of Yahweh Against Demon Worship!

It seems as though almost everyone has the mistaken idea that the Apostle Shaul (Paul) arose on the historical scene just to do away with all of Yahweh's Laws. If a person would practice these Laws, that person would gain eternal life, just as Yahweh has promised in the Holy Scriptures.

The Apostle Shaul studied at the feet of Gamaliel, a great Hebrew sage, as you may read for yourself in **Acts 23:3**. Shaul was privileged to study under one of the leading Hebrew teachers of the Law in his day, he was also privileged to be taught the prophecies of Yahweh. Yes, Shaul read the writings of Yahweh's prophets of old, the Nevi'im (prophets), just as he also read from the Torah (Law) and Ketubim (writings). This is where Shaul received his understanding from Yahweh to denounce demon worship for what it actually is.

Shaul was not ignorant of the Godworship of the nations. He said in **I Corinthians 10:20** not to have fellowship with demons. The only way we can cease from having fellowship with demons is to turn to Yahweh with all our hearts, minds, and being, by living according to His every word, and getting away from all forms of Godworship No matter how innocent any custom might seem, disguising a lion to look like a lamb will not protect anyone who touches the lion when it is hungry.

The Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible, Volume 1, page 818, gives us this information:

3. "**Demons**" as a generic term. In the LXX and the Vulg., and hence in our English versions, the term "demons" (δαίμονια, *daemonia*, *daemones*) is used

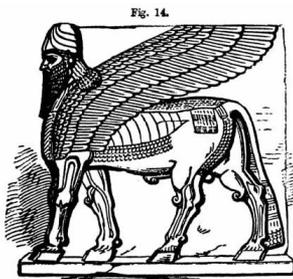
to render the Hebrew words שדים (Deut. 32:17; Ps. 106:37) and שציריט (Lev. 17:7; II Chr. 11:15 [Vulg.; but LXX μάταια]), which denote objects of pagan worship. In all cases, these are mentioned as being actually cultivated by recalcitrant Israelites. It is probable, therefore, that to the translators the term δαιμόνια (“demons”) meant in such contexts more than merely “heathen deities,” and was intended to convey at the same time the opprobrious nuance of “bogeys.” The Hebrew words, however, possess a specific rather than a generic sense.

a) שד, though it became in postbiblical Hebrew a common term for “malign spirit,” is simply the Akkadian *sêdu*, “protective (or adverse) daimon,” usually represented as a winged bull or colossus.

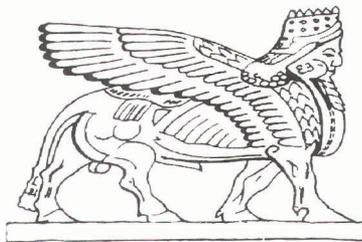
These demons, which include a protective demon or “Guardian Angel,” are objects of pagan worship. We have previously proven, that these protective demons in pagan Rome were known as a *genius* for a male or a *Juno* for a female.

However, the above reference from the *Interpreter’s Dictionary* also states that a demon may be represented as a winged bull or colossus.

We have also previously proven from *The Two Babylons*, by Hislop, on pages 37-39, the symbolism for wings is deity. The symbolism for a bull is a prince or ruler—a king. Therefore, the pictures of a winged bull one sees from time to time in various source references is a symbol of a king who is a God. From *The Two Babylons* and *Unger’s Bible Dictionary*, page 493, we find the following pictures.



Bull from Nimrod. From VAUX, p. 236.



306. Man-headed Winged Bull: Part Man, Part Lion or Bull, Part Eagle. This creature was set up by Assyrian and Hittite kings to protect entrances.

We have learned from *The Interpreter’s Dictionary of the Bible*, Volume 1, page 818, a demon may be represented as a winged colossus, as well as a winged bull.

The symbolism for wings is deity, as *The Two Babylons*,

by Hislop on pages 37-39 says. In order to understand the symbolism for a colossus, we must understand its definition. Any reliable dictionary will inform you that colossus is: [1] A gigantic statue; or [2] Any huge or important person or thing.

Then, from *Unger's Bible Dictionary*, Merrill F. Unger, drawings by Robert F. Ramey, 1966, page 103, we find a colossus from the palace of Sargon—a winged genius.



50. Winged-genius in Glazed Brick from the Palace of Sargon (Khorsabad)

This winged genius symbolized the fact that this genius, protective genius, was a God. Then, reading from *The Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible*, Volume 1, page 822, we find this fact written in black and white. Yes, these demons are nothing more than pagan gods.

1. Pagan deities as demons. In a few passages (Acts 17:18; I Cor. 10:20; Rev. 9:20), *δαμόνια* means simply "pagan deities." A particularly interesting example of this usage occurs in I Cor. 10:20, where the faithful are admonished that they who partake of the Lord's table cannot also partake of the "table of demons." That the word here means "pagan deities," rather than "devils," is shown clearly by the fact that the expression is simply an extension in a general sense of the prophet Isaiah's more specific allusion (65:11) to apostates who "forsake the Lord" and "set a table for Gad" (RVS "Fortune"), the Canaanite god of fortune. The word "Gad," it may be added, is actually rendered δαμόνιον by the LXX.

You have just read for yourself, the word **gad**, as used in **Isayah 65:11**, is actually rendered **demons** in the *Septuagint Version!*

Isayah 65:11—Warning!

Because of the way this scripture is translated in the *King James Version*, you would never understand that there is a warning against eating and drinking things sacrificed to the genii (demons) of good luck and fate in:

● **Isayah 65:11, KJV—**

But ye *are* they that forsake the Lord, that forget my holy mountain. that prepare a table for that troop, and that furnish the drink offering unto that number,

Yes, eating or drinking to these Gods, is done simply by asking that God or Lord bless your food before or after a meal!

If you do not yet understand that the Creator Himself never identified Himself as a God, in any of the original writings, please write for our free booklet: *Who IS Lord God? Who IS Baal?*

If you are invited to dine with anyone, and they ask God's blessing on the meal, that meal then becomes a sacrifice to demons. Eating things sacrificed to demons is strictly condemned in the scriptures. We read in:

● **Revelation 2:14,20—**

14 But I have a few things against you, because you have there those who hold the doctrine of Balaam, who taught Balak to cast a stumblingblock before the children of Israyl, to eat things sacrificed to gods (elohim), and to commit fornication.

20 Nevertheless, I have a few things against you, because you permit that woman Yezebel; *Baalzebel*, who calls herself a prophetess, to teach and to seduce My servants to commit fornication, and to eat things sacrificed to gods (elohim).

The word for word translation of **Isayah 65:11**, from *The International Version Interlinear Hebrew-English Old Testament*, by John R. Kohlenberger III, 1985, Volume 4, page 129, is displayed. Hebrew is read from the left to the right, rather than from the right to the left, as English is.

אֶתְּ	הַשְׂכֵּחִים	יְהוָה	עֹזְבֵי	וְאַתֶּם	
***	the-ones-forgetting	Yahweh	ones-forsaking-of	but-you	(11)
שֻׁלְחָן	לְפָד	הַעֲרֹכִים	קֹדֶשׁ	הַר	
table	for-the-Fortune	the-ones-spreading	holiness-of-me	mountain-of	
		מִמֶּסֶד	לְמִנִּי	וְהַמְמַלְאִים	
		mixed-wine	for-the-Destiny	and-the-ones-filling	

The word translated **troop** in **Isayah 65:11**, the *King James Version*, is translated **fortune** in this Interlinear by Kohlenberger. The word translated **troop** is word #1408 in *Strong's Hebrew Dictionary*, which shows **troop** to be **gad**—a Babylonian God called **fortune**.

1408. גַּד Gad, *gad*; a var. of 1409; *Fortune*, a Bab. deity:—that troop.

The word translated **number** in **Isayah 65:11**, the *King James Version*, is translated **destiny** in this Interlinear by Kohlenberger. The word translated **number** is word #4507 in *Strong's Hebrew Dictionary*, which shows **number** to be **meni**—a God called **fate**.

4507. מֵנִי Mēnīy, *men-ee'*; from 4487; the *Appor-tioner*, i.e. *Fate (as an idol)*:—number.

We are warned in **Isayah 65:11**, about sacrificing to these Babylonian Gods, we are also warned against the practices of Godworship in their honor.

- To prepare a table for troop-gad-fortune is to eat in honor of this God.
- To furnish the drink offering for number-meni-fate, is to drink in honor of this God.
- All one needs to do to eat in honor of a God, is to ask God to bless the meal that you are about to eat. This feast is a sacrifice to demons—not to Yahweh.

The fact is, these Babylonian Gods were genii. These same Gods that the pagan Romans honored with their sacrifices, this whole deceived modern world honors today on their birthdays!

Troop-Gad: Genius Of Good Luck

● *The Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible*, Volume 2, page 335, shows us that gad is a God or genius of good luck, the same God that the *Septuagint Version* has called a demon.

GAD (DEITY). A deity or genius of good luck worshiped by Jewish apostates, probably in the postexilic period, together with "Destiny" (מֵנִי, MENI; Isa. 65:11). The nature of the deity is clear from an Aramaic-Greek bilingual inscription from Palmyra, where he is identified with τύχη, "Fortune." His cult was particularly popular in the Hauran. The reference in Isaiah may be connected with Edomite or Arab penetration of Palestine after the Exile.

Number-Meni: Genius Of Good Luck

● *The Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible*, Volume 3, page 350, shows us that meni is a God or genius of good luck:

MENI me né [מְנִי, from מְנָה, to count, apportion]. With Gad, a deity or genius of good luck worshiped by Jewish apostates probably in the postexilic period (Isa. 65:11). Manat is known from the Quran (Surah 53:20) as a deity worshiped in Arabia before Islam. The name is found, possibly in a plural form, in Nabatean inscriptions from the Hejaz. The Arab association is interesting in view of Edomite or Arab penetration of Palestine in the postexilic period, to which Isa. 65:11 probably refers (*see* Destiny 1).

● *The Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible*, Volume 1, page 830, shows us that destiny is associated with meni and fate which are the names of a pagan god.

DESTINY. 1. The translation of מְנִי, the name of a pagan deity (Isa. 65:11). *See* MENI.

2. One's lot, appointed end, or FATE.

These Gods—genii—were served and worshiped by God-worshippers who sacrificed to them by eating and drinking in their honor. Therefore, Yahweh was forsaken, deserted, and forgotten.

This was gradually accomplished through deception, by substituting Yahweh's name in the Hebrew scriptures with pagan titles from Canaanite Godworship. Although Yahweh's name was clearly written in the scriptures, the people only heard the titles of the pagan gods being spoken, in this way Yahweh's name was slowly forgotten.

Therefore, the people today actually think that they are worshipping the Creator when they call upon the names of Lords and Gods in these pagan religious ritualistic practices, this is called idolatry.

Idolatry—Worship Of Pagan Gods Or Worship With Pagan Rituals

Reading from *The International Standard Bible Encyclopedia*, Revised by Geoffrey W. Bromiley, 1979, page 515, we find this information about **birthdays**:

BIRTHDAY [Heb. *yôm hulledet*; Gk. *genésia*]. The term occurs in Gen. 40:20 (“birthday” of Pharaoh) and in Mt. 14:6; Mk. 6:21 (“birthday” of Herod Antipas). There is evidence for

birthday celebrations in Greece and Persia. Herodotus refers to the birthday celebrations of individuals, a special meal (*Persian Wars* i.133); and of the king, an annual royal banquet with the dispensing of gifts to his subjects (ix.110). The pre-Hellenistic Greeks celebrated the birthdays of gods and prominent men. Gk. *genethlia* designated these celebrations, while *genesia* meant a celebration commemorative of the birthday of a deceased important individual. In 2 Macc. 6:7 we find reference to a monthly *genethlia* of Antiochus IV, during which the Jews were forced to “partake of the sacrifices.”

Directing your attention to the phrase in this source reference, which says...the Jews were forced to “partake of the sacrifices,” I want you to be fully aware of the fact that this ritual of sacrificing was in celebration of the birthdays of Gods and prominent men, as this source states.

Remember that a sacrifice does not always require the slaughter of an animal to take place. A sacrifice can be anything—food, drink, things, or people—which has been prayed over, using the names or titles of deities (Gods-Demons). Keep this fact in mind, the Jews were forced to partake in the sacrifices to the Gods.

The rituals of sacrifice are of primitive simplicity. The owner of the animal ordinarily slaughters its own victim, the blood is then poured on the ground, smeared upon the sacred stone, the tent ropes, the doorposts of the houses, persons or animals. Afterwards, a feast is made from the flesh of the animal for the owner, his family, tribesmen, and guests.

A History of Private Life, I—From Pagan Rome To Byzantium, by Veyne and Goldhammer, pages 195-197, tells us that a sacrifice always implies feast. We also find that a sacrifice was a much more important occasion than merely an invitation to dinner.

The principal rite of every cult was of course the rite of sacrifice, which people attended in a contemplative mood. It is important to bear in mind, however, that in a Greek or Latin text the word “sacrifice” always implies “feast.” Every sacrifice was followed by a dinner in which the immolated victim was cooked on the altar and eaten.

The flesh of the victim went to the participants in the ritual, the smoke to the gods.

On feast days people invited their friends to sacrifices in their homes; such invitations were considered a greater honor than mere dinner invitations. Vapors of incense spewed forth from many houses on these great occasions, according to Tertullian. Among the important holidays

were the national feasts of the emperors, the festivals of certain gods, New Year's Day, and the first day of each month. A custom cherished by Romans wealthy enough to practice it was that of sacrificing a piglet on the first of the month in honor of the household gods, the Lares or Penates. Once a year the birthday of the paterfamilias was celebrated with genuine fervor. On that day the family feasted in honor of its protective deity, or *genius*.

Sacrifices were more important occasions than just dinner invitations, because these sacrifices were held in honor of the Gods which were worshiped.

These Jews that were forced to partake of these sacrifices, were being forced to participate in the birthday celebration of the king—a ritual of pagan Godworship. Of course this was done in an innocent birthday celebration.

The Anchor Bible—II Maccabees, Jonathan A. Goldstein, 1983, page 268, gives us this information concerning these rituals of birthday celebrations:

On the monthly birthday of the king Jews were cruelly compelled to partake of the meat of pagan sacrifices. When a festival of Dionysus was celebrated, they were forced to put on wreaths of Ivy and march in the procession in honor of the god. A decree was published in the neighboring Greek cities, on the proposal of the citizens of Ptolemais, that they proceed against the Jews in the same manner and compel them to partake of the meat of pagan sacrifices and that they butcher those Jews who refused to go over to the Greek way of life.

This Godworship was a birthday ritual. These sacrifices were to demons and these Jews were fully aware of this fact. Reading from page 276, of this same reference, we find:

7. Greeks did celebrate their birthdays monthly. See W. Schmidt, "Genethlios hemera" PW, VII (1912), 1136. On the sacrifices and other observances in the Hellenistic monarchies on the monthly birthdays of the kings, see *ibid.*, cols. 1138-39. To judge by I 1:58-59, the birthday of Antiochus IV was on the twenty-fifth.

We read about the birthday of the king in II Maccabees, the king mentioned is Antiochus Epiphanes. *The Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible*, Volume 1, page 150, gives us this information about this king who considered himself Epiphanes—manifest God:

4. Antiochus IV (175-164 B.C.; or, according to some scholars, 175-163 B.C. [with an adjustment of one year in other dates listed below], surnamed **EPIPHANES** ("the Manifest [God]"),

which caused some of his enemies to nickname him “Epimanes” (“mad”). His coins* also include the titles νικηφόρος (“bringing victory”) and θεός (“god”), and progressively represent his features as more and more like those of the Olympian Zeus. He was the younger son of Antiochus III the Great, and he followed his elder brother Seleucus Philopator (see SELEUCUS 4) on the throne, although Seleucus had a rightful heir, Demetrius. Antiochus had been a hostage in Rome for fourteen years after the Battle of Magnesia. Before he could take the kingdom, he had to rid himself of Heliodorus, his brother’s murderer. He is known as one of the cruelest tyrants of all time, enterprising like his father, yet furious and precipitate almost to the degree of madness. His relations with Jerusalem and the Jews were particularly unfortunate. It was one of his major aims to obtain unity by spreading the movement of Hellenism throughout his dominions, and in this way he was brought into violent conflict with powerful Jewish elements.

Please notice these facts: this abomination was taking place over 150 years before Yahshua Messiah was born and were being exerted by a king of Syria who considered himself a God.

Due to the narrow dividing line between gods and heroes and the general pagan feeling that a great benefactor was in some sense divine, the worship of kings was fairly common in the Hellenistic Age. This worship later became more widespread in the east than in the west.

The worship of kings was imposed in the Roman Empire however, it was known as **emperor worship**. *The Encyclopedia Judaica*, 1972, Volume 6 page 729, gives this information:

EMPEROR WORSHIP, The Roman cult established during the reign of Augustus, first in the provinces but not in Italy, and practiced throughout the Roman Empire. It is the direct continuation of the Hellenistic worship of the ruler.

Emperor worship, which was practiced throughout the Roman Empire from Caesar Augustus on, was a direct continuation of the Hellenistic Greek worship of the ruler as a divine being on his birthday.

Reading from *The New Larousse Encyclopedia of Mythology*, Aldington & Ames, page 213, we find that on the Emperor’s birthday it was the worship of the Emperor’s personal genii which was instituted in the Roman Empire.

Genius. The Genius was the anonymous deity who protected all groups of people and the places of their group activities. The number of genii was unlimited. The most important genius was, naturally, the *Genius publicus populi romani* who appeared on coins, sometimes with the features of the reign-

ing emperor. After this Genius came the genii of districts, of *curia* and *decuria*; then those of towns, tribes and colonies. Every corporation had its Genius as well as every house, gate, street and so on. The Roman emperors subsequently instituted the public cult of their own personal Genii for the entire duration of their term of office.

● *Life and Leisure in Ancient Rome*, by Balsdon, page 71, relates some of the pagan jollification in which the Jews and early believers could not share:

The Empire brought a spate of new celebrations, official and unofficial. Achievements of Caesar and of Augustus, new temple dedications and imperial birthdays added, with imperial consecrations, thirty-two new festival days to the calendar between 45 B.C. and A.D. 37. The process continued under each successive emperor. Among these new celebrations, many of them shortlived, the birthday and anniversary of the accession day of the ruling emperor must always have been memorable occasions the whole empire over. days of great embarrassment to Jews and Christians, who could not share in such pagan jollification.

It was no secret to the pagan mind that the celebration of birthdays was nothing more than pagan Godworship. They knew this to be fact, since it was their intention to worship their genius or Juno on their birthdays.

Why, is this fact one of the best kept secrets in this world today? Because, preachers do not tell you that the celebrations of birthdays are a religious ritual which came from pagan Godworship. However, celebrating birthdays actually separates one from Yahweh—having become an idolator.

Unger's Bible Dictionary, page 147, gives us this information:

Birthday (Heb. *yom huledeth*, Gen. 40:20; Gr. *ta genesisia*, Matt. 14:6; Mark 6:21). The custom of observing birthdays was very ancient and widely extended. In Persia they were celebrated with peculiar honor and banquets, and in Egypt the king's birthday was observed with great pomp (Gen. 40:20). No reference is made in scripture of the celebration of birthdays by the Jews themselves...

The later Jews regarded the celebration of birthdays as a part of idolatrous worship...

As you may read for yourself, no reference is made to any scriptural celebrations of birthdays by the Jews, they considered these celebrations to be idolatrous worship.

The following information about idolatry comes from *The Encyclopedia Judaica*, Volume 8, pages 1231-1232:

The Biblical Injunction Against Idolatry. The biblical injunction against idolatry comprises three more or less separate matters: the worship of idols, the worship of God with pagan rites, and the making of idols. The biblical injunction against idol worship includes: 1) idol worship conforming to the pagan rituals (Ex. 20:5; Deut. 12:30; cf. Sanh. 61b); 2) bowing down (Ex. 34:14); 3) offering a sacrifice to another god (i.e., to idols, Ex. 22:19), which, according to the rabbis, includes the performance of any of the rituals that form part of the cult prescribed for the service of the Lord.

This reflects the actual biblical view of idolatry. The Bible conceives idolatry not merely as the worshiping of images but as the worshiping of anything, real or imaginary, other than God Himself. This is implicit in the second commandment (Ex. 20:3).

The injunction against worshipping God with pagan rites (Deut. 12:31; cf. Nahmanides ad loc.) reflects the biblical view that God should be worshiped according to His will.

We find this clearly written in:

● **Deuteronomy 12:31-32—**

31 You must not worship Yahweh your Father in their way, for every abomination to Yahweh, which He hates, they have done to their gods (elohim). They even burn their sons and daughters in the fire as sacrifices to their gods (elohim).

32 Whatsoever I command you, be careful to observe and do it, you shall not add to it, nor take away from it.

Deuteronomy 12:31-32, plainly tells us, do not worship Yahweh in the way everyone else worships their Gods, this is an abomination to Yahweh. Birthday celebrations came from pagan godworship. They are a thing desirable to mankind, at first glance however, they are an evil religious pagan practice. Yahweh's people should repent of ever having been involved in such practices. They should repent of this, and never practice this pagan again.

Continuing to read from *The Encyclopedia Judaica*, Volume 8, pages 1231-1232, we find:

Making idols is explicitly prohibited (Ex. 20:4, 23 [20]). According to the rabbis this prohibition applies both to one who makes an idol to worship it himself or for others to worship (see Sifra 7:1 end).

THE BIBLICAL POLEMIC AGAINST IDOLATRY. In the course of the biblical polemic against idolatry the Bible does not introduce the issue of the merits of the religious and mythological value of the pagan world (see below). The reason for this is that the Bible rejects the pagan claim that idolatry actually represents religious values. The Bible attacks idolatry on two independent grounds: it violates the Covenant, and it is useless. Since idolatry is specifically forbidden (cf. Ex. 20:4

ff.), its practice constitutes a violation of the Covenant (Deut. 31:16, 20; Jer. 11:10).

● **Deuteronomy 31:16,20—**

16 And Yahweh said to Mosheh: Behold, you are going to rest with your fathers, and these people will soon prostitute themselves to the gods of the land which they are entering; they will forsake Me, and break the covenant which I made with them.

20 But, when I have brought them to the land flowing with milk and honey, the land which I vowed on oath to their forefathers, and they have eaten to the full and grown fat; if they turn to gods (elohim) and worship them—breaking My covenant and provoking Me.

● **Yeremyah 11:10—**

They have turned back to the iniquities of their forefathers, who refused to listen to My words, and they have gone after the hinder gods (elohim) to serve them! The house of Israyl and the house of Yahdah alike have broken My covenant which I made with their fathers.

I would like to draw your attention to the fact that not all images are to be considered as idols. Reading from Volume 8 of *The Encyclopedia Judaica*, pages 1231-1233, we also find this valuable information:

The biblical prohibition of making idols does not include all images but only those images that were considered “gods” (e.g., Lev. 26:1). This distinction between an image and an idol will become clear in the light of the pagan belief that an image was not to be worshiped unless it was properly consecrated to a god and transformed, through the prescribed cult, into an idol.

“LIVING IDOLS” IN PAGAN RELIGIONS. An idol, in the pagan mind, was a living and feeling being.

Elijah’s ridicule of Baal (I Kings 18:27) and Isaiah’s mocking of the idols (Isa. 44:9-21) were designed to shake the widespread belief in “living idols.” The argument offered by the Psalmist (Ps. 106:36; 115:9), “they have eyes but they do not see” should be taken literally. It attempts to disprove the belief that the idols were in possession of sensory faculties. The biblical description of idolatry as “sacrifices of the dead” (Ps. 106:28) and of idols as “wood and stone” (Deut. 28:36, 64), and similar descriptions, challenge the pagan claim that the images they worshiped were in act “living idols.”

THE MAKING OF AN IDOL. The identification of the god with the idol was effected by a special ceremony of consecration known as the “washing or cleaning of the mouth.” Egyptian and Babylonian records dating from the biblical period give minute details concerning the rite of consecration by which the image is transformed into a living idol (Schiaparelli; Budge; Blackman (1924), 42-59; Baly, 173-186; Smith,

37-60). By virtue of this ritual the gods also identified with the reliefs that were in the walls of the temples: the pictures of the gods were able to eat and drink the sacrifices and libations that were offered during the services, and thus acquire the necessary energy to be and act as living gods (Blackman (1935), 6-7; Blackman and Fairman, 84ff.). The ceremony by which an image is consecrated and thereby made into a god is recorded in Daniel (3:2,4).

Therefore, do not consider your children's toys, dolls, teddy bears, etc., nor your own pictures, as idols unless, of course, you or someone else has consecrated them to a God, through the celebrations of Godworship. Do however, be fully aware of the fact that sacrifices commemorating these imperial birthdays was idolatry—Godworship. The images of these Emperors, to whom the pagans bowed in loyalty, were definitely consecrated as Gods.

If one bowed to the image of the Emperor, or partook of the sacrifices to the Emperor, he or she was an idolater—a worshiper of Gods.

The Horizon Book of Daily Life In Ancient Rome, by Lionel Casson, 1975, page 90, tells us:

Like the Jewish faith from which it sprang, it was proudly exclusive: the worshiper of Christ would not include other deities in his prayers or bend his knees to the image of a Roman emperor.

The early Christians clashed with pagan authorities as inevitably as had the Jews, and during the period we are surveying they suffered frequent and cruel persecution.

Read again from *The International Standard Bible Encyclopedia*, by Bromiley, pg. 515, we find:

Josephus (*BJ vii.3.1*) refers to Titus' celebration of his brother's and father's birthdays (*genethlia*) by slaughtering Jewish captives. By the time of the NT, *genesia* could be used to designate the birthday celebration of a living prominent person, hence Mt. 14:6; Mk. 6:21. When Herod celebrated his birthday he was acting in accord with a Hellenistic custom; there is no evidence for the celebration of birthdays in Israel in pre-Hellenistic times.

Notice what the Christian writers admit when it comes to the transgressions of King Herod, whose actions they do not regret condemning at all: "Herod was acting in accord with Hellenistic customs."

Why, I ask you, won't the Christians see their own sins? They are following the same Hellenistic customs today.

There is no evidence of the pagan celebration of birthdays in ancient Israyl, as we have proven for ourselves it is Idolatry (Godworship). To celebrate birthdays is simply to follow the same paganistic customs that King Herod practiced. Most christians admit this when it comes to King Herod, but they are reluctant to admit that they, themselves, are guilty of practicing these same pagan rituals.

If we practice these pagan rituals, we most assuredly break our Covenant with Yahweh.

Family Feasts Or Family Godworship A Vital Difference

In ancient Israyl, just as today, there were and are times of private rejoicing in which a small social unit, such as a family, would be involved.

These occasions for family feasting included: weddings (**Genesis 29:22**), weaning feasts (**Genesis 21:8**), the visit of a guest (**Genesis 19:13**), or work related activities, such as a sheepshearing (**Deuteronomy 18:4; I Samuyl 25:4-11**) in which a feast was held during the event. The children of Iyyob entertained each other regularly on a purely social basis (**Iyyob 1:4**).

In each of the above mentioned scriptures, the word which has been translated **feast** is word #4960 in *Strong's Hebrew Dictionary*, and means:

4960. מִשְׁתֶּה **mishteh**, *mish-teh'*; from 8354; *drink*; by impl. *drinking* (the act); also (by impl.), a *banquet* or (gen.) *feast*:—*banquet, drank, drink, feast* ([-ed], -ing).

Readings from *The International Standard Bible Encyclopedia*, by Bromiley, page 410, we find corroborating information about the Hebrew word **mishteh**, which is translated **feast**. We also find information about the Greek word **deipnon** which has been translated **feast** in what is commonly known as the New Testament.

BANQUET [*Heb. misteh; Gk. deipnon*]; AV also FEAST SUPPER; NEB also DINNER PARTY, DINNER-TIME. The Hebrew word is derived from the verb "to drink," and conveys the fact that wine was consumed at banquets. The RSV has translated *misteh* as "banquet" only in Esther, translating it elsewhere as "feast." In Esther the term refers to a festive meal, held either by the king or queen. *Gk. deipnon* can mean either supper, the main meal of the day, or a formal supper,

feast, or banquet (Mt. 23:6; Mk. 12:39; Lk. 20:46; Rev. 19:9, 17). The RSV translates *deipnon* as “banquet” only in Mk. 6:21, referring to a birthday banquet of Herod, and in Lk. 14:12 ff., the “parable of the banquet.”

A misteh is always a “secular feast,” held on a variety of occasions: the weaning of a son (Gen. 21:8), a wedding (Gen. 29:22; Jgs. 14:10), the birthday of a king (Gen. 40:20), in response to a royal vision (I K. 3:15), upon the arrival of guests (Gen. 19:3; 2 S. 3:20). A sign of wealth was the ability to “feast” often (I S. 25:36; Job 1:4f.). The association of “feasting” with drinking is assumed in the oracle of Jer. 51:39.

The “banquets” in Esther (1:3, 5, 9) are similar to others in the OT. Much is made of the drinking: “and drinking was according to the law, no one was compelled; for the king had given orders to all the officials of his place to do as every man desired” (Est. 1:8). One of the banquets is most extravagant: it is said to last 180 days! Another is seven days long (cf. the wedding feast in Jgs. 14:12).

Yahshua Messiah Himself, was often an invited guest in many homes. Scripturally clearly states that He did attend these feasts or banquets. Therefore, it was not necessary for a specific occasion to arise for a feast to be enjoyed, when it was in the context of a banquet or a dinner invitation. These particular occasions in which eating and drinking are enjoyed are welcome diversions from the rigors of workaday living and are acceptable to Yahweh, if they are also held in honor of His glory.

However, there are other family occasions which are convened for the purposes of Godworship, which are not acceptable in the eyes of Yahweh.

We find the Hebrew word **mishteh**, translated feast, which was held in honor of a king’s birthday, in:

● **Genesis 40:20**—

Now on the third day was Pharaoh’s birthday, and he gave a feast for all his officials; and he lifted up the head of the chief of the cupbearers, and the head of the chief of the bakers in the presence of his officials:

We find in the following scripture the Greek word **deipon** translated feast in the *King James Version* and **banquet** in *The Book of Yahweh*.

● **Yahchanan Mark 6:21**—

But an opportunity came (*for Herodias to kill Yahchanan the Immerser*) when Herod, on his birthday, gave a banquet (*Deipnon*) for his nobles, the high military officers, and the chief *men* of Gaililee;

Reading from *Wycliffe Bible Encyclopedia*, Volume 1, page 259, we find:

BIRTHDAY. There are two biblical references to birthdays: (1) On Pharaoh's birthday he made a feast for his servants and granted amnesty to his chief butler whom he had previously imprisoned (Gen. 40:20). (2) The birthday of Herod Antipas was celebrated with a banquet for his "courtiers and officers and the leading men of Galilee." Entertainment included the dancing of Salome, daughter of Herodias, who was rewarded with the head of John the Baptist on a platter (Mt. 14:6; Mk 6:21-28, RSV).

The Gr. *genesia* originally was a celebration on the birthday of a deceased person (Arndt, s.v.), but came to have broader application, and in the papyri it was always a birthday feast (MM, s.v.). That it might also be a feast on the anniversary of the accession date of a ruler has never been demonstrated (cf. Edersheim, I. 672).

The birth of a son was an occasion for rejoicing (Ruth 4:14; Jn 16:21; Jos *Ant.* xii. 4.7), but Jeremiah, in great despondency, came to curse the day of his birth (Jer 20:14-15; cf. Job 3:3). According to Herodotus, the ancient Persians also celebrated a birthday with a feast (i.133). In Egypt such celebrations can be documented back to the 13th cen. B.C. apart from the biblical reference above.

The one glaring difference between an acceptable feast and an unacceptable feast is Godworship. The pagan celebration of a birthday is not an acceptable feast (mishteh-deipnon). Birthdays, as we have proven originated in pagan Godworship, regardless of how innocent it appears today, it is still Godworship.

From *A History of Private Life, I—From Pagan Rome To Byzantium*, Paul Vejne and Arthur Goldhammer, pages 197-199, we read about sacrifices to demons, which a birthday feast most certainly is.

The principal rite of every cult was of course the rite of sacrifice, which people attended in a contemplative mood. It is important to bear in mind, however, that in a Greek or Latin text the word "sacrifice" always implies "feast." Every sacrifice was followed by a dinner in which the immolated victim was cooked on the altar and eaten.

The flesh of the victim went to the participants in the ritual, the smoke to the gods.

On feast days people invited their friends to sacrifices in their homes; such invitations were considered a greater honor than mere dinner invitations. Vapors of incense spewed forth from many houses on these great occasions, according to Tertullian. Among the important holidays were the national feasts of the emperors, the festivals of certain gods, New Year's Day, and the first day of each month. A custom cherished by Romans wealthy enough to practice it was that of sacrificing a piglet on the first of the month in honor of the household gods, the Lares or Penates. Once a year the birthday of the paterfamilias was

celebrated with genuine fervor. On that day the family feasted in honor of its protective deity, or *genius*.

In many cases, when animals were part of the sacrifices, the animals used were among those which are described as unclean in Leviticus Chapter 11 and Deuteronomy Chapter 14. If you are unfamiliar with these clean and unclean animals, and would like to learn more, please write for our free booklet *Health Yahweh's Way*.

Reading from *Life And Leisure In Ancient Rome*, J.P.V.D. Balsdon, 1969, pages 121-122, we again find that these ancient pagan Romans celebrated their birthdays with almost the exact same ritual that people in this modern world use to celebrate their birthdays today.

The birthday of a member of the family, an excuse for festivity, had greater religious significance in Rome than it is apt to have in the modern world. In the house a turf altar was erected, gaily decked with flowers, and on it offerings of food and wine were made, to the Genius in the case of a male member of the family, to the Juno in the case of a female member; candles were lit and incense was burnt until in A.D. 392 Theodosius forbade such pagan practices.

Everybody wore white. There was a birthday party, a dinner to which guests, relatives and friends, were invited and brought presents or, if they could not come, sent them.

The criteria by which one who follows Yahweh either accepts or declines eating and drinking with blood relatives is to ask the following questions: is this family feast in honor of any kind of God? Is it Godworship? If it is, then we must refuse to eat things sacrificed to demons.

We have proven beyond any shadow of doubt that the rituals practiced by this world in their birthday celebrations originated in Godworship. Not only this, but these same pagan birthday rituals are referred to by the Apostle Shaul in **I Corinthians 10:20** as sacrifices to demons. He then tells that we cannot eat and drink to demons, and still expect to eat and drink at Yahweh's table.

The Pagan Roman Julian Calendar

Most of us living in the world today have a tendency to think that the counting of time has always been the same. We live in a world that counts the year in twelve months, the months in 28-31 days, and the week in seven days.

However, time has not always been counted in every nation as a solar year of twelve fixed months, nor has the week been seven days in every culture.

Time is a human invention, an artificial product of men's minds. In the natural course of men's lives there is only change. The sense for time is now so ingrained that we assume it has always been reckoned in the way we think of it. The idea of time, is now incorporated in all languages of the world. However, this has not always been the case. Recurrent natural events, such as the annual round of the sun, the phases of the moon, and the sequence of day and night, are known everywhere, but are not always set into a system for counting time.

The calendar has not always been a neat pad of squares and numbers hanging on the wall. Once, it was four tablets in the Roman forum. For untold centuries people have kept track of the days by the march of daylight and darkness, and of the changing seasons, in order to know when to plant crops and get ready for winter. Ancient man sometimes kept the record by notching a stick or knotting a cord once every day. He also watched the position of the sun and the arrays of stars in the sky, the changes of the moon, and the habits of plants and animals.

The making of an exact calendar, however, has perplexed men for ages, because the divisions of time, by days, months, and years do not fit together. Days are counted easily: from sunset to sunset according to Yahweh's way. People tend to count months by the changes of the moon, but a lunar month cannot be reckoned exactly in days. The lunar month cannot be reckoned exactly in days, because the lunar month lasts on the average for 29 days, 12 hours, 44 minutes, and 2.8 seconds. The solar year, also, cannot be counted in complete days or lunar months, because it lasts for 365 days, 5 hours, 48 minutes, and 2.8 seconds—about 12 $\frac{1}{3}$ lunar months. Without the aid of telescopes and accurate clocks, early people could not adjust their calendars accurately for the fractional parts of days or months. Hence, their years always got out of step with the seasons, and they had to make continual adjustments by the insertion of added months, called intercalation.

The calendar Yahweh gave to Israyl is strictly a lunar calendar. *Collier's Encyclopedia*, Volume 5, pg. 137, shows us the three main types of calendars:

TYPES OF CALENDAR

There are three main types of calendar: (1) the lunar, (2) the solar, and (3) the lunisolar.

Lunar. The lunar calendar preserves the length of the lunar or synodic month (29½ days) and disregards the length of the solar year. The Muhammadan calendar is a good example. Most of the cultural groups using a lunar calendar reckoned the months as having 29 and 30 days alternately, thus averaging 29½ days. In using the lunar calendar, the lunar year has been taken as (12 x 29½) or 354 days. A lunar year of 12 synodic months actually has 354.367056 days; the decimal here is unaccounted for in the calendar and amounts to 11.012 days in every 30 lunar years. By intercalating(inserting) 11 days in 30 lunar years, this calendar becomes very accurate with respect to the moon. The main difficulty with it is that its year is about 11 days shorter than the solar year, causing the seasons to occur at earlier and earlier dates through the years: hence it is impracticable in civil affairs.

Solar. The solar calendar holds to the length of the solar year as nearly as possible, but it disregards the lunar months and assumes a set length of month.

Yahweh's calendar is the lunar calendar, which is very accurate with respect to the moon, but "impracticable in civil affairs."

Yahweh's calendar completely disregards the solar year, because Yahweh's year is a sacred year based upon seven ordained moons. Yahweh begins the count to His new year day from the new moon of green ears of barley. What this means is: on the fourteenth day at sunset, His new year begins at His feast. Each and every feast that Yahweh ordains, which are His appointed times within His sacred year, marks special events to Yahweh and to His family.

Yahweh's sacred year begins on the passover night—the fifteenth day of His first moon: the first holy day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread. His sacred year ends on the last great day—the twenty-second day of His seventh moon. The last great day is the last feast day of His ordained year of seven moons, at the end of the Feast of Tabernacles.

Yahweh's way is so simple to those who want to serve Yahweh with all their hearts, it is considered a burden to those who do not.

The ancient Roman calendar, like the calendar Yahweh gave to Israyl, was strictly a lunar calendar. A lunar calendar preserves the length of the lunar or synodic month, the interval between two successive new moons or full moons and completely disregards the solar year.

Collier's Encyclopedia, 1980, Volume 5, page 138, tells us about this ancient Roman, strictly lunar calendar, which completely disregarded the solar year:

Roman. The original Latin calendar (about eighth century B.C.) comprised 10 months or 304 days, according to the old historians; 5 months having 31 days each, 4 months having 30, and 1 month having 29 days. The year began on March 1, thus giving the month names—October, for example, for the eighth month; and the day began with the midnight hour. The Roman calendar underwent a number of changes. By tradition, King Numa Pompilius added two months, Januarius and Februarius, prior to 700 B.C. Numa's calendar had 7 months of 29 days, 4 months of 31 days, and Februarius with 28 days, making 355 days. About 451 B.C., a group of 10 magistrates, the Decemvirs, rearranged the months, giving them the present order; that is, they changed the year's beginning from Martius of Januarius. Later, the College of Pontiffs, with the Pontifex Maximus as chief, was founded and took complete charge of the calendar.

●*Life And Leisure In Ancient Rome*, by Balsdon, pages 56-58, gives us this information about the months, days, and years in the ancient Roman lunar calendar before Julius Caesar's reform:

Months in Rome Before Calendar Reform:

Down to 153 B.C. the year had two beginnings. The natural year started on January 1st after the winter solstice, the all-important civil year on March 1st (earlier, the 15th), from which the names of Quintilis (fifth month, later renamed July in honour of Julius Caesar), Sextilis (sixth month, later August in honour of Augustus), September and October (seventh and eighth months, which we might well be calling Germanic and Domitian respectively today, if Domitian, who gave the months these names in his own honour, had not been the disaster that he was), November (ninth month) and December (tenth month) marked a numerical sequence.

Before 45 B.C., when Julius Caesar introduced the calendar which, with very small changes, we still enjoy, March, May, July and October had thirty-one days each, February twenty-eight and the remaining months twenty-nine each.

Days in Rome Before Calendar Reform:

The first day of every month was the Kalends. The fifth in the short months, the seventh in the long months, was the Nones, so called as being the ninth day before the Ides. The Ides, which in origin was the full moon of the lunar month, was on the 13th in the short months and the 15th in the long ones.

The days of the month were not numbered serially, but

were reckoned by their distance from the following Nones, Ides or Kalends, as the case might be. March 16th, for instance, was the seventeenth day before the Kalends of April, 'a.d. xvii Kalendas Apriles', and that is how dates were given, past or future. Cicero wrote to Atticus in October 54 B.C., 'Pomptinus wants to hold his triumph four days before the Nones of November. Nine days before the Kalends of November I had letters from Britain from my brother and from Caesar, dated six days before the Kalends of October. The last letter I had from you was from Ephesus, dated five days before the Ides of Sextilis (August).' Describing his future movements in 59, he wrote, 'I want to get to my house at Formiae on the Parilia' (April 21st, ten days before the Kalends of May.) 'I shall leave on the Kalends of May, so as to be in Antium five days before the Nones of May. The games there are to last from four days before the Nones of May to the day before the Nones. I plan to get to Rome on about the Kalends of June.'

● *Collier's Encyclopedia*, P.F. Collier, Inc., 1980, Volume 5, page 139, tells us more about these Roman Days:

Calends, Ides, and Nones. The Romans used the plural forms "calendae" (calends), "ides," and "nones" as reference points in designating the days of the month. The calends were the first day of the month. The ides were the 15th day of Martius, Aprilis, Julius (Quintilis), and October, and the 13th day of the other months. By modern reckoning, the nones came on the 8th day before the ides. The Romans, however, included the ides themselves, making the nones the 9th day, whence the term (from *nonus*, "nine"). The ides of Martius (March) were March 15, or loosely, this day plus the 7 days preceding it—March 8 to March 15, inclusive. The 7 days preceding it—March 8 to March 15, inclusive. The nones of Martius, Aprilis, Julius, and October fell on the 7th day of these months, and on the 5th day of the other months. The days of the month were counted backwards—from the ides and nones for the first half of the month and from the calends of the following month for the second half of the month.

This Roman reckoning of days might seem very confusing to us. However, even though this method of counting their days seems difficult, if not entirely impossible—the people in this ancient Roman world figured their birthdays on these days, yearly, with no apparent problems.

Continuing in *Life And Leisure In Ancient Rome*, we then read about:

Years in Rome Before Calendar Reform:

The normal year was 355 days long, a day more than the lunar year of 354 days; and, as the Greeks discovered, in the course of eight lunar years, the year slips 90 days ahead of the sun. The Greeks made the correction very simply by

inserting an extra month of thirty days three times in each eight-year period. The Roman solution was a great deal more complicated. An extra-intercalary-month was due for insertion into the calendar every other year, so as to make the length of the years over a four-year period 355, 377, 355 and 378 days successively, giving an average of $366\frac{1}{4}$ days (one day too many). The extra month was inserted on alternate years into February, which instead of ending in the normal way on the 28th was brought to an end on the 23rd (Terminalia) or the 24th (which, instead of being, as it should have been, the feast of Regifugium, was called the day after the Terminalia, Postridie Terminalia). Then the intercalary month of twenty-seven days started (i.e. twenty-two intercalated days plus the five which were left over from the shortened February). The 23rd of the intercalary month was the date of the festival of the Regifugium—‘six days before the Kalends of March’—just as it was in a year in which there was no intercalation.

The sequence of irregular years did not take place automatically, and there was no intercalation unless specific notice was given by the College of Pontiffs, in whose field of responsibility the calendar lay. It should, of course, have been their duty also to make periodical correction of the error which resulted from the calendar being one day too long; and there could be little excuse for their behavior in periods when the calendar was allowed to get completely out of step with the sun. Carelessness and irresponsibility were sometimes to blame, sometimes intrigue. There were occasions when a politician or some important pressure-group like a big company of tax-collectors preferred a long year, others (as in the case of Cicero, a man who hated absence from Rome, yet was constrained to govern Cilicia for a calendar year) when they preferred a short one.

There had been bad patches in the earlier Republic, especially after the Second Punic War, during which intercalation had been suspended, and also at the end of the Republic, through misbehavior of the pontiffs, Caesar himself being their chairman, during the Fifties. At the beginning of 46 B.C. the inaccuracy was as large as two and a half months; the day celebrated as New Year's Day should in fact have been the 14th of October of the old year. The Roman equivalents of Harvest Thanksgiving were being celebrated in the case of corn and wine long before the harvest and the vintage started. With this kind of recurrent irregularity on top of the normal inequality in the length of the years, the civil calendar was useless to the farmer and the sailor; they had, both of them, to make their own calculations by the stars.

Minor, but still very considerable, inconvenience was suffered before the introduction of the Julian calendar from the fact that the public announcement of a forthcoming intercalation was sometimes made at the very last moment.

I want you to be aware of the fact that, when Julius Caesar reformed this ancient Roman calendar, he deliberately abandoned the lunar year entirely, and adopted a solar year.

This calendar holds to the length of the solar year as nearly as possible, but disregards the lunar month and assumes a set length of months. From *Collier's Encyclopedia*, Volume 5, page 138, we read:

Julian. By 46 B.C., when Julius Caesar was made Pontifex Maximus, calendar dates had come to be decidedly out of step with natural events. So many complaints had been lodged that Caesar had the opportunity to effect radical changes. To restore the calendar to its former relation to the seasons, Caesar extended the year 46 B.C. to an extraordinary length, upon advice of Sosigenes, an Alexandrian astronomer. He added 23 days of an intercalary month after Februarius, and he added two months of 34 and 33 days between November and December, so that the year contained 445 days and was called the year of confusion. Caesar's next move was to fix the normal length of the year as 365 days, with one day intercalated every 4 years, after February 24, to make up to 365¼ days, the supposed true length of the tropical year. Caesar deliberately abandoned the lunar year entirely and adopted a solar year. Except for leap year all intercalation became unnecessary. He settled on exactly 365 days 6 hrs. as the length of the year, and an approximation of this value has been used ever since. He had a series of 3 common years and a fourth, a leap year. Caesar also altered the month lengths again, giving Februarius 29 days in common years and 30 in leap years. This, then, was the Julian calendar, now frequently called Old Style, introduced on Jan. 1, 45 B.C. In 44 B.C. the name of Quintilis was altered to Julius in honor of Julius Caesar, and the vernal equinox was moved to its original date of March 25.

These were the irregularities in the ancient Roman calendar, which Julius Caesar successfully reformed. Reading again from *Life and Leisure In Ancient Rome*, by Balsdon, page 58, we find:

All these irregularities were brought to an end in the dictatorship of Julius Caesar. The year 46, 'the last year of confusion', was extended not by one but by three intercalary months, to last for 445 days. The Julian calendar was introduced on January 1st 45. After this in leap years February remained formally a twenty-eight day month, and there was no February 29th. Instead, a day was inserted between the 23rd and 24th, as a 'second twenty-fourth', *'bis sextum Kalendas Martias'*, preceding the normal twenty-fourth, the Regifugium. So a leap year was later called *annus bisextilis*.

● *Life and Leisure In Ancient Rome*, page 122, shows us that anybody born at the time of an inserted "intercalary" month during the Old Roman Republic before Calendar reform, simply celebrated their birthdays on the last day of February:

In the Republic anybody born in an intercalary month celebrated his birthday on the last day of February. What happened in the case of all the people born in 46 B.C., the last year of the old calendar, with its three intercalary months, two of them at the end of the year, we do not know.

After the Julian Calendar reform there were no longer intercalary months to worry about, because there was no longer a need for them. The only thing these celebrants then had to figure was a leap year day. But, just as we find in this same paragraph from this Source Reference, it was also no problem to find their birthdays, in order to celebrate them.

After that under the Julian calendar there was no problem at all. If born on the extra day of a Leap Year, you were born 'six days before the Kalends of March', and every year the calendar contained such a day; its peculiarity in a Leap Year was that it repeated itself, and occurred twice over. Not that this entitled you in a Leap Year to claim two birthdays.

It was not impossible for these ancient people to find the days upon which to celebrate their birthdays. They were celebrating their birthdays to the same Gods they had always worshiped, before and after the calendar reform.

Another clear fact also remains, the Jewish people living before and after Julius Caesar's calendar reform, still did not celebrate their birthdays.

The Savior's Birthday

The clear and undeniable facts remain that during the time of the ancient Roman Republic, when the Roman people were counting their months and days by the "Calends", "Ides", and "Nones," they were celebrating their birthdays on exact days. Furthermore, when Julius Caesar reformed the Roman calendar in 46 b.c.e., these same people were still celebrating their birthdays on exact days. By the time of this reform, however, these exact, calculated calendrical days themselves began to be known as Sunday, Monday, etc.

Yahshua Messiah was born in Bethlehem during a time in the Roman Empire when the calendrical reckoning was at an advanced level. From *Collier's Encyclopedia*, Volume 13, page. 188, we find this information:

Our present calendar was derived from an Egyptian modification of the Babylonian, with its twelve months and its initial point (New Year's Day) set by the rising of the star Sirius. Astronomer advisors led Julius Caesar in 46 B.C. to decree an

adjustment of the months to the solar year and to add a leap day to take up the fraction of a day left each year. Again in 1582 astronomers provided Pope Gregory XIII with a means of adjusting the calendar to the round of church activities and of providing against further error in timing by modifying the leap day. Each of these changes was an invention based on the perfecting of astronomical knowledge.

Even our present modern Roman Calendar: the Gregorian, is merely a slight adaptation of the old Julian calendar. The Julian Calendar was definitely being used when Yahshua Messiah was born.

Reading from *The International Standard Bible Encyclopedia*, by Bromiley, Volume 1, page 577, we find that: the Julian Calendar had no real influence in biblical material. Most dating in the New Testament period was still done according to the calendar Yahweh gave to Israyl.

5. *Greek and Roman.* Evidence of the use of the Syro-Macedonian calendar may be found in the apocryphal literature (2 Macc. 11:30, 33, 38) and Josephus (e.g., *Ant.* i.3.3; iii.10.5; etc.) No real influence of the Julian calendar is found in biblical material, though the system clearly must have played some part in Palestine during Roman occupation.

6. *New Testament.* Dating in the NT is by reference to the reign of particular Roman officials and to the Jewish cultic calendar. It was a common practice to refer to the regnal year as one means of dating events (Lk. 3:1, “in the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar”). Most such NT citations are general, providing a reference only to the reign, but not to the year, of the emperor Augustus (Lk. 2:1), the king Herod (Mt. 2:1; Lk. 1:5), the governor Quirinius (Lk. 2:2), or the proconsul Gallio (Acts 18:12). Nevertheless, the confluence of these citations and other data makes reasonably precise dating possible (cf. Finegan, pg. 215ff.). Most dating in the NT is with reference to the Jewish cultic calendar.

Exact, calculated, calendrical reckoning was at an advanced level at the time Yahshua Messiah was born. However, the date of Yahshua’s birth was never written in the scriptures. This means that Yahshua Messiah did not celebrate His birthday at all. *Great Events of Bible Times*, by John Ferguson and David Goldstein, 1987, page 132, shows us emphatically:

The birth of Jesus, the event that ultimately was to change the face of the world through the Christian religion, is shrouded in mystery. Although the traditional events relating to Jesus’ birth are well known to Christians, it is not possible to be certain about its exact time or the circumstances surrounding it.

On strict historical evidence, it has to be said that there is no certainty as to what actually happened. Some of the problems are as follows. Mark, probably the oldest Gospel, John, probably the latest, and Paul, say nothing at all about Jesus' birth. Matthew sets the events in Herod's reign. Herod died in 4 BC. Luke places them when Quirinius was governor of Syria: he took office in AD 6. Luke also associates them with a census.

There was a famous and unpopular census in AD 6 as part of the Roman takeover of Palestine. There is no record of an earlier census, and a Roman census during Herod's reign in a client-kingdom scarcely would have been possible. Neither is there any historical record of the Roman moving people to their ancestral homes, a fairly chaotic process, for a census.

In Matthew, the child seems to be born in Joseph's home, though the narrative goes on to identify Bethlehem as the birthplace. In Luke, the home is Nazareth, the birthplace Bethlehem. The two offer different family trees, both through Joseph. Matthew emphasizes the fulfillment of prophecy. The virgin birth is to fulfill Isaiah 7:14. The birth in Bethlehem is to fulfill Micah 5:1. The flight into Egypt is to fulfill Numbers 23:22 where the original reference is to the Exodus of Israel. The Massacre of the Innocents (Herod's killing the infants) is to fulfill Jeremiah 31:15.

There is no early tradition of the date of Jesus' birth, and no widely celebrated festival documented before the fourth century. Early in the third century, Clement of Alexandria records a tradition that Jesus was born on 20 May.

The first use of 25 December as Christmas Day dates from Rome in the year 336. To the pagan Romans, it was the birthday of the Unconquered Sun. The emperor Constantine's family had worshiped the sun; his vision of the cross came to him from the sun. It was easy to transfer the festival to the Sun of Righteousness. Under St. Peter's in Rome, Jesus was pictured driving the chariot of the sun through the sky.

As you can read for yourself, there is no early tradition for the date of Yahshua's birth. There is no birthday celebration attributed to Him before the Fourth Century of this common era. You can also read that December 25 was celebrated before Yahshua's birth as the birthday of the sun God, a celebration of Godworship, which was then and is now against the way of Yahweh.

If you have not done so already, I invite you to write for our free booklet, *True Stories About Christmas*, which explains the origins of this pagan celebration, in detail.

Reading again from *The International Standard Bible Encyclopedia*, by Bromiley, page 515, we again read:

Josephus (BJ vii 3.1) refers to Titus' celebration of his brother's and father's birthdays (genéthlia) by slaughtering Jewish captives. By the time of the NT, genésia could be used to designate the birthday celebration of a living prominent person, hence Mt. 14:6; Mk. 6:21. When Herod celebrated his birthday he was acting in accord with a Hellenistic custom; there is no evidence for the celebration of birthdays in Israel in pre-Hellenistic times.

There is no evidence for the pagan celebration of birthdays among the people of Yahweh, because, as we have already proven, it is idolatry—Godworship. We have also proven, it is sin. The scriptures themselves tell us that Yahshua Messiah was without sin, we know then that Yahshua Messiah never celebrated His birthday.

The scriptures plainly state that we should walk as Yahshua walked, saying in:

● **Colossians 2:6**—

Therefore, just as you have received Yahshua Messiah our Head, so walk as He walked.

We read at the beginning of this article, that Yahshua Messiah walked according to the every Word of Yahweh. He obeyed all 613 of Yahweh's Laws, Statutes, and Judgments. Our Savior Sent by Yahweh, who is the High Priest over The House of Yahweh, (**Hebrews 10:21**) loved and lived by Yahweh's every Word.

There is no Commandment from Yahweh to celebrate our birthdays, you just cannot find this written. However, we can find this scripture written, which says in:

● **Yaaqob 1:27**—

Religion that is pure and undefiled before Yahweh our Father, is this: To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world.

Throughout this article we have proven that the celebrations of birthdays originated in Godworship, remained in Godworship, and is still Godworship today.

Those who celebrate these pagan rituals of birthdays are most certainly spotted by this world. To celebrate these

Birthdays is to be defiled with the worship of Gods. It is as simple as this.

The Hire Of A Harlot The Price Of A Dog

We read this Commandment given by Yahweh in:

● **Deuteronomy 23:18**—

You must not bring the hire of a harlot; *the earnings of a female prostitute*, or the price of a dog; *the earnings of a male prostitute*, into The House of Yahweh your Father for any vowed offering, for both of these are an abomination to Yahweh your Father.

As we have just read: We must not bring the hire of a harlot or the price of a dog into The House of Yahweh for any vow. Just reading this scripture, rather than studying to find what it is actually saying, one would never come to the understanding that this scripture is actually condemning the practices of idolatry—Godworship.

I do not know how many times I have heard people tell me that this scripture meant that one should not drop a donation in the offering plate if they acquired their money through the selling of dogs for profit. However, this is not the meaning of the word translated **dogs** in **Deuteronomy 23:18**. The word translated **dog** in this scripture is word #3611 in *Strong's Hebrew Dictionary*, and means:

3611. **כֶּלֶב** *keleb*, *keh'-leb*; from an unused root mean. to *yelp*, or else to *attack*; a *dog*; hence (by euphemism) a male prostitute:—dog.

Reading from *Unger's Bible Dictionary*, by Merrill F. Unger, page 1035, we find this information about these dogs:

Sod'omite (Heb. *qadesh*, *consecrated*, *devoted*). The sodomites were not inhabitants of Sodom, nor their descendants, but men consecrated to the unnatural vice of Sodom (Gen. 19:5; comp. Rom. 1:27) as a religious rite. This dreadful "consecration," or, rather, desecration, was spread in different forms over Phoenicia, Syria, Phrygia, Assyria, Babylonia. Ashtaroth, the Greek Astarte, was its chief object. The term was especially applied to the emasculated priests of Cybele, called Galli, perhaps from the river Gallus in Bithynia, which was said to make those who drank it mad. In Deut. 23:17, the toleration of a sodomite was expressly forbidden, and the pay received by a sodomite was not to be put into the temple treasury (v. 18). "The price of a dog" is a figurative expression used to denote

the gains of a *qadesh* (sodomite), who was called *kinaidos*, by the Greeks, from the doglike manner in which he debased himself (see Rev. 22:15, where the unclean are called “dogs”).

Please notice, these are male cult prostitutes of Godworship, who are being paid for their religious services. Reading from *The Interpreter’s Dictionary of the Bible*, Volume 1, page 862, we find that these dogs are evil, wicked enemies.

An enemy may be called a “dog”; the term is applied by the psalmist to their own opponents (Pss. 22:16, 20—H 22:17,21; 59:6, 14—H 59:7, 15), in Enoch 89:41-50 in Israel’s enemies.

“Dog” also designates the wicked; in Isa. 56:10-11 the reference is to Israel’s religious leaders, possibly the prophets of the day, who are not performing their duty aright and are withal excessively greedy; in Phil. 3:2; Rev. 22:15 the allusion is to workers of evil.

In Deut. 23:18—H 23:19 “dog” means a male temple prostitute.

Please keep these facts in mind as we research this scripture in **Deuteronomy 23:18**.

The word translated **harlot** in *The Book of Yahweh*, is translated **whore** in the *King James Version*. This word is word #2181 in *Strong’s Hebrew Dictionary*, and means:

2181. זָנָה זָנָה *zânâh, zaw-naw'*; a prim. root [highly *fed* and therefore *wanton*]; to *commit adultery* (usually of the female, and less often of simple fornication, rarely of involuntary ravishment); fig. to *commit idolatry* (the Jewish people being regarded as the spouse of Jehovah):—(cause to) commit fornication, x continually, x great, (be an, play the) harlot, (cause to be, play the) whore, (commit, fall to) whoredom, (cause to) go a-whorish, whorish.

The figurative meaning of harlot is to commit idolatry. Then, reading from *Gesenius’ Hebrew Chaldee Lexicon To The Old Testament*, Baker Book House, page 249, we find this information about those who commit idolatry:

(2) It is very often used figuratively—(a) of *Idolatry*, [to go a *whoring after strange gods*,] (the prophets shadowing forth the relation in which God stood to the people of Israel by the marriage union, see Hos. 1:2; Eze. 16:23; so that the people worshipping strange gods is compared to an adulterous woman). For the prepositions which follow, see above, No. 1. A very common expression is אֶתְרֵי אֱלֹהִים זָנָה אֶתְרֵי אֱלֹהִים to go a whoring after strange gods, Lev. 17:7; 20:5,6; Deut. 31:16;

Jud. 2:17; also, **וְנָה מִתַּחַת אֱלֹהֵי** to go whoring, departing from one's own God, see above. The expression also is used **וְנָה אַחֲרֵי הַגּוֹיִם** to go a whoring after (i.e. imitating) the gentiles. Eze. 23:30.—(b) of superstitions connected with idolatry: to go a whoring after (following) necromancers, Levit. 20:6.

These harlots are those who imitate the gentiles in their practices of Godworship. We read in:

● **Yechetzqyah 23:30—**

I will do these *things* to you, because you have gone whoring after the heathen, *and* because you are polluted with their gods (elohim)!

Readng from *Unger's Bible Dictionary*, page 456, we find that the term **harlot** is used figuratively for an **idol**atress:

Figurative. The term “harlot” is used figuratively for idolatress (Isa. 1:21; Jer. 2:20; Rev. 17:1, 5, 15; 19:2). See Fornication.

The word **fornication** in *Unger's Bible Dictionary*, page 378, says that defilement also comes by eating things sacrificed to idols to the Gods.

The worship of idols is naturally mentioned as fornication (Rev. 14:8; 17:2,4; 18:3; 19:2); as also the defilement of idolatry, as incurred by eating the sacrificed offered to idols (Rev. 2:21).

These harlots and dogs are those who practice Godworship. Reading from *The Encyclopedia Judaica*, Volume 13, page 1244, we find this clearly written for our instruction:

In Israel the sacred prostitutes were condemned for their connection with idolatry. Deuteronomy 23:18-19 forbids Israelites, men and women alike, to become sacred prostitutes, and states that their wages must not be used for paying vows.

There were male and female prostitutes in Israel and Judah during the monarchy, and in Judah they were, from time to time, the object of royal decrees of expulsion (cf I Kings 14:24; 15:12; 22:47; II Kings 23:7; Hos. 4:14). Sacred prostitution because of its association with idolatry, was the object of numerous attacks in the Bible, especially in the historical and prophetic books (cf., e.g., II Kings 23:4-14; Jer. 2:20; Ezek. 23:37 ff.). Terms connected with harlotry are used figuratively to characterize unfaithfulness toward the Lord (Num. 25:1-2; Judg. 2:17; 8:27, 33; Jer.3:6; Ezek.6:9; Hos.4:12; et al.).

We are specifically commanded in **Deuteronomy 23:18** not to bring their hire nor their price into The House of Yahweh

for any vowed offering.

The word translated **vowed offering** in *The Book of Yahweh* is translated **vow** in the *King James Version*. The word **vow** is word #5088 in *Strong's Hebrew Dictionary*, and means:

5088. נָדַר neder, *neh'-der*; or נָדַר neder, *nay'-der*; from 5087; a *promise* (to God); also (concr.) a thing promised:—vow ([-ed]).

We are not to promise to give Yahweh anything which pertains to the hire or price of Godworship.

The word translated **hire** in this scripture is word #868 in *Strong's Hebrew Dictionary*, and means: *a gift, as the price of harlotry or idolatry*.

868. אֶתְנַן 'ethnan, *eth-nan'*; the same as 866; a gift (as the price of harlotry or idolatry):—hire, reward.

The word translated **price** in this scripture is word #4242 in *Strong's Hebrew Dictionary*, and means *to buy*.

4242. מְכַיֵּר mechiyr, *mekh-eer'*; from an unused root mean. to buy; *price, payment, wages*:—gain, hire, price, sold, worth.

If you receive or accept a gift in any kind of pagan celebration in honor of the Gods, you have been bought like a prostitute, whether you are male or female. If you accept this for your birthday or for any other pagan celebration, this gift is your hire and your price for prostituting yourself to the Gods. This gift is your price for committing this abomination of Godworship.

Deuteronomy 23:18, clearly states that these gifts will not be acceptable to Yahweh in His House, both of these are an abomination to Yahweh your Father. From the definition of the Hebrew word translated abomination in this scripture, we learn that this hire and price is disgusting to Yahweh.

Do not get the mistaken idea that you can accept these gifts, and then pay your tithes to cleanse them. NO! This is not acceptable.

Accepting these gifts—Birthday, Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, Roman New Year, Valentine's Day, Easter, or May Day—in any form is committing Godworship. idolatry, which is an abomination to Yahweh. These gifts are defiled, they are disgusting. Yahweh will simply have nothing to do with them, nor with you, if you accept them.

Remember, the Apostle Shaul told us emphatically in:

● **I Corinthians 10:20-22—**

20 But *I say* that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to demons and not to Yahweh; and I do not want you to have fellowship with demons.

21 You cannot drink the cup of Yahweh and the cup of demons; you cannot partake of Yahweh's table and of the table of demons.

22 Do we provoke Yahweh to jealousy? Are we stronger than He?

● **Romans 6:20-23—**

20 For when you were servants to sin, you were free from the *control of* righteousness.

21 But then what benefit did you get from the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end *result* of those things *is* death!

22 But now that you have been set free from sin, and have become servants to Yahweh, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the end *result* is eternal life.

23 For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of Yahweh *is* eternal life through Yahshua Messiah, our Savior.

I urge everyone who is reading this article to become servants to Yahweh, thereby being set free from the control of sin. Reject the wages of sin, your hire and price for breaking the Laws of Yahweh and be eligible to receive the gift of Yahweh, which is eternal life in His soon coming Kingdom.

The Every Word Of Yahweh

The Savior Yahshua Messiah sent by Yahweh, clearly shows in many scriptures that the only way to eternal life is living by Yahweh's every Word. Yahweh's words are written throughout the Holy Scriptures, telling us in no uncertain terms that eternal life comes only by learning the will of Yahweh and then doing it.

Yahshua Messiah learned Yahweh's righteousness, He also learned to love living by Yahweh's righteousness—the every Word that proceeds from Yahweh's mouth. Yahshua knew that living by Yahweh's every Word is the only way to gain eternal life, as He quoted from the Law—the Word of Yahweh.

● **Mattithyah 4:4—**

But He answered, and said; It is written: Man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of Yahweh.

Analyzing this scripture, we can see that Yahshua is saying: Man does not, and cannot in any way, obtain eternal life by

eating food.

Mankind's days are but a few, as the patriarch Iyyob was inspired to say in:

●**Iyyob 14:2**—

He comes forth like a flower, then fades away, he flees like a shadow, and continues not.

This knocks out the theories that mankind **continues in** another form, or that he is some kind of living soul inside a fleshly body, which continues to live outside the body, in various locales, after the fleshly body dies.

Those who are hanging onto the false hope of living forever in spite of their being a sinner, committing unrighteousness works had better stop listening to deceived preachers, and start reading The Holy Scriptures for themselves. The true promises are written in the scriptures, they are most certainly not in the mouths of these preachers. We find this written promise in:

●**Yechetzqyah 18:4**—

Behold, all souls are Mine. Just as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is Mine; the soul that sins, it will die.

Mankind does not have an immortal soul, as the lying preachers would like for you to believe. There is no such thing written in the Holy Scriptures. This doctrine originated in ancient Babylon. The only reason this doctrine has perpetuated, is to tickle the ears of sinners, who had no intentions whatsoever of repenting. Another reason this doctrine of the immortal soul has been perpetuated by lying preachers since Nimrod rose up against Yahweh, is because these preachers would certainly not have gotten these sinner's money if they had told them the scriptural truth.

Yahshua Messiah on the other hand, did speak Yahweh's truth, He said: "The only way to life is by living by Yahweh's every Word."

The Prophet Yechetzqyah was inspired to write in **Yechetzqyah 18:4**, that "...the soul that sins, it will die." So, what is the scriptural definition of sin? The Apostle Yahchanan was also inspired to write this definition for our instruction, saying in:

●**I Yahchanan 3:4**—

Whoever commits sin, transgresses also the Law; for sin is the transgression of the Law.

This definition could not be any plainer than the way it is

written. The Law of Yahweh is found in the first five books of every Bible. These first five books are known in Hebrew as the Torah, meaning Law of instruction. Yahshua Messiah quoted from this Law in **Mattithyah 4:4**. We find the Law which Yahshua quoted in:

● **Deuteronomy 8:3—**

So He humbled you, and allowed you to hunger, and fed you with manna, which you did not know of nor did your fathers know of it; so He might make you to know that man does not live by bread only, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of Yahweh, does man live.

Please notice what this is actually saying. This is saying that mankind does not receive eternal life by eating food. You cannot live forever on food or vitamins, despite what some health food salesman may imply. The only way one will be able to obtain eternal life is by living by Yahweh's every Word.

Yahshua Messiah proclaimed the every Word of Yahweh. However, the warning by Yahshua Messiah and His Apostles has also gone out, proclaiming that many false prophets (preachers) are in this world.

● **Yahchanan Mark 13:22—**

For false messiahs and false prophets will rise, and will produce signs and wonders to lead astray, if *it were* possible, even the elect.

● **II Kepha 2:1—**

But there were also **FALSE PROPHETS** among the people *then*, just as there will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Redeemer Who bought them—and bringing swift destruction upon themselves.

● **I Yahchanan 4:1—**

Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, *to see* whether they are of Yahweh; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.

How can we know these false prophets when we come in contact with them? We must first believe the Holy Scriptures.

Many False Prophets

The only way we can discern a false prophet from a true prophet is through the Holy Scriptures that Yahweh Himself inspired to be written. We must believe, the fact that the Apostle Yahchanan, inspired by Yahweh, wrote that the whole world has been deceived by Satan.

● **Revelation 12:9**—

And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, who deceives the whole world. She was cast out into the earth, and her angels were cast out with her.

We must also believe the fact that we are commanded to obey Yahweh. Yahshua warns us to beware of false prophets.

● **Mattithyah 7:15**—

Beware of false prophets who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.

Yahshua also tells us that we will know them by their fruits.

● **Mattithyah 7:16**—

You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thorns, or figs from thistles?

How will we know the fruits of false prophets? Yahshua answers this by telling us that these false prophets preach against doing the will of the Father. These lying preachers teach against keeping Yahweh's Laws.

● **Mattithyah 7:21-23**—

21 Not everyone who says to Me; Teacher! Teacher! will enter into the Kingdom of Yahweh, but *only* he who does the will of My Father Who is in heaven.

22 Many will say to Me in that day; Teacher! Teacher! Have we not prophesied in Your Name, and cast out demons in Your Name, and in Your Name performed many wonderful works?

23 But then I will declare to them; I never knew you. Get away from Me, you who practice iniquity; *you who break the Law of Yahweh!*

In these scriptures we are reading about religious leaders who believe they have preached by Yahshua's authority. The phrase **in Your name**, means *by Your authority*. These religious leaders also believe they have preached what the Messiah is supposed to have said. However, these individuals are false prophets (preachers), they tell the people of their congregations that the Law of Yahweh is done away with. They cause the whole world to practice iniquity, just as **Mattithyah 7:23** says.

The word translated **iniquity** in **Mattithyah 7:23** is word #458, from word #459, in *Strong's Greek Dictionary*, and means:

458. ἀνομία **anomia**, *an-om-ee'-ah*; from 459; *illegality*, i.e. *violation of law* or (gen.) *wickedness*:—iniquity, x transgress (-ion of) the law, unrighteousness.

459. ἀνομοφ anomos, *an'-om-os*; from *I* (as a neg. particle) and 3551; *lawless*, i.e. (neg.) *not subject to (the Jewish) law*; (by impl. a *Gentile*), or (pos.) *wicked*:—without law, lawless, transgressor, unlawful, wicked.

The world refers to these Laws as Jewish Laws. However, the scriptures tell us that they are Yahweh's Laws. We also find that those who practice iniquity are not subject to these Laws.

It is plain to see that these false prophets (false preachers), whom we are warned against, are those who teach that the Savior came to do away with the wonderful Laws of Yahweh. Their preaching, has lead this whole deceived world into disobedience to the Laws that Yahweh commanded.

When one reads the scriptures for themselves, one finds that all of Yahweh's servants obeyed His every Word. We read that Abraham obeyed Yahweh.

● **Genesis 26:5—**

Because Abraham obeyed My voice, and kept My charge, My commandments, My statutes, and My laws.

Abraham obeyed Yahweh, because he believed Him.

● **Genesis 15:6—**

And Abram was faithful in all Yahweh's House, and Yahweh accounted it to him as righteousness.

The Apostle Shaul confirms this fact, showing that Abraham followed Yahweh, saying in:

● **Galatians 3:6—**

Just as Abraham followed Yahweh, it was accounted to him for righteousness.

We then read that Yahweh commanded the same Laws, Statutes, and Judgments to the children of Israyl which He commanded to Abraham.

● **Deuteronomy 6:1-2—**

1 Now these are the commandments, the statutes, and the judgments which Yahweh your Father has commanded me to teach you; so that you may observe them in the land you are crossing over to possess;

2 So that you may reverence Yahweh your Father by keeping all His statutes and His commandments, which I command you, your son, and your son's son all the days of your life; and so that your days may be prolonged.

Now that we have read for ourselves that Yahweh commanded His Laws, Statutes, and Judgments to Abraham and to the children of Israyl, let us compare the following scriptures.

● **Deuteronomy 6:25**—

And it will be OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS, if we observe to do all these commandments; His Law, before Yahweh our Father, as He has commanded us.

● **Mattithyah 7:17**—

Likewise, every righteous tree brings forth righteous fruit; but a tree of evil brings forth fruit of iniquity.

Righteousness is practicing every Word which proceeds from the mouth of Yahweh. Iniquity on the other hand is doing away with Yahweh's every Word, which is sin.

Notice what your own Bible is telling you. False prophets, preachers, and teachers do away with the righteousness of Yahweh. **Deuteronomy 6:25** tells us in no uncertain terms that living by Yahweh's every Word is your righteousness.

The world today has no righteousness because of the false prophets who are deceiving this world. Yes, because these false prophets teach that the Law of Yahweh is done away with, this world is most certainly deceived.

The Apostle Shaul was inspired by Yahweh to write for our instruction in:

● **Romans 10:3-4**—

3 Since they, being ignorant of the righteousness that comes from Yahweh, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted to Yahweh's righteousness.

4 For Yahshua is the ultimate result of keeping the Law unto righteousness for everyone who believes.

Yahshua Messiah Himself said in:

● **Mattithyah 5:17**—

Do not *even* think that I have come to destroy the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to destroy *them*, but to establish *them*.

Yahshua very plainly said that He did not come to abolish the Law or the Prophets. Yet, lying preachers teach that the Savior came and did away with all those "old Jewish Laws."

These false preachers bring forth a false savior that your own bible does not speak of at all. They are leading this world deeper and deeper into sin and ultimately to destruction. Yahshua Messiah was speaking of these same lying preachers in **Mattithyah 7:23**, the ones who are causing this whole world to practice iniquity, break the Laws of Yahweh.

Notice again what Yahshua says to them.

●**Mattithyah 7:23**—

But then I will declare to them; I never knew you. Get away from Me, you who practice iniquity; you who break the Law of Yahweh!

Deception—Of The Devil

The Apostle Yahchanan addressed this same **DECEPTION** in his writings, saying in:

●**I Yahchanan 3:7**—

Little children, LET NO MAN DECEIVE YOU; he who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous.

Remember what we have read in **Deuteronomy 6:25**, our righteousness is keeping the Laws of Yahweh. If we practice keeping Yahweh's Laws, Statutes, and Judgments, then we are righteousness. The Apostle Yahchanan also said in **I Yahchanan 3:8**, that “He who commits sin is of the devil.”

We read the scriptural definition of sin, in **I Yahchanan 3:4** which is: the transgression of the Law. Therefore, if you practice committing sin (breaking the Law of Yahweh) you do not belong to Yahweh, you belong to the devil.

●**I Yahchanan 3:8**—

He who commits sin is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of Yahweh was manifested; that He might destroy the works of the devil.

Please notice in this scripture, Yahshua did not come to destroy the Law, He came to “destroy the works of the devil.” He came to destroy sin.

Why Continue To Preach Lies?

With all these plain, simple scriptures which are written in every Bible, Why do these preachers continue to teach lies to the people? Why do they continue to lead this world into death, disease, war, and destruction? The answer to these questions are found in:

●**Romans 8:7**—

Because the carnal mind is enmity against; bitterly opposed to, Yahweh; for it is not subject to the Law of Yahweh, nor indeed can be.

There you have it, a carnal minded person cannot uphold the Law of Yahweh. He or she is bitterly opposed to these Laws. The only thing waiting for them is found in:

● **Romans 8:6—**

For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

● **Revelation 22:14-15—**

14 Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.

15 For outside *are* dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and worshipers of gods (elohim) and everyone *who professes* to love, yet practices breaking the Law.

This is why it is so important for us to search, in order to find out conclusively if there is sin in anything we do. If it is sin, it is of the devil and if we practice sin, we are of the devil, and not of Yahweh. Is it a sin to acknowledge or celebrate our birthdays? Is this a work of the devil? If so, at what point does it become sin? What can we scripturally do and not do?

In our search for Yahweh's truth in this matter, one thing is certain, anything outside Yahweh's loving Laws must be strictly avoided.

Acceptable Birthdays In The Scriptures

We can see from the scriptures that the recording of one's birth was practiced by the holy men of old. Noah was a righteous man; a man who revered Yahweh.

● **Genesis 6:9—**

These *are* the begettings of Noah. Noah was a just man, perfect in his begettings. Noah walked in the reverence of Yahweh.

We find that Noah's years were recorded.

● **Genesis 7:6—**

Noah was six hundred years old when the flood of waters came on the earth.

We then find the years that Abraham lived were recorded in:

● **Genesis 25:7—**

These *are* the total of the years of Abraham's life, which he lived; one hundred and seventy-five years.

We then read that Abraham will be in the Kingdom.

● **Luke 13:28—**

There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham, and Isaac, and Yaaqob, and all the prophets in the Kingdom of Yahweh, and yourselves thrust out.

We can see from these scriptures that there is nothing

wrong with recording or recognizing one's birth or length of years one lived. But, what do the scriptures say about the celebrations of birthdays?

The Celebration Of Birthdays Abomination To Yahweh

There is no reference whatsoever in the scriptures that any of Yahweh's holy servants—His prophets, His Son, His apostles, or His people celebrated birthdays. In fact, the records clearly show that the Yahdaim, those who followed Yahweh's every Word, regarded the celebration of birthdays as a part of idolatrous worship.

Worship in the Holy Scriptures is simply service. You may either give service to Yahweh, by obedience to His Laws, or you may reject Yahweh's Laws, which is giving service to the devil. We are informed in no uncertain terms that we belong to whom we offer service to.

● **Romans 6:16—**

Do you not know that to whom you yield yourselves as servants to obey, his servants you are whom you obey—whether of sin, *which leads to death*, or of obedience, *which leads to righteousness*?

We again read who we belong to by the way we serve.

● **I Yahchanan 3:7-8—**

7 Little children, let no man deceive you; he who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous.

8 He who commits sin is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of Yahweh was manifested; that He might destroy the works of the devil.

There are only two birthday celebrations mentioned in the Holy Scriptures, both of them celebrated by pagan Godworshippers in honor of their genius Gods, and at both of them men were murdered.

● **Genesis 40:20-22—**

20 Now on the third day was Pharaohs birthday, and he gave a feast for all his officials; and he lifted up the head of the chief of the cupbearers, and the head of the chief of the bakers in the presence of his officials:

21 He restored the chief cupbearer to his position, so that he once again put the cup into Pharaoh's hand,

22 But he hanged the chief baker, just as Yahseph had spoken to them in his interpretation.

● **Mattithyah 14:6-10—**

6 But when Herod's birthday was celebrated, the daughter of

Herodias danced before them, and pleased Herod;

7 *Who* then promised with an oath to give her whatever she asked for.

8 And she, being previously instructed by her mother, said; Bring Yahchanan the Immerser's head in a charger to me here.

9 Now the king was distressed, but because of his oaths, and because of those who sat with him at the table, he commanded that *it* be brought to *her*.

10 He sent, and beheaded Yahchanan in the prison.

There is no evidence for the celebration of birthdays in Israyl, nor among any of Yahweh's servants, in pre-Hellenistic times. There is no evidence of the celebration of birthdays by Yahshua Messiah, nor any of the apostles or their followers. In fact, Flavius Josephus, in *Against Apion*, Book II, Section 26, states clearly: Nay, indeed the Law does not permit us to make festivals at the birth of our children.

However, it is acceptable in the eyes of Yahweh to record a birth, recognize someone's date of birth, and record and recognize the length of years a person has lived. The ages of those given in the Holy Scriptures were counted only by calendar years not by celebrations.

It most certainly is an abomination in the eyes of Yahweh to celebrate a birthday, or any other occasion for that matter, according to any of the customs and rituals of Godworship. We have proven beyond any shadow of doubt that a birthday celebration most certainly is Godworship.

Wishing Someone A Happy Birthday

It is amazing just how many words in our English language have been formulated throughout the centuries to the honor of pagan Gods and Goddesses. The well known and most popular birthday greeting in the world today, happy birthday, is no exception!

Have you ever wondered why anyone wishes a happy birthday upon someone else? In pagan antiquity individuals were wishing this same thing upon each other. However, the initiated knew the God which was being honored when this wish was being bestowed, to those who were not initiated, this God was hidden. This wish, still has its basis in conferring luck and fate upon an individual, through the Gods and Goddesses that were worshiped then, and are still being worshiped today.

Hap-Hapi-Hapy-Apis Ancient Gods Of Egypt

In order to fully understand how the abominable God named, Hap came into our English language, we must begin with the hidden system of mystery which formulated the name of this God, a system which began in ancient Babylon.

We previously read in this article that Nimrod was the first man who turned against Yahweh and built the kingdom of Babylon. However, in the course of Nimrod's life, he died an untimely death. Later, Nimrod's wife became pregnant and bore a son, whom she claimed was Nimrod himself, her dead husband. In this way Semiramis attained the title of the mother of Gods and men. She gave birth to a reborn God, which was Nimrod resurrected to life as Ninus, the son. In other words, the God was the son and the son was God. Of course this is a pagan concept. This was the power of the great mother, she gave life to God and to man.

The cult of Ishtar (Semiramis-Easter), the personification of regenerative motherhood, flourished in Babylon. In Egypt, this great mother was Isis.

Uniformly, the mystery Gods of the ancient world were conceived as hero-gods of the dying and rising type, who had suffered to an exaggerated degree the ills to which flesh is heir, but in the end they had gloriously triumphed. Due to the God's own experience, the candidates to be initiated into the mystery religions might feel sure of a similar triumph over the evils of human experience. "Be of good cheer, you of the mystery, your God is saved, for us also shall be salvation from ills." This, in exact mystery terminology, was the guarantee of each mystery religious organization.

By means of initiatory rites, which included various baptisms, washings, and purifications, the candidate was made a person fit enough to approach deity. Finally, in culminating rites of communion, revelation, and deification, the union of divinity and humanity was experientially accomplished. The chief distinction of the mysteries in comparison with other gentile cults, was the fact that they were eschatological religions, which had to do with the ultimate issue of death itself.

The great mother religion and her mystery spinoffs had a dynamic hold over the ancient pagan people. The mother promised them that just as her husband/son had died, he was resurrected to life, therefore they too could be immortal.

The hope that the great mother and her mystery spinoffs held out to her subjects was salvation and immortality.

Mystery is also the name of a system. This system is a secret or mystery, through the idea of silence by initiation into religious rites.

● **Revelation 17:5—**

And upon her head was a name written:
MYSTERY BABYLON THE GREAT
THE MOTHER OF THE HARLOTS
AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.

Historically, **Nimrod**, the founder of Babylon, the first man who came in opposition to Yahweh and His Righteous ways, is known as the **God of the Chaldean Mysteries**. That mystery name is **Saturn**. *The Two Babylons*, by Alexander Hislop, page 269, tells us:

The name of the SYSTEM is “MYSTERY” (Mystery Babylon The Great). Here, then, we have the key that at once unlocks the puzzle. We have now only to inquire what was the name by which NIMROD was known as the GOD OF THE CHALDEAN MYSTERIES. That name, as we have seen, was Saturn. “Saturn” and “Mystery” are both Chaldean words, and they are correlative terms. As MYSTERY signifies the “HIDDEN SYSTEM,” so Saturn signifies the “HIDDEN GOD.” To those who were “initiated” the god was “revealed”; to all else he was “hidden.”

From M’Gavin’s *Protestant*, 1837, Volume 11, page 79, quoted by Hislop on page 269 of *The Two Babylons*, we read:

In the Litany of the Mass, the worshippers are taught thus to pray: “GOD HIDDEN, and my Saviour, have mercy upon us.”

Hislop then quotes from *Chamber’s Book of Days*, page 435, giving this information on page 269 of *The Two Babylons*:

Whence can this invocation of the “GOD HIDDEN” have come, but from the ancient worship of Saturn, the “HIDDEN GOD?” As the Papacy has canonised the BABYLONIAN GOD by the name of St. Dionysius, and St. Bacchus, the “martyr,” so by this very name of “Saturn” is he also enrolled in the calendar: for March 29th is the festival of “St. Saturn” the martyr.

The worship of a hidden God is what makes this a mystery. That hidden God is brought forth from a church of mystery. *The Two Babylons*, pages 270-271, then tells us:

Thus, then, it is evident that, in popular opinion, the *original* Lateinos had occupied the very same position as Saturn

did in the Mysteries, who was equally worshiped as the “OFFSPRING OF THE SUN.” Moreover, it is evident that the Romans knew that the name “Lateinos” signified the “hidden god,” for their antiquarians invariably affirm that Latium received its name from Saturn “LYING HID” there. On etymological grounds, then, even on the testimony of the Romans, Lateinos is equivalent to the “HIDDEN ONE” that is, to Saturn, the “GOD OF MYSTERY.”

While Saturn, therefore, is the name of the beast, and contains the mystic number[666], Lateinos, which contains the same number [666], is just as peculiar and distinctive and appellation of the same beast. The Pope, then, as the head of the beast, is equally Lateinos or Saturn, that is the HEAD of the BABYLONIAN “MYSTERY.” When, therefore, the Pope requires all his services to be performed in the “latin” tongue, that is as much as to say that they must be performed in the language of “MYSTERY,” when he calls his Church the *Latin* Church, that is equivalent to a declaration that it is the CHURCH OF “MYSTERY.” Thus, by this very name of the Pope’s own choosing, he has with his own hands written upon the very forehead of his apostate communion its divine Apocalyptic designation, “MYSTERY—Babylon the great.”

Mystery Babylon the Great has come down to us today, almost intact, and is the system of mystery sun worship which the whole deceived world is following at this very time.

This same mystery religion, with its same hidden sun God, is seen in the mythology of ancient Egypt. From *Collier’s Encyclopedia*, Volume 18, pages 238-239, we find the dying and rising type of mystery God—the Egyptian version of the Babylonian mother/son/husband:

OSIRIS [osai’ris], probably the favorite god of ancient Egypt, is the central figure of a rich cycle of often contradictory and inextricably combined myths. Always portrayed as a tightly mummified human, with hands protruding from the wrappings and holding symbols of sovereignty, he was believed to have been a divine king on earth who died (or was murdered) and thereafter ruled the nether world. The green (sometimes black) color of his skin reflects the concept of Osiris as vegetation or earth god, submerged in the annual Nile inundation and emerging again to bring forth life-giving plants for mankind. The most widespread myth, fully preserved only in late sources, associates him with Isis and Horus, the former as his wife, the latter as their son. According to this myth, Osiris died as the result of a trick played by his jealous brother Set, who coveted the Egyptian throne; Osiris’s body was dismembered and scattered throughout Egypt (or floated away to Syrian Byblos). Rescued by faithful Isis, the body retained sufficient virility to beget Horus, who was subsequently born at marsh-bound Chemmis and nursed by Isis until big enough to challenge Set and avenge his father’s murder. Another

myth tells that Osiris was simply drowned in the Nile. In both, however, he descended into the water and then came forth with lifegiving moisture and fertilizing power, to sustain human beings. Osiris was worshiped in many places, notably at Abydos in Upper Egypt, regarded in myth as the burial place of his head. Here were celebrated the annual “mysteries of Osiris;” a drama was enacted in which his struggle with his enemies (chiefly Set) was simulated, his disappearance (death) was mourned with loud wailing and self-torture by the spectators, and finally his “resurrection” was celebrated with corresponding joy and exultation.

As king of the dead—Horus having succeeded him as earthly ruler—Osiris presided over the final judgment which every man and woman faced, when hearts were weighed against the feather of truth. Egyptians hoped by the use of magic to be in death identified with Osiris in the nether world and even to become an Osiris, triumphant over death, in the land of the blessed.

Reading from *Collier's Encyclopedia*, Volume 8, page 670, we find these statements:

Ultimately, each Egyptian considered himself an Osiris also, vindicated in his struggle to obtain his just deserts and victorious even over death. Each one called himself “Osiris so-and-so” in all his tomb inscriptions and expected to share the fate of Osiris in the life beyond the tomb.

At this point, I ask that you remember what you have read about this Egyptian mystery religion.

However, you have not read about the hidden God who was worshiped in the Osirian mysteries, the God which was only revealed to those who were initiated.

I must inform you that the people of ancient Egypt worshiped many different Gods and Goddesses. These abominations were, at first, worshiped only locally. However, as Egypt became consolidated into one empire, the Gods of the more influential cities acquired a national, rather than merely local, status. Reading from *Collier's Encyclopedia*, Macmillan Educational Corp., 1980, Volume 8, pages 668-669, we find:

Religion. Local and Cosmic Gods. From the beginning the Egyptians were intensely religious. If, as some believe, they started as monotheists, they scarcely possessed a monotheistic zeal. While they were loyal to the “god of the city,” that loyalty never excluded a readiness to accept other divinities into their hearths and shrines. The gods of the more influential cities acquired a sort of national status as soon as the “union of the Two Lands” had been consummated. The creator-god Ptah of Memphis, the sun-god Re of Heliopolis, the fertility-god Min

of Coptos, the cow-goddess Hathor of Dendera, Osiris of Abydos, Neith of Sais, the cosmic god Amon of Hermopolis later transferred to Thebes: these were divinities once more or less strictly localized whose cults were eventually practiced up and down the Nile Valley. Similarly, Horus of Behdet and Seth (Set) of Ombos were originally local gods of provincial capitals, but they became the gods of their respective states as the confederations formed in the north and south and their two cities became the capitals of Lower Egypt and Upper Egypt, respectively. Horus of the north became triumphant over Seth and became the national god of Upper Egypt. Finally, when Upper Egypt under Menes “united the Two Lands,” it was the Upper Egyptian Horus who was counted as conqueror. The king, a god himself in his capacity of chief personage of the state, was the earthly embodiment of Horus; thus each Egyptian king became “the Horus... Sesostris,” “the Horus... Thutmose,” “the (female) Horus... Hatshepsut,” and the like.

Gods whose cults were transferred to a new location occasionally superseded the native god. Thus Montu of Thebes was overshadowed by Amon when the latter came from Hermopolis; it was Amon who became king of the gods. Osiris was not native to Abydos, but few Egyptians remembered the god who was, and Osiris, lord of Abydos, was the most loved of all Egyptian gods.

The Egyptians exhibited a willingness to accept new Gods into their worship, they were also willing to merge the most influential among them. Many of these Gods were joined to each other, and their rituals were combined in order to serve both of them.

The hidden Gods which were associated with these influential Gods, were also merged along with them. This is what we found in our search for Hap-Hapi-Hapy-Apis-Happy.

From *Collier's Encyclopedia*, Volume 18, page 238, we read about Osiris:

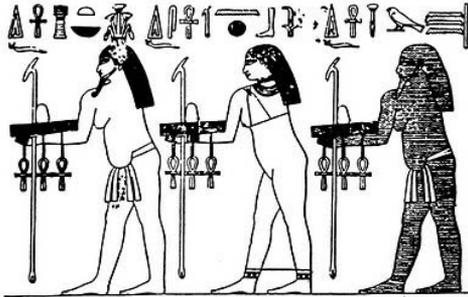
The green (sometimes black) color of his skin reflects the concept of Osiris as vegetation or earth god, submerged in the annual Nile inundation and emerging again to bring forth life-giving plants for mankind.

Another myth tells that Osiris was simply drowned in the Nile. In both, however, he descended into the water and then came forth with lifegiving moisture and fertilizing power, to sustain human beings.

● *The Religion of Ancient Egypt*, Samuel A. B. Mercer, Luzac & Co., 1949, pages 185-186, tells us that the Nile itself, from which the God, Osiris, emerged was the God named Hapi.

The river Nile was deified under the form of its ancient name HAPI (*h^epi*) or Hep (*hp*).

It was thought that Hapi dwelt in a grotto on the Island of Bigeh, in the Nile. There his consort was Nekhbet. Sometimes she was given as Nut, and sometimes as Mut or Isis. He was called “great lord of provisions”, “lord of fishes”, “father of the gods”, “creator of things which exist”, “vivifier”. By his worshippers, he was exalted above Re. He was most consistently spoken of as a giver of fertility to the earth and the bringer of food. But like most gods, he was called also “the establisher of right or truth (m_s, t)”. His symbols were water and water plants. He was usually represented as a bearded man with female breasts and pendulous belly, wearing water plants upon his head, and holding a tray of food-produce, or pouring water from vases.



THE NILE, HIS WIFE NEKH BET, AND THE OCEAN

There is extant an interesting hymn of thanksgiving to Hapi,⁵ and books of the Nile-god are referred to.⁶

As water and vegetation-god, Hapi was identified with Osiris, Hapi being the Nile and Osiris the fertilizing virtues of the river (PT 2063). The Nile was said to have come forth from the sweat of the hands of Osiris,⁸ and the soul of Osiris was revived by water flowing from the breast of the male-female Hapi and from a vase in his left hand.⁹ He was also identified with Nun, the primeval watery mass, and, as a creator-god, he was also, from time to time, identified with Re, Ptah, Khnum, and Amun. He was worshiped, no doubt, as early as the first pre-historic settlements on the banks of the Nile, and, although no regularly organized liturgical cult of Hapi is known, offerings were made to him for his aid and blessing during the periods of inundations. Out of that developed the regular festivals of the Nile (LD, III, 175a, 200d, 218d), such as those of Rameses II, when many kinds of offerings were made to Hapi, and later the festival of the annual rise of the Nile was celebrated throughout Egypt with great solemnity. Still later, Heliodorus Aeth, X, I, speaks of an offering to the Nile and a festival (ib., IX, 9). The early Church Fathers refer to the worship of the waters of the Nile,¹⁰ and the festival of the Nile is celebrated even in our own day.¹¹ We have reference to several temples which were dedicated to Hapi, at Nilopolis,¹² Heliopolis, and Memphis.

●*Funk & Wagnalls Standard Dictionary of Folklore, Mythology, and Legend*, Funk & Wagnalls Co., N.Y., 1950, Volume 1, page 479, tells us about Hapy or Hapi as the Nile God:

Hapy or Hapi (1) In Egyptian religions and mythology, one of the four sons of Horus who dwelt in Amenti; a mummiform spirit with the head of a dog or a cynocephalus ape, who protected the embalmed lungs of the dead preserved in the second Canopic jar.

(2) The god of the Nile; an obese bearded man with the breasts of a woman; the Greek Nilus. Both the great stomach and the breasts are symbols of the fertility of this water god; the lotus or the papyrus carried on his head, and the water he poured from vases are likewise fertility symbols. Sometimes the god is dual: as the red god of the lower Nile he wears the papyrus; as the blue god of the upper river, he wears the lotus. Hapy was worshiped especially at the annual inundation; the mysterious resurrection of the life-bringing river caused him to be identified even in early times with Osiris.

Therefore, Hapi-Hapy was the hidden God which was worshiped alongside the God Osiris. Hapi-Hapy, as the hidden God, was designated the father of the gods, creator of things which exist, and life giver—the God of fertility and resurrection.

Then from *Collier's Encyclopedia*, Volume 19, page 479, we find this information about another Egyptian God, Ptah—the god of Memphis:

PTAH [pta], the god of the ancient Egyptian capital of Memphis. Of comparatively late origin—early dynastic period or before—he is always represented as human in form and appears in a tightly fitting garment with hands, feet, and head alone extending, and in a sort of skull cap. He was regarded as a technician or artisan, who had created man and the world by his dexterous skill; hence the title “director of craftsmen” of his high priest at Memphis. The theologians of Memphis, in their rivalry with the city of Hermopolis and Hermopolis’ god Amon, developed a lofty concept of Ptah as a creator whose heart (mind) and tongue (utterance) produced the entire creation. This “Memphite theology” is recorded on a slab of stone from the time of King Shabaka (716-701 B.C.); the hieroglyphic text of this slab declares that the inscription is a copy from an ancient worm-eaten papyrus. Ptah was joined to Sokar and Osiris and was even associated with the mortuary cult. At Memphis, where he always remained supreme, he shared worship with Sekhmet, his wife, and Nefertem, his son.

Remember this fact, Ptah was joined to Osiris. Also, remember what you have read about the Mystery Religion of Memphis, Egypt, the hidden God of this Egyptian cult has not yet

been revealed. Reading from *Collier's Encyclopedia*, Volume 15, pages 680-681, we find these facts about **Memphis**:

MEMPHIS, the capital of ancient Egypt, 14 miles south of Cairo, across the Nile. Its site made it the key to Egypt, and its choice as the royal residence is ascribed to Menes (c. 2850 B.C.). Its great god was Ptah, in whose temple was kept the Apis-bull, attested by inscriptions as early as the First Dynasty. Throughout the Old Kingdom Memphis remained the capital, and the Pharaohs were buried at nearby Saqqara, Giza, and Abu Sir. The city was first known as the "White Wall," but in the Sixth Dynasty, for obscure reasons, it acquired the name Men-nefer, which the Greeks rendered Memphis. Its sacred name was Hikuptah, "house of the *ka* (genius) of Ptah," which the Greeks rendered "Aiguptos," giving us our name Egypt.

Read this fact for yourself, the sacred name of Memphis was *Hikuptah*, (Aiguptos-Egypt) which means *house of the genius of Ptah*.

The definition of the word **genius**, from *Webster's Deluxe Unabridged Dictionary*, Second Edition, 1979, is a *spirit or God*.

gen'ius (-yus), *n.*; *pl.* for 3, 4, 5, 6 **gen'ius'es**, for 1 and 2, **ge'ni-i**, [L. *genius*, the guardian deity or spirit of a person, spirit, natural ability, genius, from *gignere* to produce.]
1. (a) [*often G—*] according to ancient Roman belief, a guardian spirit assigned to a person at birth; tutelary deity; hence, (b) [*often G—*] the guardian spirit of any person, place, etc.; (c) either of two spirits, one good and one evil, supposed to influence one's destiny.

Ptah was joined to Osiris, as *Collier's Encyclopedia*, Volume 19, page 479 says. Also remember what you have just read "(In Ptah's) temple was kept the **apis-bull**..."

The definition of the word **apis**, from *Webster's Deluxe Unabridged Dictionary*, is literally *the hidden*.

A'pis, *n.* [L. *Apis*; Gr. *Apis*; Egypt. *Hapi*, lit. the hidden.] a bull to which divine honors were paid by the ancient Egyptians because of his supposed connection with the god Ptah.

● *Funk & Wagnalls Standard Dictionary of Folklore, Mythology, and Legend*, Volume 1, page 480, gives this information:

Hap, Hapi, or Apis Literally, the hidden: in ancient Egyptian religion, the sacred bull of Memphis, symbol and incarnation of **Ptah-Osiris**. This bull was the offspring of a virgin cow who had been impregnated by lightning or a moonbeam.

In death it was known in Ptolemaic times as the powerful god Serapis (Osiris-Apis); in the Memphite Serapeum, uncovered in 1851, 64 mummified bulls were found. The bull was chosen by its special markings, and succeeded to its post of honor after the death of the preceding Hap. Those who inhaled its breath became thereby able to prophesy. It is conjectural whether the calf worshiped by the Israelites in the desert during the exodus from Egypt was identical with, or an image of, this bull. See BULL; HAPY.

Hapi-Hapy was the genius of Ptah (and of Osiris), the hidden God which was worshiped. This hidden God—Hapi-Hapy-Hap-Apis—represented the sacred bull of Memphis, was the symbol and incarnation of the Gods Ptah and Osiris.

Notice how each of these hidden Gods known by many names, traces and unifies into the same God, Nimrod, who opposed Yahweh. Even the name of Egypt—house of the genius [Hapi-Hapy] of Ptah—is a combination of this one hidden God.

When Yahweh brought the children of Israyl out of Egypt, the first of the Ten Commandments given to them, was, “You must have no hinder Gods,” period. However, this Commandment is ignored by Jews and Christians alike. In fact, at every birthday celebration in which the Jews and Christians participate, the hinder Gods of Egypt are wished upon each celebrant.

Yahweh is not worshiped among the Jews nor the Christians today. It is the hinder Gods of Egypt that are worshiped and glorified in this whole deceived world. These Gods are worshiped by every person in every religion, except The House of Yahweh. However, these Gods will not be worshiped much longer; the world ruling Kingdom that Yahshua Messiah spoke of is soon to take over this world, along with all of its governments and religions. Godworship will cease, and the Laws of Yahweh will be enforced upon all this sinsick world, at that time.

Osisiris was identified at Memphis with Ptah and the Gods which were identified or associated with Ptah, such as the local sacred bull Apis (HAP). This union led to the name Osor-Hap (Osiris-Apis), known as Serapis to the Greeks.

Serapis was introduced into the Egyptian pantheon by Ptolemy I, the Macedonian general who ruled Egypt after Alexander the Great died. He had the intention of establishing a God in whose worship the Greeks could join at a

common shrine.

The temple of Osiris-Apis was rebuilt at Alexandria, known as the Serapeum, a great image of God was also set up there. The Egyptians were told that the God was a fusion of Osiris and Apis of Memphis, and they discerned in him Osiris-Apis. Serapis assumed the titles of Osiris, as the Nile God (Hapi-Hapy), the God of the underworld, and the judge of the dead. The Egyptian origin of the name is preferred by scholarly authority. However, many opinions have been expressed that he was Baal, or Belzipur of Babylon, who was equated with Zeus. He was probably moreso the great Babylonian healing god Ea of Eridu, under his common title Sarapsi: king of the watery deep.

The great Serapeum at Alexandria was always the chief seat of the worship of Serapis and Isis in the Ptolemaic Age, it was adorned by a statue of the God, a colossal work of art. The two other centers of his worship were at Memphis, where Serapis absorbed Apis (Hapi-Hapy), and at Abydos, where he took over the temple of Osiris. This cult spread to Greece, and it also found its way to Rome and its provinces.

Osiris, united with Apis (Hapi-Hapy) under the name Serapis (Osiris-Apis), attained international recognition during the Greco-Roman period, as *The Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible*, Volume 3, page 609, tells us:

OSIRIS o si'rus. One of the principal gods of the Egyptian pantheon.

Believed by some to have been a deified leader of a prehistoric invasion of nomadic peoples into the Nile Delta from the E, Osiris became one of the most popular and important gods of ancient Egypt. He was the god of vegetation and regeneration—indeed, the most fundamental tenet of his cult was that concerning his death and resurrection. Already in the Pyramid Texts he has become a god of the dead as well, and it is with him that the deceased king is equated. United with APIS under the name Serapis (Osiris-Apis), he attained international recognition during the Greco-Roman period.

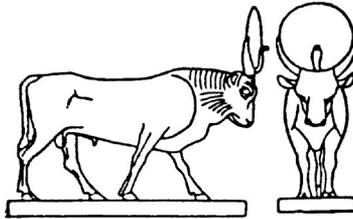
Reading from *The Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible*, Volume 1, page 157, we find this information about Hapi-Hapy—the sacred bull known as Apis:

APIS a'pis. The translation of חָךְ in Jer. 46:15, resulting from a redivision of the Hebrew text, reading חָךְ מְדוּעַ נָם, “Why has Apis fled?” (RSV), instead of חָךְ נָם

מִדּוּעַ, “Why are [they] swept away?” (KJV). The sacred bull known as Apis was worshiped in Memphis by the Egyptians from earliest historical times as a general god of fertility. Although he was primarily a manifestation of the god Ptah, his fertility function led to his being closely associated with Osiris in Greco-Roman times and to his being regarded as the reincarnation of that god, under the name Osiris-Apis or Serapis. The representative bull was chosen with great care by the priests of the cult, and during its lifetime it was accorded all the honors concomitant with divine adoration. At its death it was mummified and buried in one of the several places reserved in Egypt for that purpose.



The following illustration from *Egyptian Mythology and Egyptian Christianity*, Samuel Sharp, Carter & Co., 1896, page 14, shows a face view of an Apis (Hap-Hapi-Hapy) bull with a sun disk between its horns:



We have already proven from the book, *The Two Babylons*, pages 37-40, that the symbolism for a bull is a prince or ruler, a king. Therefore, the Apis-Hap-Hapi-Hapy Bull with the

sun disk is the symbolism that the hidden God is the ruler of sunworship.

The Religions of the Roman Empire, by John Ferguson, pages 36-37, shows Hapi-Hapy-Hap to be the Sky-Father, who was known in the Roman Empire as Zeus-Jupiter—the Lord of Heaven:

SARAPIS

Another important example of the solarization of Zeus-Jupiter is seen in the cult of Sarapis or Serapis. Sarapis is a curious example of an artificially produced god. He originated at Memphis in Egypt in the sanctuary where the dead Apis bulls were entombed. The spirit which animated them was fused with Osiris to produce Osorapis. Ptolemy I, seeking a new religious concept to go with his own power, created out of this the figure of Sarapis, and imported from Sinope on the Euxine a colossal statue; it may have represented a local sun-god or sky-god. The cult caught on and became immensely popular in the Greek world. Sarapis was represented with the bearded serenity of Zeus, and honoured as Zeus Sarapis or Zeus Helios Sarapis. He acquired other characteristics; like Asclepius) and in some connections, Zeus) he was a god of healing; like Osiris or Hades, a god of the dead. For his followers he tended to oust other gods, and their triumph-shout 'One Zeus Sarapis' has come down to us in numerous inscriptions. There were seats in the temple where worshipers could sit and contemplate the cult statue in adoring meditation. Where the Alexandrian divinities were worshiped as a group, Sarapis was supreme, though in the Roman world the personal popularity of Iris tended to push him into the background.

Political suspicion of Egypt at the end of the Republic and during the early Empire checked for a while the onset of the Egyptians gods at Rome itself. It is possible that this very fact encouraged the cult's dissemination elsewhere—through the great ports and emporia, from Aquileia into the land of the Danube, from Carthage into Africa, from the French coast up the Rhône into Provence and ultimately to north-west Europe and Britain. Witness, to take two examples, the temple at York to the holy god Separis dedicated by Claudius Hieronymianus of the Sixth Legion, and the fine head of the god from the Walbrook Mithraeum. At Rome itself Caligula reversed the policy of his predecessors, and the Flavian, Antonine and Severan dynasties alike were warm in their support of the cult; the Christian apologist Minucius Felix, writing in the second or third century, comments that the Egyptian cult has been completely adopted by the Romans. We receive occasional glimpses of its power. For example, Aelius Aristides tells us that under the Antonines there were forty-two temples of Sarapis in Egypt. Diogenes Laertius records that the hymn to Sarapis written by Demetrius of Phalerum

was still sung in his own day; Diogenes no doubt took these last words from his source, Didymus, but he thought that they were still true. Again, Julian cites with approval the total identification Zeus Helios Sarapis, and looks on Serapis as a kindly and gentle god, who sets souls free from 'becoming' and does not punish them. The cult in fact survived to the very end of the fourth century AD. Then Theophilus, the Christian patriarch of Alexandria, took an axe to the cult-statue and directed the conflagration of the god's temple; we see him in a manuscript illustration trampling on the shrine, and Rufinus declared that he had cut off 'the very head of idolatry.' The phrase shows the persistent power of the Sky-Father in his manifestation as Sarapis.

Serapis (Osiris-Apis) was worshiped by the Greeks and then the Romans, who tried to imitate as much as possible the traditions and religions of the Nile Land. As *Mythology of All Races*, Cooper Square Publishers, 1964, Volume 12, pages 241-242 shows this **GOD** was worshiped throughout the Roman Empire, including in what is now known as England, or Great Britain:

Despite all this, the Egyptians never propagated their religions abroad by missionaries. After the time of Alexander the Greeks, who had always been somewhat attracted by the mysterious worship of the Nile-land, began to imitate some of its cults in their entirety, even outside Egypt itself; in the Roman period these cults spread to Italy and thence through the whole Roman Empire as far as Brittany. As we have already seen (p.121), this propagation of the Egyptian religion was almost exclusively restricted to the deities of the Osirian cycle, the most popular of the Egyptian divinities, and to the Graeco-Egyptian Serapis. In the dispersion the cults sought to imitate as closely as possible-though not always with success- the ancient traditions of the Nile-land. The architecture and the hieroglyphs of the temples, the obelisks and sphinxes before the shrines, the strange linen vestments of the priests with their shaven heads and faces, the endless and obscure ritual, and the animal forms of some of the idols everywhere filled the Classical world with peculiar awe, and wonderful mysteries were believed to be hidden under these incomprehensibilities. It mattered not that some free-thinkers always scoffed at the animal worship and other strange features of this barbarous cult; the proselytes only clung to its mysteries with the greater zeal; and the "Isiac" religion proved a formidable competitor of rising Christianity.⁸⁷

The Latin Language was used in Old England, when it was under the rule of Rome, and Apis (Hap-Hapi-Hapy) was one of the Gods which was worshiped in England. The word **hap** does trace back to this Old English, as does the Latin

Apis, and both were pronounced happy.

The worship of HAP (Apis, Osiris-Hap, Serapis, etc.) was existent in York, what is now Great Britain, among those who were the originators of the English language. Even the English speaking people worshiped Hap, calling him Zeus.

When someone wishes another to have a Hapi (happy) birthday, he is actually wishing the hidden God upon them. They are wishing this person to be blessed by none other than Zeus (one Zeus Serapis-Osar-Hap) the Sky Father or the Lord of Heaven.

Collier's Encyclopedia, Volume 8, page 669, then gives us this information:

Finally, purely animal cults, those of the Apis, Mnevis, and Buchis bulls-especially that of the Apis bull, who was considered the "soul" of the god Ptah-flourished until Christianity superseded Egyptian paganism.

We have already proven, the soul of the God Ptah, was the genius of the hidden God that was worshiped-the Sun God worshiped from antiquity.

Today,when one wishes happy birthday upon anyone, they are wishing this disgusting and abominable hidden Sun God to come upon them, to bring them luck and the same fate as Osiris-Hap: the Lord of heaven, Zeus or Jupiter.

Showing Honor To The Gods–Demons– Luck & Fate

The word happy was brought into the Roman Empire and its provinces, which included the Roman province of England. The word happy was then and is now used in honor of the pagan God Hap-Hapi-Hapy-Apis. However, the word happy is not the only word used today in the English language in honor of the pagan Gods and Goddesses!

Reading from *Collier's Encyclopedia*, 1980, Volume 10, page 210, we first find that fortune telling and divinations were means of obtaining secret knowledge of the future. However, we also find in this source reference that the word divine originated from the pagan art of divination:

FORTUNE TELLING AND DIVINATION. From earliest times man has tried to penetrate the future by means of devices and practices which he believed could give him predictive knowledge. Although fortune telling today, refers mainly to predictions of an individual's own future, it belongs to the

ancient practice of divination, which characterizes all primitive religions. Divination included the quest for knowledge of secrets (past, present and future) affecting not only an individual, but also the state. As the word indicates, divination (from the Latin *divinatio*, *divinare*, to divine) implies that the human mind may obtain knowledge from the supernatural by means of particular forms of communication. The Greek μαντική (mantike), related to μαντιφ (mantis, seer) was associated by Plato, for example, with μανία (mania, inspired, frenzy). The practice of ancient diviners and certain modern fortune tellers of experiencing or feigning a trance experience, in which they repeat purportedly divine messages, reflects the primitive and ancient frenzy of the medicine men and of the priestesses of the Greek oracles.

Therefore, do not think for one moment that Yahweh Himself or Yahshua Messiah is divine, this is an abomination, as you can ascertain for yourself.

Continuing in *Collier's Encyclopedia, Volume 10*, pages 210-211. We read that the Romans appointed official state fortune tellers, who dabbled in divination, and worshiped Fortuna, who they believed to be the Goddess of fortune. We also find that this Goddess could give or take away something from someone capriciously (with a sudden change of mind; on a whim) or dispense joy or sorrow on impulse (a sudden inclination to act, without conscious thought).

Rome. The Roman appointed official state fortune tellers who made their predictions by interpreting the flight of birds or the appearance of the entrails of sacrificial victims. It was believed that Fortuna in her temple Antium, was the goddess of fortune. At Praeneste she was known as Dea Praenestina and was consulted especially by women eager to learn the fate of their first-born children. In Rome, there were twenty-six temples erected in the honor of Fortuna, the first of them being built by Servius Tullius, a legendary Etruscan king of early Rome (578-534 B.C.). Fortuna was symbolized as controlling two rudders, one for misguiding the ship of prosperity and the other the ship of misfortune. At a later period she wore a bandage over her eyes, held a scepter in her hand, and sat or stood on a wheel or globe. Another symbol was the cornucopia, frequently used in modern portrayals of the goddess. The Romans gave her many names; Equestris, Muliebris, Patricia, Plebeia, Primigenia, Privata, Publica, Virginiensis, and Virilis. Fortuna was believed to work without law. Capriciously she gave or took away as she pleased, and dispensed joy or sorrow on impulse.

However, *Collier's Encyclopedia, Volume 10*, page 209, goes on to tell us in no uncertain terms that this Goddess, who acted capriciously or impulsively, was the Goddess of chance or luck. As we have already read in **Isayah 65:11**, Yahweh

vigorously condemned this worship.

FORTUNA [fortyu' na], also known as Fors Fortuna, ancient Italian goddess worshiped especially at Praeneste, where she had an oracle, and also at Antium. Her concern was with the birth of children. The Romans introduced her cult very early, traditionally under Servius Tullius, and under the influence of the Greek goddess Tyche she became a goddess of chance or luck, had several temples, and was worshiped under a variety of titles.

Fortune telling and divination is worship. It is sin. It is service to these demon Gods and Goddesses. But what is so amazing is the fact that this world gives honor to these Gods and Goddesses almost every day, just through the words they thoughtlessly speak.

The following definitions will be from *Webster's Deluxe Unabridged Dictionary*, Simon & Schuster, New York, 1979. Reading the definition of **fortuna**, we find that she is the Goddess of Fortune.

Fortu'na, *n.* (L., from *fortuna*) in Roman mythology, the goddess of fortune

Have you ever heard anyone say, "Fortunately so and so took place"? This is giving honor to the Goddess of fortune, and in fact shows admiration, which is one form of worship, to a demon.

Then the definition of fortune tells us that chance, hap, fate, and fortune are often personified, which means: *to think of or speak of things as having life or personality*.

for'tune, *n.* [ME. *fortune*; OFr. *fortune*; L. *fortuna*, chance, hap, fate, fortune.]

1. a fictitious power regarded as bestowing good or evil upon people; luck; chance; fate: often personified.

Though *fortune's* malice overthrow my state. —Shak.

2. the good or evil that is going to happen to one; one's lot, good or bad; especially, one's future lot.

3. good luck;

The words, good luck, are heard regularly among the unconverted, who never realize that they are honoring these Gods, Goddesses and demons.

Therefore, Fortuna is the Goddess of chance, of hap, of fate and of fortune, which means that she is also the Goddess of luck, because this is the definition of chance, hap,

fate and fortune, as we will see.

chance, *n.* [ME. *chance, chaunce*; OFr. *cheance*, a chance, risk; LL. *cadentia*, that which falls out; L. *cadens* (-*entis*), ppr. of *cadere*, to fall.]

1. apparent absence of cause or design; destiny; fortune; often personified; as, *chance* could not rule the world.

2. a happening, fortuitous event; accident; as, to meet a person by *chance*. That power which erring men call *chance*.
—Milton

hap, *n.* [ME. *hap, haep, happe*; Ice. *happ, chance, luck*]

1. that which comes suddenly or unexpectedly; chance; fortune; accident; casual events. (Archaic)

Cursed be good haps, and cursed be they that build
Their hopes on haps. —Sidney.

fate, *n.* [ME. *fate. fate*; L. *fatum*, a prophetic declaration, oracle, from *fatus*, pp. of *fari*, to speak.]

1. the power supposed to determine the outcome of events before they occur; hence, inevitable necessity; destiny depending on a superior cause, and uncontrollable; as, according to the Stoics, every event is determined by fate.

Necessity or chance approach not me; and what I will is
fate. —Milton

luck, *n.* (ME. *luk, lukke*; compare D. *luk, geluk*.)

1. the seemingly chance happening of events which affect one; fortune; lot; fate.

The powers behind the worship of these personified Gods are the demons. However, not only this, if you wish anyone a happy birthday, you are wishing this hidden God-demon of good luck, who was known in Rome as Fortuna, to capriciously, on a whim, to bestow good upon someone. The definition of happy is:

hap'py, *a.*; *comp.* happier; *superl.* happiest, [ME. *happy*, from *hap, happe*; Ice. *happ. good luck, chance, hap*.]

1. lucky; fortunate; favored by circumstances.

Those who are wishing anyone a happy birthday are, in accordance to an established ancient pattern, using a formula of propitiation.

prop'i'tiate, *v.t.*; propitiated, *pt., pp.*; propitiating, *ppr.* (L. *propitiatus*, pp. of *propitiare*, to propitiate, from *propitius*, propitious.) to cause to become favorably inclined to win or regain the good will of; to appease or conciliate.

In other words, by wishing someone a HAPPY BIRTHDAY, they are asking the **HIDDEN GODS AND GODDESSES** to turn **their wrath away from that person**. Reading from *The New International Dictionary of the Christian Church*, by J.D. Douglas, 1978, page 807, we find this concept is PAGAN:

PROPIITIATION. This word is the correlative of “wrath” and can only be understood with reference to it. In theology it applies to the turning aside of divine wrath against sinful man. It is uncongenial to much modern thought; it is thought pagan.

When someone wishes another happy birthday, he or she is praying to the hidden God, hoping that the fickle, whimsical Gods and Goddesses of luck, fate, and fortune will bestow good upon them. Therefore, do not wish anyone a happy birthday, do not wish them a happy anything for that matter.

Above all, do not accept from anyone a happy birthday, or any other greeting in honor of the demon gods and goddesses. The inspired words of King David tell us that:

● **Psalm 16:4—**

Their sorrows are multiplied who seek after gods (elohim)! We offer not their blood gift! We do not say their names!

A Greeting In Honor Of Yahweh

● *Unger’s Bible Dictionary*, page 271, we find this information:

Pure Yahwism is basically at variance with divination of every sort. Seeking knowledge of the future from any other source than the God of Israel was an insult to His holy Being and the revelation of Himself and His purpose for men.

This source reference actually says what the Apostle Shaul said in **I Corinthians 10:20-22**, “The things which the Gentiles sacrifice (including the sacrifices of “good wishes”), they sacrifice to demons and not to Yahweh. We simply cannot have fellowship with demons and at the same time have fellowship with Yahweh.” Yahweh simply will not tolerate it.

Fellowship means participation. If you have fellowship with any of these God and Goddess demons, you are committing sin. The scriptures tell us in black and white that if we participate in these sins, Yahweh will have no participation with us.

● **Isayah 59:1-2—**

1 Behold, Yahweh’s hand is not shortened, that it cannot save;

nor His ear heavy, that it cannot hear.

2 But your own iniquities have separated you from your Father; and your own sins have *caused Him* to hide *His* face from you, so He will not listen.

The scriptures also tell us that there is a day coming when these God and Goddess demons will be destroyed, and their names will no longer be remembered, as we read in:

● **Zecharyah 13:2—**

In that day, says Yahweh of hosts: I will cut off the names of the gods (elohim) from the land, and they will be remembered no longer! I will also cause the *false* prophets and the unclean spirit to depart from the land.

● **Yeremyah 10:11—**

This is what you will say to them; These gods (elohim), which have not made the heavens and the earth, will perish from the earth and from under these heavens!

In this same day we also find that Yahweh Himself will no longer be referred to by these names, nor will they ever be mentioned again.

● **Hosheyah 2:16-17—**

16 And it will be in that day, says Yahweh: *that* you will call Me Ishi; *My Husband*, and will no longer call Me Baali; *My Lord*.

17 For I will take away the names of Baalim; *the Lords, Gods (Elohim), and Goddesses*, out of her mouth, and their names will no longer be called upon!

In that day Yahweh will restore the pure word in a purified language, to the peoples as we find:

● **Zephanyah 3:9—**

Yes, at that time I will return to the peoples the pure word, so that all of them may call on the Name of Yahweh, and serve Him with one accord; *unity*.

The pure word is the every Word that proceeds out of the mouth of Yahweh, purified from the defilement of Gods, Goddesses, Baal, El, Elohim and of demons, which are called upon by this whole deceived world even in this day and age. We are commanded by Yahweh in:

● **Exodus 23:13—**

In all things I have said to you, be careful to do *them*, and make no mention of the name of hinder gods (elohim), neither let it be heard from your mouth.

Those who are striving to serve Yahweh at this time have already begun the process of purifying their language. They are now striving to make no mention of, to abolish the

names of hinder Gods. They are now endeavoring to remove from their mouths, the names of Gods and Goddesses—Hap, Luck, Fate and Fortune, along with any derivatives of them, including the word happy.

Yahweh is renewing His covenant with US, by putting His Laws in our hearts at this very time.

● **Hebrews 10:16—**

This is the covenant that I will renew with them after those days, says Yahweh: I will put My Laws into their hearts, and in their minds I will write them.

Understanding that these words are used in honor of the Gods, what word should we use to replace this pagan word happy? *The Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible*, Volume 2 page 523, shows us:

HAPPINESS. Usually the human condition of well-being which comes with God's blessings or as divine reward for righteousness. Happiness is expressed in Hebrew idiomatically by אֲשֶׁרִי, "Happy is...," and in the LXX and the NT by μακάριοι. The English versions appear to render the Hebrew term indiscriminately with "happy" or "blessed" and the preferred translation in the NT is "blessed."

We should use the word blessed. However, there is a special way even this word should be used, when it is used in honor of Yahweh.

We have found from the scriptures that there is nothing wrong with recording one's birthday. We have also found there is nothing wrong with recognizing one's birthday, nor the length of years a person has lived.

Yahweh reveals how one's birthday should be recognized.

We are given this command in:

● **Colossians 3:17—**

And whatever you do, in word or deed, do all in the Name of Yahshua Messiah, giving thanks to Yahweh our Father through Him.

We have been commanded in no uncertain terms, "Whatever we do in speech or deeds, do each and every thing in the name of or by the authority of Yahshua Messiah, giving thanks to Yahweh our Father through Yahshua Messiah.

Therefore, acknowledge someone's date of birth according to this outline: May Yahweh be blessed, praised, and thanked through Yahshua Messiah for allowing you to come

to this day.

If anyone will not bless Yahweh in their greeting (word or deed), giving blessing, praise, thanks, and all honor to Yahweh our Father through Yahshua Messiah our High Priest, then simply do not accept them nor their greeting. This is an abomination, therefore, if you do accept this, then know that Yahweh will not accept you.

Accepting Gifts To Yahweh's Honor

The whole world today picks two or three days each year to try to show that they care for a child or a grandchild by giving them gifts. In selecting these days in which to bestow these gifts, they usually give no thought nor do they question what is actually behind these days.

When this world celebrates a birthday, honor is actually being given to pagan hidden Gods for having allowed this person to be so “lucky” to live for so many years.

However, all honor should be given to Yahweh, who alone can bestow life and who alone decides who will be given the free gift of eternal life. The one sure way to honor Yahweh is by doing what He tells us to do, we will be obeying every Word that proceeds from His mouth, just as He has commanded.

In Leviticus Chapter 23 we find the words which Yahweh has spoken, commanding us to keep his Feasts.

● **Leviticus 23:1-2—**

- 1 And Yahweh spoke to Mosheh, saying:
- 2 Speak to the children of Israyl, and say to them; Concerning the Feasts of Yahweh, which you shall proclaim to be Holy Convocations; these are My Feasts:

For those who might mistakenly think that this Law was not written for them, we find these Laws written for our instruction which say:

● **Exodus 12:49—**

One law shall be for the native-born and for the stranger who dwells among you.

● **Numbers 15:16—**

One Law and one manner shall be for you and for the stranger who sojourns with you.

Yahweh has listed His Feasts in **Leviticus Chapter 23**. Contrary to popular Christian teachings, these are not “feasts of Moses,” neither are they the “feasts of the Jews.” Emphati-

cally, Yahweh Himself has said in:

●**Leviticus 23:2—**

Speak to the children of Israyl, and say to them; Concerning the Feasts of Yahweh, which you shall proclaim to be Holy Convocations; these are My Feasts.

These Are My Feasts!

The feasts which Yahweh lists in this chapter for His people to observe and do are:

Yahweh's Weekly Sabbath Day

●**Leviticus 23:3—**

Six days shall work be done, but the Seventh Day is a Sabbath of solemn rest, a Holy Convocation. You shall do no work *on* it. It is the Sabbath of Yahweh in all your dwellings.

As we can read in this scripture, each and every weekly Saturday, seventh day Sabbath is a feast in honor of Yahweh. In **Leviticus 23:4**, we find that the Feasts to Yahweh are to be celebrated in their seasons, the appointed times Yahweh ordains within His sacred year.

Passover and Feast of Unleavened Bread

●**Leviticus 23:5-8—**

5 On the Fourteenth of the First Moon, between the two evenings, Yahweh's Passover sacrifice is to be killed.

6 And on the Fifteenth Day of the same Moon is the Feast of Unleavened Bread to Yahweh; seven days you must eat unleavened bread.

7 On the first day you shall have a Holy Convocation; you shall do no regular work on it,

8 But you shall offer an offering made by fire to Yahweh for seven days. The seventh day *shall be* a Holy Convocation; you shall do no regular work *on it*.

Pentecost-Shavout-Feast of Weeks

●**Leviticus 23:15-16,21—**

15 And you shall count for yourselves, from the day after the *First Holy Day* Sabbath—from the day that you brought the sheaf of the wave offering; seven full weeks shall be completed.

16 Count off fifty days, up to the day after the seventh week; then you shall offer a new grain offering to Yahweh.

21 And you shall proclaim on that same day that it may be a Holy Convocation to you; Shabout; the Feast of Weeks, the Feast of Firstfruits. You shall do no regular work *on it*. *It shall be* a statute forever in all your dwellings throughout your generations.

Feast of Tabernacles and Last Great Day

●Leviticus 23:33-36—

33 Then Yahweh spoke to Mosheh, saying:

34 Speak to the children of Israyl, saying; The Fifteenth Day of this Seventh Moon is the Feast of Tabernacles for seven days unto Yahweh.

35 On the first day there shall be a Holy Convocation; you shall do no regular work *upon it*;

36 *But for seven days you shall offer an offering made by fire to Yahweh. On the eighth day you shall have a Holy Convocation; The Last Great Day,* and you shall offer an offering made by fire to Yahweh. It is the Closing Gathering of *Yahweh's Sacred Year*; and you shall do no customary, regular work *upon it*.

In a broad sense, the term feast can be used with reference to all of the set appointed times of religious worship to Yahweh, which are Yahweh's appointed feasts.

Comparing **Yechetzqyah 45:17** and **Hosheyah 2:11**, we come to the understanding that Yahweh's New Moons, as well as His Sabbaths are also included in these Feasts of Yahweh.

The holy convocations during Yahweh's Feasts are just as much Sabbath days as His weekly seventh day is a Sabbath. Yahweh even calls these holy convocation days Sabbath days.

●Leviticus 23:39—

So on the Fifteenth Day of the Seventh Moon, when you have gathered in the fruit of the land, you must keep the Feast of Yahweh for seven days. On the first day *there shall be a Sabbath*, and on the eighth day a Sabbath.

If you will count these for yourself, you will find that Yahweh has seven holy convocations—seven Feast day Sabbaths, besides His weekly seventh day Sabbath, upon which to honor Him and have a holy gathering with others who love Yahweh and His Laws.

The Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible, Volume 2, page 261, tells us that at the center of the great Pilgrim's Feasts, the Feasts when Yahweh's people gather together to rejoice before Him, were the feast sacrifices:

At the center of the great pilgrim feasts were the festal sacrifices. These sacrifices were mainly communal meals, eaten with great joy. The eating of meat, a relatively rare occurrence in ancient Israel, and originally always having a religious significance, coupled with the drinking of wine, gave to a feast both its festal and

its sacral character. In contrast to others, the festal sacrifice was known as a זֶבֶח, “slaughter.” It was eaten at the sites of ancestral altars (Gen 46:1) or at the designated centers of worship as a common meal “before God” (Exod 18:12). God himself was assumed to participate symbolically by receiving the choice portions of fat, which were burned on the altar. He also shared the wine through the libations that were offered at a later stage of the cultus. As has been emphasized in recent scholarship, the great feasts were occasions of “covenant renewal” at which the bonds that held Israel together as the people of God were reknit.

Therefore, it is during Yahweh’s commanded times, His feasts, which He has commanded in Leviticus Chapter 23, that Yahweh’s People eat and drink at Yahweh’s table. The Apostle Shaul spoke about this in **I Corinthians 10:21**.

Reading from *The Encyclopedia Judaica*, Volume 6, page 1238, we find that Yahweh’s Feast sacrifices were offered to Him, in obedience to His will!

The Source of the Festivals. In the pagan religions of the ancient East, the festivals were established by man in order to find favor with the deity and prevent disaster. It was against this concept that the prophets militated (cf. *Sacrifices). The biblical concept, on the other hand, is the exact antithesis, for not only the festivals commanded by God but the service on these days as well. The festival sacrifices (*Musaf*) are not offered for any material reward, but in obedience to the Divine command.

Doing The Will Of Yahweh

● I Yahchanan 2:17–

And the world passes away, with the lust that is in it; but he who does the will of Yahweh abides forever.

We find what the will of Yahweh is in :

● Deuteronomy 12:31-32–

31 You must not worship Yahweh your Father in their way, for every abomination to Yahweh, which He hates, they have done to their gods (elohim). They even burn their sons and daughters in the fire as sacrifices to their gods (elohim).

32 Whatever I command you, be careful to observe and do it, you shall not add to it, nor take away from it.

Part of doing the will of Yahweh is to keep His feasts. The Feast days of Yahweh which bring His children together, called Love Feasts by the Greeks who observed the Hebrews celebrating them with love and joy, will one day be used by Yahweh to bring peace to all nations. You can read about this future event in **Zecharyah 14:1-21**. This relates how the warmongering nations will be put down and how the whole world will then be forced to keep Yahweh's feast.

Imagine that the very Laws that all the deceived world now reject and "nail to a cross" will be the very tools used in the Millennium to bring peace to all the world. However, they will have to be forced upon this world and its preachers, because even then, this world will initially be rebelling against Yahweh.

These same Feasts—which will bring all nations together at that time to the place where they will be taught peace, joy and true love for one another—are being used by Yahweh to train His family, His called out ones, the Body of Messiah, at this very time.

In fact, we are now living in the time period when Yahweh's House has been reestablished in these Last Days. Yahweh is training His people in this time period to become perfect, through obedience to His Laws. The House of Yahweh was established for the purpose of bringing Yahweh's called out ones to perfection, as we see in:

● **Ephesians 4:4,8,11-13—**

4 *There is one body, and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling;*

8 *That is why He says: When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, and gave gifts to men.*

11 *And He gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some preachers of the message of the Kingdom of Yahweh, and some pastors and teachers:*

12 *For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the building of The House of Yahweh, which is the body of Messiah.*

13 *Until we all come to the same unity of the faith, and of the same knowledge of the Son of Yahweh, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fullness; perfection, of Messiah.*

Those who are called out now, studying with The House of Yahweh are actually training for a position in the soon coming Kingdom of Yahweh.

● **Malakyah 4:1-4—**

1 *For, behold, the day comes that will burn like an oven; and all the proud, yes, and all who do wickedly, will be stubble—the*

day that comes will burn them up, says Yahweh of hosts; and it will leave them neither root nor branch.

2 But for you who reverence My Name, the light of righteousness will arise with healing in its wings; and you will go out, leaping like calves *released* from the stall.

3 And you will tread down the wicked; for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I will do *this*, says Yahweh of hosts.

4 Remember the Law of Mosheh My servant, which I commanded through him in Horeb for all Israyl, *with* the statutes and judgments.

It is vitally essential that one trains for this position, and that one comes to perfection, just as Yahweh commands. It is so important for us to start training now to practice Yahweh's way perfectly, at The House of Yahweh—the pillar and ground of Yahweh's truth, just as it says in:

● **I Timothy 3:15—**

But if I am delayed, I write so that you may know the right and proper way to conduct yourself in THE HOUSE OF YAHWEH, who are the called out ones of the living Father, the pillar and ground of the truth.

We find the scriptural definition of truth written in the scriptures themselves.

● **Psalm 119:142—**

Your righteousness is an everlasting righteousness, because Your Law is the truth!

● **Psalm 119:151-152—**

151 You are near, O Yahweh, and all Your commandments are truth!

152 Long ago we learned from Your testimonies *themselves*, that You have founded them forever!

● **Psalm 119:165—**

Great peace have they who love Your Law, and nothing will offend them; *cause to fall because of unbelief or sin*.

Yahweh's truth, His Laws, Statutes, and Judgments, is His righteousness, as we have read in **Deuteronomy 6:25**. Part of our training for a position in the Kingdom of Yahweh, is to understand what righteousness is, and then to only accept righteousness.

A gift in The House of Yahweh cannot be given or accepted, at just any old time. If a gift is offered to you on days of Godworship by unbelievers, whatever the gift is, you must refuse to accept it. If a gift is offered to you for the purpose of Godworship, you must also refuse to accept it, that is, if

you want to be accepted by Yahweh.

I have known of some who would accept gifts near Christmas, or would accept birthday gifts from unconverted relatives because they hated to hurt their relative's feelings. However, these unconverted relatives do not know that these gifts are given at these times specifically in honor of the deom Gods. If you did not know this fact previously, you are now aware of it.

Therefore, if any of your loving relatives offers you any kind of gift that is given because of Godworship, which includes christmas and birthday gifts, do not accept them. If you do, you not only are condoning sin, you are also passing up the opportunity to prove that you will stand firm for Yahweh as His loyal servant.

A gift may be accepted or given in The House of Yahweh, for the commanded Feasts of Yahweh. Yes, a gift to Yahweh's honor is something special, it is something which brings delight, joy, and spiritual satisfaction. Even more honorable is the fact that it is given at just the right time to guide a child toward Yahweh and His holy Laws, Statutes, and Judgments.

Gifts given just before Yahweh's Feasts bring delight in keeping Yahweh's Laws. Yes, feast gifts bring honor and glory to Yahweh, because they are given in honor of Him and not in the honor of some god.

The gifts of toys bring delight to any child; clothes or money gladdens the heart of any teenager; special foods or tasty delicacies are a pleasant reminder that Yahweh's Feasts are about to begin. Each child from the ages of one to one hundred start looking forward to the joyous gathering place, in which they meet and fellowship with loyal, true friends in the Faith. Gifts which show honor to Yahweh are acceptable.

Therefore, if your friends and relatives want to show honor to you, your children, or your children's children by giving them a gift, let them show honor to Yahweh through it. We should give our children gifts in honor of Yahweh's Feasts, at the times of Yahweh's Feasts. By honoring Yahweh with your possessions, there is also a promise of blessing. Notice what Wise King Solomon said concerning this in:

● **Proverbs 3:9-10**—

9 Honor Yahweh with your possessions, and with the firstfruits of all your income;

10 Then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will overflow with new wine.

It is such a shallow, abominable thing that Satan has pawned off on this world, deceiving this world into celebrating days devoted to Godworship. Do not be deceived like the world is. Keep Yahweh's wonderful Feasts that He ordained in order to teach love, deep, growing love, between Him and all of His children.

Birthday Celebrations Around The World Still In Honor Of The Hidden Gods And Genii: Luck And Fate

●*Funk & Wagnalls Standard Dictionary of Folklore, Mythology and Legend*, page 144, shows us the continuing thread of the worship of luck and fate running through each birthday custom celebrated in this world today.

birthdays Among people with well developed sense of time, birthdays mark the transition from one stage of being to another. Because any change is dangerous, birthdays are the times when good and evil spirits and influences have the opportunity to attack the celebrants who at these times are in peril. The couvade and all the rites of the threshold are two of the many examples of this almost universal tendency in folk thinking. The presence of friends and the expression of good wishes help to protect the celebrant against the unknown pervasive peril. Ceremonies and games at birthdays frequently are a symbolic wiping out of the past and starting anew. The American child who at his birthday blows out all the candles on his cake with one puff is eager to demonstrate his prowess, but the secret wish he makes will be granted only if all the candles can be extinguished at once. Trials of strength and skill on birthdays are demonstrations of progress. Among some tribes puberty ceremonies are initiated on the birthday. Some of the tribes of the Congo and, in North America, the Hupas and Omahas believed that counting was wicked and kept no record of time. Among these groups, birthdays were not marked. This is also true of some of the aboriginal tribes of Australia who have names indicating the generation but no actual reckoning. The exchange of presents and communal eating, except in communities where eating together is dangerous or bad manners, strengthen communal bonds and this is associated with the importance of ingratiating good and evil fairies, godmothers, and wealthy relatives, on their or our birthdays. The Tshi of West Africa sacrifice to their protective spirits on their birthdays by smearing themselves with egg and asking for good luck. This ceremonial observance of weekly or monthly birthdays has been reported from West Africa, Burma, ancient Syria, and elsewhere. The social importance of birthdays increases with the importance of the celebrant: kings, heroes, saints, gods. Because kings are endowed in folk

thinking with magical functions in that a good king or president can bring among other things good fortune to the people, that is peace and good crops, the birth of the royal heir is the occasion for great social and mild sexual excitement. In Christian communities, the birthdays of martyrs are their death days when they are born into eternal life. The date hour and place of birth may be the clues to good or bad fortune as determined by the complex computations of astrologers, numerologists, and geomants. Prudential ceremonies either at birth or at stated anniversaries, depending on the system of computations are good insurance. Memorial services, or sacrifices at tombs or before ancestral tablets, are in some place customary on the birthday of the deceased. The function is a mixture of natural affection, the desire to keep the deceased at peace and therefore to keep his ghost from troubling the living.

Reading from *Birthday Practices Around The World*, by Barbara Rinkoff, 1967, pages 3-9, we find:

The Story of Birthday Customs

Birthday parties began many, many years ago, in Europe. People believed in good and evil spirits in those days. Sometimes they called them good and evil fairies. They thought that the spirits gathered especially around a person who was celebrating his birthday. Everyone was afraid of these spirits and that they would cause harm to the birthday celebrant and so he was surrounded by friends and relatives whose good wishes and very presences, would protect him against the unknown dangers that the birthday held. The earlier after the break of day that good wishes and greetings were given, the sooner the birthday celebrants was given protection against the evil spirits. Giving gifts along with good wishes, brought even greater protection. Eating together provided a further safeguard and helped to bring the blessings of the good spirits, godmothers, and wealthy relatives. So, the birthday gathering or party along with its gifts and greetings was originally intended to make a person safe from evil and to insure a good year to come.

In very early days, only kings or prominent men were thought important enough to celebrate their birthdays. But as time went on, the common people began to celebrate theirs, and eventually children's birthdays began to be celebrated most of all.

Even the smallest child knows that birthdays candles are to wish on. But why? The reason goes back to the early Greeks and Romans who thought that tapers or candles had magical qualities. They would offer prayers and make wishes to be carried up to the gods by the flames of candles. The gods would then send down their blessings and perhaps answer the prayers. The Germans were also the first to use lighted candles on birthday cakes. The birthday celebrant made a secret wish on the flame, just as most American children do today, and this wish might be granted if all the candles were blown out with ONE puff. It became the custom to have one candle for each year of life and

in some countries another candle “to grow on” has been added.



Playing games at birthday parties started a long time ago as a symbolic wiping out of the past year and the starting of the new year ahead. Games of skill or strength were played and they were considered trials to show how much progress the birthday child had made in the past year. Everyone was proud as he demonstrated how much stronger and wiser he had become and how much more he had learned to do since his last celebration.

Giving birthday spans is meant to insure good luck for the coming year. This custom has come down to us from very long ago and is still well known in many countries. It takes various forms (there are whacks, smacks, spans, pinches, pricks, bumps), but all are given for good luck. If your child complains about friends following this age-old custom on his birthday you can explain that they are really wishing him well for the year to come.

Among the European peasantry, especially in Germany, the custom of planting a birth tree was practiced. People believed that a tree planted in honor of a child's birth had a mysterious connection with his welfare all of his life. If the tree did well, the child would have good fortune; if the tree withered, or was cut down, or died, the child might be affected. Even today, in certain districts of Switzerland an apple tree is planted when a boy is born, a pear tree is planted for the birth of a girl. Sometimes an already grown tree is acclaimed the child's tree at his birth. Planting the birth tree is still a living practice in many countries of the South Pacific, in various parts of Africa, and among certain North American Indians. The custom is also noted in folk tales of England, France, Germany, Italy and Russia.

Many superstitions are connected with the birthday. Astrologers, numerologists, and geomancers still use the date, hour and place of birth as clues to good or bad fortune and they are firm believers in lucky and unlucky days. Each

month too, has its own birth stone, and many people believe that if this stone is worn by the person who was born in that month it will bring good luck.

In some countries, birthday cakes are still used to tell fortunes. A ring or thimble, button or coin, or several small things of this type, is placed in the batter before the cake is baked. When the cake is sliced, your fortune is told according to the object found in your slice. If you find a ring, you will marry someday. A thimble shows you will be an old maid or a bachelor. A button indicates that you will be poor. A coin promises that you will be wealthy.

Each month has a special flower. If you want to bring a bouquet as a birthday gift, you could bring the flower that is associated with the month of the birthday.

Poetry too, has come down to us describing the future prospects of the child born on each day of the week.

In some countries, when a child is born, at least one of his given names is a saint's name. Throughout the calendar year, each day is a Saint's Name Day. (In fact, there are so many saints to be commemorated in history and folklore that several saints are associated with almost every day.) A child may be named after a saint on whose day he is born, in which case his birthday and his Saint's Name Day fall on the same day. Or he may be named after some other favorite saint, so that his birthday and his Saint's Name Day, fall on different dates. In some countries, people celebrate only their Saint's Name Day, in other places only the birthday, and in still others both dates are occasions to be celebrated.

Birthday customs vary somewhat from one region to another within the same country. They are affected by religious differences, rural and urban difference, and economic status. But if you were invited, today, to a birthday party given in any of the countries I have written about in this book, you might expect to find children and their families celebrating very much as I have described.

These rituals seem so innocent. Yet, lying beneath this veneer of respectability lurks the depths of abomination, the worship of and the service to the hidden Gods which Yahweh hates.

Repent! Overcome Sin!

The wisdom of Solomon shows us which day in our lives is most important in:

●Ecclesiastes 7:1—

An honorable name is better than fine perfume; and the day of death is better than the day of ones birth.

Yahweh's plan from the beginning for mankind is to allow each individual the opportunity to overcome sin, which is

taught by rebellious Satan, to become perfect in righteousness. When that individual becomes obedient to Yahweh's every Word, Yahweh's Laws, that individual will inherit eternal life in the perfect Kingdom of Yahweh. Yahweh's Kingdom will also be governed by His perfect Laws.

From the time Yahweh calls us out of this world we have a set amount of time to overcome sin. Notice what it says in:

● **Genesis 4:7—**

If you do righteousness, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do righteousness, sin *is* crouching at your door. THE DESIRE TO SIN IS WITH YOU, BUT YOU MUST OVERCOME IT!

Yahweh has set before each person whom He has called out the way to perfect righteousness, peace, joy, and love. This way to perfection is in His Laws, Statutes, and Judgments. However, standing in the way of this perfection is the Adversary, Satan the Devil, with the ways of rebellion against Yahweh's perfect Law.

Yahweh also gives to each of us whom He has called out of this world the right to choose which way we want to follow.

● **Deuteronomy 30:19-20—**

19 I call heaven and earth as witnesses against you this day, *that I have set before you life and death*, blessings and curses. *Because you are free agents to make your own choice between righteousness and evil—therefore choose life*, so both you and your children may live;

20 So you may love Yahweh your Father, by listening to Him, and *then* obeying Him. Hold fast to Him, for He is your life. He will *also* give you many years in the land He vowed to give to your fathers; to Abraham, Isaac, and Yaaqob.

Yahweh expects each of us to come to the same perfection as He—that is if we want a part in His Kingdom.

● **Mattithyah 5:48—**

Therefore, become perfect, just as your Father Who is in heaven is perfect.

Yahweh has given each of us the opportunity to overcome sin. The first thing He instructs us to do, is repent.

● **Acts 2:38—**

Then Kepha said to them; Repent, and be baptized, everyone of you, in the Name of Yahshua Messiah for the remission of sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

● **Acts 3:19—**

Repent therefore, and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out; that times of refreshing may come from the presence of Yahweh.

● **Acts 8:22—**

For this reason, repent of this, your wickedness, and pray to

Yahweh that the thought of your heart may be forgiven you.

● **Acts 17:30**—

In the past Yahweh winked at such ignorance, but *He* now commands all men everywhere to repent!

● **Acts 26:20**—

But I preached, first to those in Damascus and in Yerusalem, and then to the people throughout the region of Yahdah and to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to Yahweh, and do works worthy of their repentance.

We can see by these scriptures that Yahweh gives us the opportunity to repent of our past ways and turn to Yahweh's Ways. If we do this, this will bring us to perfect righteousness, just as Yahweh commanded us through Yahshua Messiah.

● **Mattithyah 5:48**—

Therefore, become perfect, just as your Father Who is in heaven is perfect.

We are informed in **Hebrews 4:15**, that Yahshua Messiah was tempted in all ways, just as we are. However, we also read that He overcame and He says that we also must overcome.

● **Revelation 3:21**—

To him who overcomes I will grant to sit with Me on My throne, as I also overcame, and sat down with My Father on His throne.

Obviously, it takes a while to overcome our desires, however, we must prove to Yahweh that we can overcome completely. Yahshua said that eternal life is given only to those that endure until the end. He is saying that we must keep the Law of Yahweh until life as we know it comes to an end. This scriptural fact is proven to us in:

● **Yechetzqyah 3:18-21**—

18 When I say to the wicked: You will surely die; and you give him no warning, nor speak to warn the wicked from his wicked way, to save his life, that same wicked *man* will die in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at your hand.

19 Yet, if you warn the wicked, and he does not turn from his wickedness, nor from his wicked way, he will die in his iniquity; but you will have delivered your own life.

20 Again, when a righteous man turns from his righteousness and commits iniquity, then I will lay a stumblingblock before him and he will die; because you did not give him warning, he will die in his sin, and his righteousness which he has done will not be remembered; but his blood will I require at your hand.

21 Nevertheless, if you warn the righteous *man* that the righteous should not sin, and he does not sin, he will surely live because he

took warning; and you will have delivered your own life.

●**Mattithyah 10:22—**

And you will be hated above all *men* for My Names sake; but he who endures to the end will be saved.

The scriptures place more importance on the time of a called out person's death, simply because they had time to prove themselves to Yahweh. Yahweh will judge and sentence us according to His Laws.

●**Revelation 22:14—**

Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.

The Apostle Shaul, writing at a time when he was near his day of death, was inspired to say in:

●**II Timothy 4:6-8—**

6 For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand.

7 I have fought a righteous fight, I have finished *my* course, I have kept the faith.

8 From here on, there is stored up for me a crown of righteousness, which Yahshua, the Righteous Judge, will give me at that day, and not to me only, but also to all those who love His appearing.

In importance, there is simply no comparison to the day Shaul began his life, as to the day his life ended. Yes, Shaul at the time of his death made certain of his reward by having endured the problems, trials and heartaches to his end. He loved Yahweh's Law enough to lay down his life for these true values, rather than submit to the pagan customs of the Babylonish Religious System, which flourished in his day, just as it flourishes today.

Shaul stood firm in the Faith Yahweh gave His people to live by: the Faith that He inspired His prophets of old to record. The same Faith the Apostles exhorted us to contend for.

●**Yahdah 1:3—**

Beloved when I gave all diligence to write to you about the common salvation, I found it necessary to write to you, and exhort *you* that you should earnestly contend for the faith which was once, for all, delivered to the saints.

The Faith in this scripture does not mean just confidence or only belief as in the Christian interpretation of the word faith. Christians believe that "if you believe something is all right, then it is just all right." NO, it is not just all right!

Yahweh's Faith is: the Religious System of truth itself, as

we find in *Strong's Greek Dictionary*, word #4102.

4102. πιστις **pistis**, *pis'-tis*; from 3982; *persuasion*, i.e. *credence*; *mor. conviction* (of *religious truth*, or the truthfulness of God or a religious teacher), espec. *reliance* upon Christ for salvation; *abstr. constancy* in such profession; by *extens. the system of religious (Gospel) truth itself*:—assurance, belief, believe, faith, fidelity.

It is this Faith we must earnestly contend for—the Faith that was once, for all, delivered to the Saints by Yahweh Himself.

Yahweh also inspired the Apostle Shaul to write a warning to us, that everything which is not from the Faith delivered by Yahweh, is sin. However, just reading from the *King James Version*, one certainly could not understand this scriptural fact written in:

● **Romans 14:23, KJV**—

And he that doubteth is damned if he eat, because *he eateth* not of faith: for whatsoever is not of faith is sin.

The *King James Version* tells us that “whatsoever is not of faith is sin.”

The word for word translation of **Romans 14:23**, from *The New International Version Interlinear Greek-English New Testament*, by Alfred Marshall, 1976, page 648, shows us the two words which have been mistranslated in this scripture which significantly change its meaning:

23	ὁ	δὲ	διακρινόμενος	ἐὰν	φάγῃ	κατα-
	but the [one]		doubting	if	he eats	has been
	κέκριται,	ὅτι	οὐκ	ἐκ	πίστεως·	πάν
	condemned,	because	not	of	faith;	³ all
	δὲ ὁ	οὐκ	ἐκ	πίστεως	ἁμαρτία	ἐστίν.
	¹ and which [is] not		of	faith	sin	is.

● *A Critical Lexicon and Concordance to the English and Greek New Testament*, by Ethelbert W. Bullinger, 1975, page 543, shows that these two words should have been translated: *out of—from among*.

1. ἐκ. out of, from among, (a prep, governing only the Gen. case, and denoting motion from the interior;* opp. to No. 9.)

Correctly translated in *The Book of Yahweh, The Holy Scriptures* this scripture says:

● **Romans 14:23**—

But he that doubts is condemned if he eats, because *he does* not

eat from the faith; for whatever is not from the faith is sin.

We are given the scriptural definition of sin in:

● **I Yahchanan 3:4—**

Whoever commits sin, transgresses also the Law; for sin is the transgression of the Law.

This Faith once delivered to the Saints, is the Religious System of Truth, based upon Yahweh's Laws. This is the Faith we are to earnestly contend for, not the traditions and pagan celebrations of Godworship.

If we become perfect, just as Yahweh Himself is perfect, we will be accounted worthy to be given Yahweh's free gift of eternal life, and enter into Yahweh's Kingdom just as **Revelation 22:14** states.

If we become perfect in the length of time Yahweh has ordained for all of His servants, we will not be among the dogs (males who practice religious rites of Godworship) nor the Godworshippers (male or female idolaters) who are outside the Law and who will be outside the Kingdom of Yahweh, as we read in:

● **Revelation 22:15—**

For outside are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and worshippers of gods (elohim) and everyone who professes to love, yet practices breaking the Law.

The Fall Of Babylon

In the **Book of Genesis** (Bereshith), Yahweh showed us the beginning of religious confusion—Babylon. The nation of Israyl was not the only nation to have a religious organization, preachers etc. On the contrary, all nations had priests and prophets without number, all of them offering the comfort of eternal life if they only believed. However, this is a false salvation, offered by false prophets—pure deception inspired by Satan the Devil.

After the flood, we find Nimrod to be the first of a long line of lying preachers.

● **Genesis 10:8-10—**

8 Cush begot Nimrod; he began to be a mighty one on the earth.

9 He was a tyrant who deceived, who turned against Yahweh; therefore it is said: Like Nimrod the tyrant who deceived, who turned against Yahweh.

10 And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel, Erech, Accad, and all of them in the land of Shinar; *that is, Babylon.*

Notice that Nimrod was against Yahweh, which means that He was against the Law of Yahweh. Notice also that Nimrod started Babylon which the inspired scriptures call confusion. Beginning with Nimrod, these false religions have spread over all the world, growing stronger each year.

The Prophet Daniyl shows that this Yahweh opposing world religion would make war against Yahweh's Saints. This world religion would actually hold the upper hand over them until Yahweh's Kingdom is set up here on Earth. Yahweh's Kingdom is portrayed in Zecharyah Chapter 14, showing that when it is set up on earth, Yahweh's Laws will be enforced over all nations. This Yahweh opposing world religion will be crushed at that time.

Daniyl describes this Yahweh opposing world religion not only as making war against those who keep Yahweh's Laws, but also going so far as to change Yahweh's Laws. Read this for yourself from your own bible in:

●**Daniyl 7:21-22—**

21 I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them;

22 Until the Ancient of days came, and judgment was given to the saints of Yahweh; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom.

●**Daniyl 7:25—**

And he will speak *great* words against Yahweh, and will wear out; *mentally attack to cause to fall away*, the saints of Yahweh, and **THINK TO CHANGE TIMES**; *Yahweh's Feast Days*, and **Laws**; and they will be given into his hand until a time, and times, and the dividing of time.

It is very important that we see how Yahweh describes this religion and the exact location Yahweh gives us, in order to identify it. Remember, we saw in **Genesis 10:8-10** that this religion was started by Nimrod, and it was called Babylon meaning confusion, or we could say, deceived and deception. Babel also means Gate of God.

Yahweh is showing us here that not only are those who follow this Yahweh opposed world religion deceived, but they are also against the Laws of Yahweh—they are God-worshippers.

Now, let us notice where the inspired scriptures show the Headquarters of this Yahweh opposing world religion—which dares to change the Laws of Yahweh—to be located.

The **Book of Revelations**, is the prophecy that Yahweh

gave to Yahshua, Who in turn gave it to Yahchanan to give to us. In this book we find this Yahweh opposing world religion called the Mother of Harlots, spoken of.

● **Revelation 17:5—**

And upon her head *was* a name written:

MYSTERY BABYLON THE GREAT
THE MOTHER OF THE HARLOTS AND
OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.

The word translated **harlots** in this scripture is word #4204 in *Strong's Greek Dictionary*, which shows this word to mean: *idolater* (female). This word comes from word #4205 which means: a *male prostitute*.

4204. πόρνη **porne**, *por'-nay*; fem. of 4205; a *strumpet*; fig. an idolater:—harlot, whore.

4205. πόρνοφ **pornos**, *por'-nos*; from πέρνημι **per-nemi** (to *sell*; akin to the base of 4097); a (male) *prostitute* (as *venal*), i.e. (by anal.) a *debauchee* (*libertine*):—fornicator, whore-monger.

The word **idolater** means: *Godworshipper*, as we find in *A Greek-English Lexicon To The New Testament*, Baker Book House, numerically coded to *Strong's Greek Dictionary*. Idolater comes from the following Greek words, #1495, #1496 and #1497.

● **Strong's**

1495. εἰδωλολατρεία **eidololatreia**, *i-do-lol-at-ri'-ah*; from 1497 and 2999; *image-worship* (lit. or fig.):—idolatry

1496. εἰδωλολάτρηφ **eidololatres**, *i-do-lol-at'-race*; from 1497 and the base of 3000; an *image- (servant or)* (lit. or fig.):—idolater.

1497. εἶδωλον **eidolon**, *i'-do-lon*; from 1491; an *image* (i.e. for worship); by impl. a heathen god, or (plur.) the worship of such:—idol

● **A Greek-English Lexicon To The New Testament**

1495 εἰδωλο-λατρεία [-τρία WH; see I, ι], -αφ, ἡ, (εἶδωλον, q.v., and λατρεία), (Tertull. al. *idololatria*), *the worship of false gods, idolatry*: Gal. v. 20; used of the formal sacrificial feasts held in honor of false gods, 1 Co. x. 14; of avarice, as a worship of Mammon [q. v.], Col. iii, 5 [Bp. Lightf. ad loc.]; in plur., *the vices springing from idolatry and peculiar to it*, 1 Pet. iv. 3. (Eccl. writ. [cf. W.26].)*

1496 εἰδωλολάτρηφ,-ον, ὁ, (εἶδωλον, and λάτρηφ i.e. a hireling, servant, slave), *a worshipper of false gods, an idolater*, (Ter-

tull. *idololatres*) : i Co. v. 10 ; Rev. xxi. 8 ; xxii. 15 ; any one, even a Christian, participant in any way in the worship of heathen, i Co. v. 11 ; vi. 9 ; esp. one who attends their sacrificial feasts and eats of the remains of the offered victims, i Co. x. 7 ; a covetous man, as a worshipper of Mammon, Eph. v. 5 ; cf. Meyer ad loc. (Eccl. writ. [cf. W. 100 (94 sq.)].)*

1497 εἰδῶλον, -ου, τό, (εἶδοφ [cf. W. 96 (91) ; Etym. Magn. 296, 9]), in Grk. writ. fr. Hom. down, *an image, likeness*, i.e. whatever represents the form of an object, either real or imaginary ; used of the shades of the departed (in Hom.), of apparitions, spectres, phantoms of the mind, etc. ; in bibl. writ. [*an idol*, i. e.] **1. the image of a heathen god** : Acts vii. 41 ; 1 Co. xii. 2 ; Rev. ix. 20, (Is. xxx. 22 ; 2 Chr. xxiii. 17, etc. ; θεῶν ἢ δαιμόνων εἰδῶλα, Polyb. 31, 3, 13) ; **2. a false god** : Acts xv. 20 (on which see ἀλίγημα) ; Ro. ii. 22 ; 1 Co. viii. 4, 7 ; x. 19 ; 2 Co. vi. 16 ; 1 Th. i. 9, (often in Sept.) ; φλάσσειν ἑαυτὸν ἀπὸ τ. εἰδῶλων, to guard one's self from all manner of fellowship with heathen worship, 1 Jn. v. 21.*

Please carefully notice the last two lines from this source reference: We should avoid all manner of Godworship. We are warned in **Yeremyah 10:1-10**, not to even learn the pagan customs of Christmas. Yes, the celebration of Christmas is a form of Godworship, because December 25th is the birthday of the Sun-God. The pagan celebration of birthdays is also Godworship, as you should fully realize after reading this entire article.

Please write for our free booklet: *True Stories About Christmas*, to learn the facts about this day of abominable Godworship, before it is too late. Christmas is not the innocent celebration that this world's deceived preachers portray it to be.

Read for yourself, the definition of an idolater—Godworshipper, this is one who attends the pagan sacrificial feasts and eats of the remains of the offered victims.

We see that this Babylon started by Nimrod, is the mother of several other religions, which have spread over all the world. In fact they (this mother and her daughter harlots) under Satan's enthusiasm (god possession), are deceiving the whole world as we find in:

● **Revelation 12:9—**

And the great dragon was cast out, that old serpent, called the Devil, and Satan, who deceives the whole world. She was cast out into the earth, and her angels were cast out with her.

How Is This World Deceived?

These religions are teaching their subjects to be against the

Laws of Yahweh and to worship God, just as Nimrod did in the beginning.

Please write for our free booklet: *Who Is Lord God? Who Is Baal?*, for vital information about who this world is really worshipping.

These religions teach their followers that they can break the Laws of Yahweh yet, still obtain salvation. They are teaching against that which is written in the inspired scriptures in your own bible. The following scriptures should prove this beyond doubt.

● **Revelation 22:14**—

Blessed are those who do His commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.

● **I Yahchanan 2:4**—

He who says: I know Him, but does not keep His law, is a liar, and the truth is not in him.

● **Yaaqob 2:10-11**—

10 For whoever keeps the whole Law, and yet offends in one point, he is guilty of all.

11 For He Who said: Do not commit adultery, also said: Do not murder. Now if you do not commit adultery, yet you do murder, you have become a transgressor of the Law.

● **I Yahchanan 3:4-8**—

4 Whoever commits sin, transgresses also the Law; for sin is the transgression of the Law.

5 And you know that He was manifested to take away our sins, and in Him is no sin.

6 Whoever abides in Him does not sin; whoever sins, has not seen Him, neither knows Him.

7 Little children, let no man deceive you; he who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous.

8 He who commits sin is of the devil, for the devil has sinned from the beginning. For this purpose the Son of Yahweh was manifested; that He might destroy the works of the devil.

● **Romans 2:13**—

For not the hearers of the Law *are* just before Yahweh, but the doers of the Law will be justified.

These scriptures plainly show that the only way one can receive eternal life is by obeying the Laws of Yahweh.

Nimrod's, Yahweh opposing world religion of Babylonish confusion, consists of hundreds of religious groups following Satan the Devil's rebellion against Yahweh's Laws.

Yahweh describes these religious groups that follow the Great Whore as harlots saying in:

● **Revelation 17:5**—

And upon her head *was* a name written:
MYSTERY BABYLON THE GREAT
THE MOTHER OF THE HARLOTS AND
OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.

These harlots are those who participate in pagan worship of the Gods; who attends any kind of pagan sacrificial feast of Godworship and eats things sacrificed to Gods.

The word which has been translated **abominations** in this scripture is word #946 in *Strong's Greek Dictionary*, and means:

946. βδέλυγμα **bdelugma**, *bdel'-oog-mah*; from 948; a detestation, i. e. (spec.) idolatry:—abomination.

● *Thayer's Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament*, by Joseph H. Thayer, numerically coded to *Strong's Greek Dictionary*, gives us more information about word #946 on page 99:

946 βδέλυγμα, -τοφ, τό, (βδελύσσομαι), a bibl. and eccl. word ; in Sept. mostly for תרועבה, also for עקרץ and עקץ, a *foul thing* (loathsome on acct. of its stench), a *detestable thing*; (Tertull. *abominamentum*) ; Luth. Greuel ; [A.V. *abomination*] ; a. univ. : Lk. xvi. 15. **b.** in the O.T. often used of idols and things pertaining to idolatry, to be held in abomination by the Israelites ; as 1 K. xi. 6 (5) ; xx. (xxi.) 26 ; 2 K. xvi. 3 ; xxi. 2 ; 1 Esdr. vii. 13 ; Sap. xii. 23 ; xiv. 11 ; hence in the N. T. in Rev. xvii. 4 sq. of idol-worship and its impurities ; ποιειφν βδελυγμα κ. ψευφοφ, Rev. xxi. 27.

● *Unger's Bible Dictionary*, page 9, gives us this information about these abomination practiced by this mother and her Godworshipping daughters:

Abomination (Heb. *piggul*, *filth*, Lev. 7:18 ; *shiqqs*, *unclean*, Deut. 29:17, etc. *shegets*, *rejected*, Lev.7:21, etc.; *toëbäh*, causing abhorrence, Gen. 43:32 ; *Gr. bdelugma*, Matt. 24:15, etc.).

The practices of sin—such as the swellings of pride, lips of falsehood, the sacrifices of the wicked, and the foul rites of idolatry—are stigmatized as abominations (Prov. 6: 16; 12:22; 15:8; Jer. 6:15, etc.).

Now, notice where this mother whore sits—where she is located—as described in Yahweh's inspired scriptures.

● **Revelation 17:9—**

And here is the mind which has wisdom: The seven heads are seven mountains on which the woman sits.

The city of Rome sits on seven hills, this is the city where the headquarters of the Catholic Church is located. Look up the word Rome in any reliable encyclopedia, then read the teachings of the mother Catholic Church and see for yourself whether she teaches you to obey the Laws of Yahweh, or whether she fulfills this prophecy written about her government in:

● **Daniyl 7:25—**

And he will speak great words against Yahweh, and will wear out; mentally attack to cause to fall away, the saints of Yahweh, and think to change times; Yahweh's Feast Days, and Laws; and they will be given into his hand until a time, and times, and the dividing of time.

Not only is this world religion opposed to Yahweh, it is the mother of every rebelling religion. It is also the mother of the abominations of the earth, which includes the abomination of Godworship disguised as birthday celebrations.

Many people want to become leaders of the people. The so-called preachers, priests, etc. learn a little truth, but coupled with that little truth is lots of error. They begin preaching over radio and television, they write articles, get others to follow them and pick a name for their organization which seems “right in their own eyes.” Some of these self proclaimed preachers even call themselves after the name of Yahweh, as if Yahweh was leading them, when in fact they are cut off from Yahweh.

Babylon (the great whore of religious confusion) brings forth her doctrine—anyone can “do what is right in his or her own eyes” and still attain salvation. According to her, all one needs to do is to “accept the Lord” and “take your money to church.”

The harlots (the daughters of the great whore) follow Babylon (the confusion of Godworship) and set up religious assemblies all over the world. They also change or ignore one or more of Yahweh's Laws, and they are leading this whole world into deception and destruction.

The great whore and her daughters are, in fact, called forbidden assemblies in the scriptures that Yahweh inspired to be written, telling us in:

● **Revelation 14:4**—

These are the ones who were not defiled with women; forbidden assemblies, for they are virgins; cleansed and pure. These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes. These were redeemed from among men—the firstfruits to Yahweh and to the Lamb.

The word translated **women** in **Revelation 14:4**, is word #1135. from the base word #1096, in *Strong's Greek Dictionary*, which show these women are forbidden assemblies.

1135. γυνή **gune**, *goo-nay'*; prob. from the base of 1096; a *woman*; spec. a *wife*:—wife, woman.

1096. γίνομαι **ginomai**, *ghin'-om-ahee*; a prol. and mid. form of a prim. verb; *to cause to be* (“*gen-erate*”), i.e. (reflex.) *to become (come into being)*, used with great latitude (lit. fig., intens., etc):—arise be assembled, be (come, -fall, -have self), be brought (to pass), (be) come (to pass), continue, be divided, be done, draw, be ended, fall, be finished, follow, be found, be fulfilled, + God forbid, grow, happen, have, be kept, be made, be married, be ordained to be, partake, pass, be performed, be published, require, seem, be showed, x soon as it was, sound, be taken, be turned, use, wax, will, would, be wrought.

Yahweh shows in **Revelation 14:4**, that those who will receive eternal life are not involved with these forbidden assemblies, in any way whatsoever. On the other hand they are definitely involved in His established Last Days Work—The House of Yahweh—the place He has chosen to establish His Name in these Last Days. They are living by and loving every word that proceeds out of the mouth of Yahweh.

Although you may follow every other Ordinance of Yahweh to the letter, if you are accepting the hire of a harlot, or the price of a dog by participating in pagan celebrations of Godworship, you simply will not be accepted by Yahweh. You are in fact, practicing what the Apostle Yahchanan was inspired to warn us against, saying in:

● **I Yahchanan 5:21**—

Little children, keep yourselves from the defilement of gods (elohim).

If you are participating in any way, shape, or form with birthday celebrations or with any other celebrations of Godworship such as: Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, Roman New Year, Valentine's Day, Easter, etc., you are doing

what is right in your own eyes. These feasts Yahweh hates, their origin is rooted in pagan Godworship. Yahweh speaks to the rebels who do what is right in their own eyes in:

● **Isayah 1:10-20**—

10 Hear the word of Yahweh, you rulers of Sodom! Listen to the Law of our Father, you people of Gomorrah!

11 What is the purpose of your multitude of sacrifices to Me? says Yahweh: I am full of the burnt offerings of rams, and the fat of fed beasts; I do not delight in the blood of bullocks, lambs, or of he-goats.

12 When you come to appear before Me, who has required this from your hand, to tread *down, oppressing* My courts?

13 Do not bring anymore vain; *idolatrous, oblations!* Your incense is abominable to Me! The new moons and sabbaths, your calling of assemblies I cannot endure! Even the solemn meeting is iniquity!

14 Your new moons and your appointed feasts My soul hates! They are a trouble to Me! I am weary of bearing *them!*

15 So, when you spread forth your hands, I will hide My eyes from you. Yes, even though you make many prayers, I will not listen, for your hands are full of blood.

16 Wash yourselves, and make yourselves clean; put away the evil of your doings from before My eyes; cease to do evil;

17 Learn to do righteousness; seek judgment, relieve the oppressed, judge the fatherless, plead for the widow.

18 Come now, and let us reason together, says Yahweh: though your sins be like scarlet, they will be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they will be as wool.

19 If you will be willing and obedient, you will eat the fruit of the land;

20 But if you refuse and rebel, you will be devoured by the sword, for the mouth of Yahweh has spoken it.

Yahweh gives all rebels the final warning in:

● **Revelation 18:2-5**—

2 And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying: Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of demons, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird.

3 For all nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, and the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth have grown rich through the abundance of her delicacies.

4 And I heard another voice from heaven, saying: Come out of her, My people, so that you do not partake in her sins, and so that you do not receive of her plagues,

5 For her sins have reached unto heaven, and Yahweh has remembered her iniquities!

These worldly customs and celebrations which originated in

the pagan worship of the Gods, Yahweh is telling us to come out of this sin. All who continue in these abominations will reap plagues upon themselves.

Just as the Apostle Kepha said, I also say to you whom Yahweh is calling out in these Last Days, training for a position in His Kingdom through obedience to His every Word.

● **Acts 2:40**—

Save yourselves from this perverse generation!

A Great Reward

Yahweh promises us a great reward if you will keep His Feasts according to His way. Unlike the birthday celebrations and worldly holidays observed by this deceived world today, which have no reason to exist, they are the worship of pagan Gods inspired by Satan the Devil.

Begin to make your plans now to be at the next Feast of Yahweh, at The House of Yahweh in Abilene Texas. The remnant of Yahweh's chosen are being gathered out of this beastly system, and are given the opportunity to train for a wonderful position in the Kingdom of Yahweh. The House of Yahweh—Yahweh's family, keeps all of Yahweh's Feasts exactly according to His every Word. Yahweh's Feasts are the shadow of Yahweh—mark of Yahweh upon those who practice them, according to Yahweh's Way.

The Way Of Escape

In the following scriptures, Yahweh shows us the way to escape, the worldly pollutions of Godworship!

● **Colossians 2:16-17**—

16 Therefore, let no man condemn you for *doing these things: eating and drinking in the observance of a Feast Day, or of a New Moon, or of the Sabbath Day;*

17 Which are a shadow from things to come for the body of Messiah.

● **I Corinthians 5:8**—

Therefore, let us keep the Feast, not with old leaven, neither with the leaven of malice and wickedness, but with the unleavened *bread* of sincerity and truth.

● **Romans 6:16**—

Do you not know that to whom you yield yourselves as servants to obey, his servants you are whom you obey—whether of sin, *which leads* to death, or of obedience, *which leads* to righteousness?

● **Revelation 22:17**—

And the Spirit and the bride, say: Come! And let him who hears, say: Come! And let him who is thirsty come. And whoever will, let him take the water of life freely.

In Yahshua Messiah, I invite you to escape! Yahweh willing, we will see each of you here at the place Yahweh has chosen in these Last Days—The House of Yahweh in Abilene Texas—to celebrate each and every one of Yahweh’s Feasts exactly according to the every word that Yahweh has spoken, giving honor to Yahweh only, and not to any God!

~ Notes ~