But you will speak My Words; the Laws and the Prophets, to them...

whether they will listen or whether they will not...and they will yet know that there has been a Prophet among them.

Yechetzqyah 2:7, 5



YISRAYL HAWKINS

You need to read this article thoroughly, and compare it with the Holy Scriptures. IT'S VITAL TO YOUR SALVATION!

You will not survive what is coming next on this world if you don't repent of sin (I Yahchanan 3:4, 7-8) and convert to keeping Yahweh's Laws (Acts 3:18-23). You are not praying to the Creator Yahweh when you pray to God, El, Elohim, Adonai, Lord or the many other titles that have been used to replace the Name of the Creator. Yahweh will not answer you when you pray using these pagan titles.

To Abilene...

To The Religions That Crucify The Savior Each Day Because They Refuse To Repent Of Breaking Yahweh's Laws.

● Hebrews 6:6, King James Version (KJV)—

If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they <u>crucify to themselves the Son</u> of God afresh, and put him to an open shame.

You who say Yahweh's Laws of Righteousness have been done away with, you continue to sin and cause all of your followers to crucify the Savior afresh each day. There is no hope for you unless you repent and turn to Yahweh.

● I Yahchanan (John) 2:4—

He who says: I know Him, but <u>does not keep His Laws</u>, is a liar, and the Truth is not in him.

● I Yahchanan (John) 3:4, 7-8—

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

7 Little children, let no man deceive you; <u>he who practices</u> <u>Righteousness is Righteous</u>, just as He is Righteous.

8 <u>He who commits sin is of the devil</u>, 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.

• Acts 3:17-20—

17 And now, brothers, I know that you did this through ignorance, as *did* also your rulers;

18 But those things which Yahweh foretold by the mouth of all the Prophets, that Messiah must suffer, He has fulfilled this

19 <u>Repent</u> therefore, and <u>be converted</u>, <u>that your sins may be blotted out</u>; that times of refreshing may come from the Presence of Yahweh;

20 And that He may send Yahshua, the Messiah Who was preached to you,

• Revelation 22:12-16—

12 And behold, I come quickly, and My Reward is with Me, to give every man according as his work will be.

13 I am the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.

14 Blessed *are* those who <u>keep His Laws</u>, 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 <u>practices breaking the Laws</u>.

16 I, Yahshua, have sent My Malak to testify to you these things in the congregations of The House of Yahweh. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, and the Bright and Morning Star.

You are now, this day, held responsible for all the Righteous blood, from the blood of Righteous Abel, after whom this city was named, to the blood of the Savior, Whom you continue to crucify. You are being warned at this time. You see the Scriptures presented above, unless you repent and convert to Yahweh's Laws, your sins will not be blotted out.

● Hebrews 10:26, KIV—

For <u>if we sin willfully</u> after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins.

Greetings,

If we sin...what is sin? You want to persecute me for telling you the truth, as if I wrote the Inspired Scriptures. You should be reading these Scriptures and rejoicing in the fact that you are being offered repentance before the prophesied nuclear baby is turned loose on this world.

What is sin? Note the Scriptural definition below.

● I Yahchanan 3:4—

Whoever commits sin, transgresses also the Laws; for <u>sin is the transgression of the Laws</u>.

That Inspired Scripture is very plain. There is no way anyone can deny these Inspired Words, nor the words of the Apostle Shaul (Paul) in:

● Hebrews 10:26—

For if we <u>sin willfully</u> after we have received the Knowledge of the Truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins,

These Laws of Righteousness are given to everyone who owns a bible. The Ten Commandments are as follows:

• Exodus 20:3-17—

- 3 You shall <u>have no hinder Gods</u> (elohim) *at all*. They are in opposition against Me.
- 4 You shall <u>not make for yourself</u> <u>any carved image</u>; *an idol*, in the form of anything in heaven above, or on the earth beneath, or in the waters below.
- 5 You shall <u>not bow down to them</u> nor serve them; for I, Yahweh your Father, *am* a Heavenly Father Who is zealous for My House. I will make it known that the diseases caused by the sexual misconduct of the fathers will be upon their children to the third and fourth *generation* of those who hate Me.
- 6 But I will show My Love to thousands who love Me by keeping My Laws.
- 7 You shall <u>not take the Name of Yahweh your Heavenly Father to bring it to nothing</u>, for Yahweh will not hold him guiltless who brings dishonor upon or profanes His Name.
- 8 Remember the Sabbath Day, to keep it Holy.
- 9 Six days you shall labor and do all your work,
- 10 But the <u>Seventh Day</u> is the Sabbath of Yahweh your Heavenly Father. *In it* you shall not do your work: you,

nor your wife, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your manservant, nor your maidservant, nor your cattle, nor the stranger who dwells within your gates.

- 11 For *in* six days Yahweh made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that are in them; and rested the Seventh Day. Therefore, Yahweh blessed the Sabbath Day, and hallowed it; *Yahweh made the Sabbath Day Holy*.
- 12 Honor your father and your mother, so your days may be long upon the land which Yahweh your Father is giving you.
 - 13 You shall not murder.
 - 14 You shall not commit adultery.
 - 15 You shall not steal.
- 16 You shall <u>not bear false testi-</u>mony against your neighbor.
- 17 You shall <u>not covet</u>; *lust after*, your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that *belongs to* your neighbor.

If you practice breaking one of these commandments you are guilty of breaking them all.

● Yaaqob (James) 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 <u>transgressor of the Laws</u>.

These are Laws of Righteousness found in every bible. Practicing them will bring you to Righteousness.

● I Yahchanan 3:4, 7—

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

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

The Apostles were taught this Message by the Savior. Notice the Apostles' Words:

●I Yahchanan 1:5-6—

- 5 This is the Message which we have heard from Him, and declare to you: That Yahweh is Light, and in Him is no darkness; *evil*, *falsehood*, *deception*, at all.
- 6 If we say that we have fellowship with Him, but walk in darkness, we <u>lie</u> and do not practice the Truth.

● I Yahchanan 2:4—

He who says: I know Him, but does not keep His Laws, is a liar, and the Truth is not in him.

●I Yahchanan 1:7-9—

- 7 But if we walk in the Light, as He is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Yahshua Messiah His Son cleanses us from all sin.
- 8 If we say that <u>we have no sin, we deceive ourselves</u>, and the Truth is not in us.
- 9 If we confess our sins, He is Faithful and Just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

• 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.

Notice, your sins are not blotted out unless you convert to practicing Yahweh's Law, turning from sin, which is the breaking of Yahweh's Laws.

Continued on page 23

Live Radio Program!

Don't miss the Last Days' Witness Yisrayl Hawkins every other Sunday morning at 10:00 am Eastern Standard Time (9:00 am CST) or Sunday afternoon at 1:30 pm EST (12:30 pm CST) from Atlanta, Georgia! Now just type in **www.love860.com/streamer/streamer.html**. This will launch the media player that will open the radio stream. You can also go to **www.yahweh.com** and click on the link at our website .

PLEASE NOTE LINK CHANGE.

The Savior's Name Is Not Jesus

One of most important things we should know as people who strive to do the Will of the Heavenly Father is the Name of our Savior. The importance of knowing this Man's name cannot be overstated. Names were and are very important to the Hebrew people, and their meanings are of great significance not only to individuals, but also to entire families.

The name Jesus is an invention of man which in no way carries the meaning of the True Name of the Savior mentioned in the New Testament. The simple fact (which is easily proven from authoritative sources) is that the Savior was born a Hebrew, and He had a Hebrew name. Do you know that there is no such name as "Jesus" in the Hebrew language?

Reading from *The Encyclopedia Judaica*, Volume 10, page 10, we find that the supposed name Jesus is actually the common Greek form of the Hebrew Name Joshua.

JESUS (d. 30 c.e.), whom Christianity sees as its founder and object of faith, was a Jew who lived toward the end of the Second Commonwealth period.

The Name, Birth, and Death Date of Jesus. Jesus is the common Greek form of the Hebrew name Joshua. Jesus' father, Joseph, his mother, Mary (in Heb. Miriam), and his brothers James (in Heb. Jacob), Joses (Joseph), Judah, and Simon (Mark 6:3) likewise bore very popular Hebrew names.

• The Encyclopedia Judaica, Volume 12, page 805, gives us additional information, this time concerning the Hebrew spelling of Joshua, which is yod-heh-waw-shin-ayin. Notice:

The <u>first personal name</u> that was definitely <u>constructed</u> <u>with the tetragrammaton</u> is $u \checkmark bhy$, (Joshua).

This source also points out to us that this name, correctly pronounced Yahshua, is a compound name constructed with the Tetragrammaton, which is the Name Yahweh (hwhy). The Name Yahshua follows the common practice among the True Worshipers of Yahweh, in forming and using compound names which brought Glory to Yahweh's Name.

• The Jewish Encyclopedia, Volume 9, page 153, tells us this about compound names which glorify Yahweh:

A distinctive characteristic of Bible onomatology is the frequency of composite names, which form at times even complete sentences, as in the case of Isaiah's son Shear—jashub (= "the remnant shall return").

In the majority of cases these composite names are theophorous, referring to, or actually mentioning...the name of YHWH.

• The Interpreter's Dictionary, Volume 3, page 505, tells us:

There is an increasing tendency, especially in the 7th Century b.c. to use compound names which state a fact or express a wish... The most numerous are names compounded with 'YAH'... which number over 150 and are almost entirely personal or family names.

The Name Yahshua is just such a compound Name. It is a combination of Yahweh's Name in a personal name (YAH: yod-heh) and SHUA (shin-ayin), which means: Salvation. The Hebrew-English Lexicon of the Old Testament, by Brown, Driver, and Briggs, page 221, tells us that the Name Yahshua means Yahweh is Salvation.

 $UW \circ hy_{\dagger}$ $\underline{UV hh} y_{\dagger}$ and (later) $UW \circ y_{\dagger} = n.pr.m.$ (& loc., v. 9 infr.) ('y is salvation, or 'y is opulence, ...in

any case it came to be associated with uvy, <u>cf. Mat I</u>²¹; <u>on uWvy</u> v. esp. Frä^{VOJiv, 1890, 332 f. Müll Sk 1892, 177, f. who cite analog & Nes 1.c.)—1. Moses' successor, son of Nun, (G 'Ihsou $\mathfrak D$ u $\mathfrak W$ vohy+ $\mathfrak D$ t $\mathfrak 3^{21}$ <u>Ju $\mathfrak 2^7$;=uv $\mathfrak W$ hy+</u>}

● The Hebraic Tongue Restored, by Fabre d'Olivet, page 462, gives us this information concerning the Hebrew word, shua. We find that this word comes from the word Yasha:

u? shuh. Every idea of <u>conservation</u>, <u>restoration</u>, <u>cementation</u>.

u? In a literal sense, lime, cement; in a figurative sense, that which consolidates, guarantees: which serves as safe-guard; which preserves.

• Gesenius' Hebrew-Chaldee Lexicon To The Old Testament, page 811, tells us:

UOV ...not used in Kal,
i.q.uvy—(1) TO BE AMPLE,
BROAD; hence—
(2) to be rich, wealthy (see uov,
uov No. 1).
(3) to be freed from danger and
distress (compare uvy).

• The Hebrew-English Lexicon of the Old Testament, by Brown, Driver, and Briggs, page 447, tells us about the word yasha.

Thus we have $u \vee why$ (yod-heh-waw-

shin-ayin). This name is correctly his Sun worship, he instructed pronounced Yah-shu-a. Eusebius to convene the first of

The Harper Bible Dictionary, by Paul Achtemeier, page 474, shows us that the form Yeshua or Jesus is not even a Hebrew name:

Jeshua (Heb., "Yahweh is salvation"), <u>the Aramaic form of</u> Joshua.

Rather than this name being correctly written and spoken "Yahshua" (containing Yahweh's Powerful Name), its new form was "Yeshua," meaning *He will save*. Not only was Yahweh's Name removed from the correct name (Yahshua) written in its new form (Yeshua), but Yahweh's Power was removed from it as well.

So Where Did The Name Jesus Come From?

In fact it was the Roman emperor Constantine who came up with the name Jesus Christ. If you really want to know the truth, read the following historical records. You will be shocked!

The First Council of gods were tabled for discussion. "As Nicaea and the "missing" yet, no God had been selected by the council, and so they balloted in

Thus, the first ecclesiastical gathering in history was summoned and is today known as the Council of Nicaea. It was a bizarre event that provided many details of early clerical thinking and presents a clear picture of the intellectual climate prevailing at the time. <u>It</u> was at this gathering that Christianity was born and the ramifications of decisions made at the time are difficult to calculate. About four years prior to chairing the Council, Constantine had been initiated into the religious order of Sol Invictus, one of the two thriving cults that regarded the Sun as the one and only Supreme God (the other was Mithraism). Because of

his Sun worship, he instructed Eusebius to convene the first of three sittings on the summer solstice, 21 June 325 (Catholic Encyclopedia, New Edition, vol. i, p. 792), and it was "held in a hall of Osius's palace" (Ecclesiastical History Bishop Louis Dupin, Paris, 1986, vol. i, p. 598).

From his extensive research into Church councils, Dr Watson concluded that "the clergy at the Council of Nicaea were all under the power of the devil and the convention was composed of the lowest rabble and patronised the vilest abominations" (An Apology for Christianity, op. cit.). It was that infantile body of men who were responsible for the commencement of a new religion and the theological creation of Jesus Christ.

Constantine's intention at Nicaea was to create an entirely new god for his empire who would unite all religious factions under one deity. Presbyters were asked to debate and decide who their new god would be. ...the names of 53 gods were tabled for discussion. "As yet, no God had been selected by the council, and so they balloted in order to determine that matter... For one year and five months the balloting lasted..." (God's Book of Eskra, Prof. S.L. MacGuire's translation, Salisbury, 1922, chapter xlviii, paragraphs 36, 41).

At the end of that time, Constantine returned to the gathering to discover that the presbyters had not agreed on a new deity but had balloted down to a short list of five prospects: Caesar, Krishna, Mithra, Horus and Zeus (Historia Ecclesiastica, Eusebius, c. 325). Constantine was the ruling spirit at Nicaea and he ultimately decided upon a new god for them. To involve British factions, he ruled that the name of the Druid god, Hesus, be joined with the Eastern

Saviour-god, Krishna (Krishna is Sanskrit for Christ), and thus Hesus Krishna would be the official name of the new Roman god. A vote was taken and it was with a majority show of hands (161 votes to 157) that both divinities become one God. Following long-standing heathen custom, Constantine used the official gathering and the Roman apotheosis decree to legally deify two deities as one, and did so by democratic consent. A new god was proclaimed and "officially" ratified by Constantine (Acta Concilii Nicaeni, 1618). That purely political act of deification effectively and legally placed Hesus and Krishna among the Roman gods as one individual composite. That abstraction lent Earthly existence to amalgamated doctrines of the Empire's new religion; and because there was no letter "J" in alphabets until around the sixteenth century, the name subsequently evolved into "Jesus Christ".

Nexus Magazine, Volume 14, Number 4

There was not even a "J" sound in the English language until the 1600s. We must remember also, the fact that there is no "J" in the Hebrew language. Even the modern English "J" was not in use until the sixteenth century.

No! Jesus Christ is not the Savior's Name! The Savior's Name is Yahshua, meaning Yahweh will save His People from their sins.

For complete and thorough proof on this subject, ask about our book, *In Seach Of A Savior*.

Keep this article handy and when the nuclear wars start, remember the persecuted House of Yahweh. We are being persecuted severely at this time but this is the only place on earth promised protection from things to come because we teach and practice Righteousness.

HALLOWEN!

Sacrifices Of The Dead

Each year, on the last day of the Roman month of October, millions of people seem to enjoy a night filled with fun and games. Parties abound. The dressing up in costumes that represent devils, demons, and witches are all part of the tradition that is Halloween. "Trick or Treat" is the phrase for the night and childish pranks are played. "Of course, this is all done for pleasure, and it is just for the children, they need to have a nice time and enjoy life!"

The celebration of Halloween is an established custom in the United States, the British Commonwealth, and various Scandinavian Countries.

The Yearbook of English Festivals, by Dorothy Gladys Spicer, 1954, pages 153-157, are displayed, showing us the ancient meanings of Halloween, All Saints Day and All Souls Day. All of these are part of the ancient sacrifices of the dead.

ALL HALLOWS' EVE

October 31. All Hallows' Eve or All Hallow E'en, with its tradition of witches, ghosts, hobgoblins and sprites, its games and incantations, still is a gay time for pranks and parties in many North Country homes. Fun-loving Americans have borrowed from their British ancestors many Hallow E'en games, such as apple-bobbing, nut roasting and tossing of apple parings.

To ancient Druids, the end of October commemorated the festival of the waning year, when the sun began his downward course and ripened grain was garnered from the fields. Samhain, or "Summer's End," as this feast to the dying sun was called, was celebrated with human sacrifice, augury and prayer; for at this season spirits walked and evil had power over souls of men.

Not until the fourth century did the pagan vigil for the god of light give way to All Hallows, the mass for Christian saints; and not until the tenth, did the Druids' death feast become All Souls', the day of prayer for souls that had entered rest.

Cakes for the dead were substituted for human sacrifice, fortune-telling for heathen augury, lighted candles for the old Baal fires.

Gradually, the last night of October—first a Druid feast, then a Christian holy day—emerged as a night of gaiety, when young people played games and read fortunes from simple objects, such as apples, cabbages, or nuts.

Though many old All Hallow E'en customs have disappeared survivals of All Souls' (November 2), as will be seen, still exist in many communities. Soulers, not very unlike American Halloween mummers, still make village rounds and beg for "soul cakes," instead of "something for Halloween."

ALL SAINTS' AND ALL SOULS'

November 1 and 2

The early English Church called All Saints', the feast to commemorate all the saints, All Hallows, Hallow E'en, All Saints' and All Souls' (October 31, November 1 and 2, respectively) share a common tradition. The three festivals concern remembrance of departed souls. Hallow E'en, as already noted, is celebrated with games and divination rites, since people once believed spirits of the dead walked abroad on this night. All Saints' and All Souls', on the other hand, are popularly observed with "souling" customs and plays. Originally, these demonstrations were intended to honor the faithful departed and to ease the pain of the bereaved.

"Souling," or "Soul-caking," is the custom descended from pre-Reformation times, of going about on All Saints' or All Souls' and begging for cakes, in remembrance of the dead. The Soulers, singing verses inherited from a remote past, are rewarded with "soul cakes."

Once soulers of certain villages began their rounds with services in the parish church, the cakes householders gave were in exchange for prayers for the dead, a "charity" for the departed. In other words, soul cakes were intended as a bread dole to the community poor. Bonfires, "to light souls out of purgatory," and the ringing of church bells, also characterized old-time observances.

In *The Book of Festival Holidays*, 1964, by Marguerite Ickis, pages 123-125, we are shown the meaning behind the traditions of Halloween.

The custom of holding a festival at harvest time goes back over two thousand years. The last day of the year on the old pagan calendar, October 31, served the triple purpose of bidding goodby to summer, welcoming winter and remembering the dead. The Irish built tremendous bonfires on hilltops to offer encouragement to the waning sun and to provide a warm welcome for visiting sprites and ghosts that walked about in the night.

More fearful of spooks than spouses, folks began hollowing out turnips and pumpkins and placing lighted candles inside to scare evil spirits from the house. Why was the result called a "jack-o'-lantern"? Tradition says that an Irish Jack, too wicked for heaven and expelled from hell for playing tricks on the devil, was condemned to walk the earth with a lantern forever.

It was the Irish, too, who initiated the "trick or treat" system hundreds of years ago. Groups of Irish farmers would go from house to house soliciting food for the village Halloween festivities in the name of no less a personage than Muck Olla (ancient god of Irish clergy). Prosperity was promised to cheerful givers and threats made against tightfisted donors. It was the custom for English children to dress up in each other's clothes (boys donning girls' outfits and vice versa) and, wearing masks, to go begging from door to door for "soul cakes."

Surprisingly, <u>Halloween was scarcely observed in the United States until the last half of the nineteenth century</u>. It is thought the large-scale Irish immigration had much to do with the popularizing of the holiday...

The following excerpt is from *The Book of Holidays*, 1958, by J. Walker McSpadden, pages 149-153.

Halloween, in spite of the fact that it takes its name from a Christian festival (All Hallows or All Saints' Day), comes

<u>from pagan times</u> and has never taken on a Christian significance.

There were two different festivals in the early world at this time of year, and they are both represented in our own Halloween activities. When you duck for apples, or throw an apple paring over your shoulder to see what initial it makes on the floor, you are doing as the Romans did-honoring Pomona, the Roman goddess of orchards and especially of apple orchards. And when you light a candle inside the jeering pumpkin face, you are in a small way imitating the Celtic Druids of northern Britain (described in the chapter on Saint Patrick's Day), who lit a fire to scare away winter and the evil spirits who were waiting to come rushing in when summer was over.

On that night between October and November, the Druids kindled great fires on the hills as a barrier against the evil to come. (These Halloween fires still burn every year in many places, but especially in Scotland and Wales). By waving burning wisps of plaited straw aloft on pitchforks, people tried to frighten off demons and witches, but just in case this didn't work, they also put on grotesque and terrifying costumes. For if you dressed in a horrible enough fashion and went trooping around with the spirits all night, they would think you were one of them, and do you no harm. This is where the persistent Halloween custom of "dressing up" and wearing masks originated; and among the children who come to the door on Halloween, calling "trick or treat," the most alarming costumes are still considered the best.

Other northern peoples in the Germanic and Scandinavian countries also lived in terror of "the raging rout," as they called the evil spirits whom they believed to be led by the great god Odin.

When one studies the origins of the customs of the Christian religion, one comes to the conclusion that the pagan worship was not banished from the world. The strongest pagan religions were just incorporated into Christianity.

The book, *Strange Stories*, *Amazing Facts*, 1980, by the Readers' Digest Association, corroborates this conclusion.

Although Christianity has swept the world in a relatively short time, as the histories of great religions go, the early missionaries faced an uphill task. The pagans were reluctant to give up their false gods and ancient practices.

So the missionaries, unable to convert them easily to an entirely new code of worship, did the next best thing. They took the pagan festivals as they were and

gradually grafted the observances of the new faith onto these festivals and the rites and customs surrounding them.

Like Christmas and Easter, the festival of Halloween originated in a pagan celebration, even though its name derives from the Christian festival of All Hallows' or All Saints' Eve.

It was introduced in the seventh century to commemorate all those saints and martyrs who had no special day to themselves and was held on May 13. But in the eighth century All Hallows' Day was moved to November 1, to counteract the pagan celebrations held on that date.

October 31, the eve of November 1, was the last night of the year in the ancient Celtic calendar and was celebrated as the end of summer and its fruitfulness. It was a festival that the Celts of northern Europe marked with bonfires, to help the sun through the winter.

Only since the late 18th and early 19th centuries has Halloween developed into a festive time for children, with costumes, lanterns, and games...

In the 17th and 18th centuries, however, it was customary for "guisers"—people in weird masks and costumes—to go from house to house, singing and dancing to keep evil at bay, or to go about as representations of the ghosts and goblins of the night.

Trick or treat

This custom has survived today in many parts of the world, as a children's masquerade. In the United States costumed children go from door to door in a ritual known as trick or treat. They usually carry a sack and threaten to play a trick on householders if they are not given a "treat", in the form of candy or cookies.

The Halloween lantern, made from a hollowed-out pumpkin or turnip with a candle inside it, is a relic from the days when food offerings were made to the spirits of the dead.

Yahweh Tells Us

● Leviticus 19:31—

Do not turn to mediums nor familiar spirits. Do not seek after them, to be defiled by them. I am Yahweh.

Deuteronomy 18:10-11—

10 Let there not be found among you one who sacrifices his son or his daughter in the fire, who practices divination or sorcery, interprets omens, engages in witchcraft,

11 <u>Casts spells, or who consults familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer.</u>

The tradition of Halloween is steeped in just the abominations Yahweh told us not to whore after. Consulting these abominations is worship. It is the worship of demons, and not of Yahweh.

● I Corinthians 10:20-21—

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

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.

All of the customs of this pagan celebration called Halloween, which have come down to this sin–sick world as fun and games have originated with baal worship, which Yahweh hates.

Deuteronomy 4:1-2—

1 Hear now, O Israyl, the Statutes and the Judgments which I teach you to observe and do, that you may live, and go in and possess the land which Yahweh, the Heavenly Father of your fathers, is giving you.

2 You shall not add to the Word which I command you, nor shall you take anything from it, so that you may keep the Laws of Yahweh your Father which I command you.

Add Nothing To: Take Nothing From

We realize that many Halloween articles appear in different newspapers around the United States, but in each article, the conclusion is: Somehow, all this pagan worship has now been accepted by the Creator, and since it is now only in fun, there is little or no harm in re-enacting these traditions. But, to coin an old phrase, "a rose by any other name is still a rose."

To know these traditions and customs are the worship of pagan gods, and then to still participate in them, is actually worse than not knowing at all! It is classified as an abominable sin to Yahweh.

Hebrews 10:26—

For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the Truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins.

The worldly preachers claiming to follow the Scriptures are afraid to condemn these pagan practices. They are afraid to rock the big boat that brings them so much wealth, yet there is no Scripture that condones these practices. Search the Holy Scriptures from Genesis through Revelation and

you will only find the warning to come out from among them.

• Revelation 18:4-

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.

Yahweh commands us to follow His instruction, not adding to it, nor diminishing from it, that we may live.

● Deuteronomy 4:2—

You shall not add to the Word which I command you, nor shall you take anything from it, so that you may keep the Laws of Yahweh your Father which I command you.

Revelation 22:14—

Blessed are those who keep His Laws, that they may have right to the Tree of Life, and may enter in through the gates into the City.

There is no blessing from Yahweh for know them by their fruits, as we find the practice of this pagan worship. Yahweh does pronounce many curses for these worshipers (Deuteronomy 28:16-68).

Preachers today condemn the Laws of Yahweh, while they condone these pagan practices. Whose side are they on? The Apostle Shaul answers this question in:

Romans 6:16—

Do you not know that to whom you yield yourselves as servants to obey, his servants you are whom you obeywhether of sin, which leads to death. or of obedience, which leads to Righteousness?

Y ahshua warned us, over and over, about false preachers who would teach against the Laws of Yahweh, while they serve Satan. He said you will your guide to Eternal Life?

in **Mattithyah**.

● Mattithyah 7:16-20—

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

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

18 A Righteous tree cannot bring forth fruit of iniquity, nor can a tree of evil bring forth fruits of Righteousness.

19 Every tree which does not bring forth Righteous fruit is cut down, and cast into the fire.

20 Therefore, by their fruits you will know them.

Will you follow these false preachers who teach this pagan god worship? Will you accept the ways of baal any more, now that you know this way is condemned by the Word of Yahweh.

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THANKSGIVING DAY:

Pagan Harvest Festival

From the propaganda of public schools every American thinks he knows how Thanksgiving originated; in 1620 the small band of pilgrims of Plymouth Colony braved the perilous North Atlantic in quest of religious freedom. They landed in November and faced winter with meager supplies of food that dwindled rapidly. Because the summer was blessed with rain and the autumn harvest was plentiful, the pilgrim colony, appropriately grateful, established a day of thanksgiving and invited the local Indians to share their bounty. Supposedly, this is the origin of the holiday known as Thanksgiving and it is so pure and holy that everycan now observe this Thanksgiving day with a clear conscience, knowing that this is pleasing to Yahweh.

The truth is rather different. The Plymouth Colony was not the first English Colony to land on American shores, nor were they the first to offer thanks. The first Thanksgiving day service in what was to become the United States was the one held on August 9, 1607, by colonists en route to found the short-lived Popham Colony at what is now Phippsburg, Maine

The first permanent English settlement in America was founded at Jamestown, on the James River in Virginia, also in 1607. As early as December 4, 1619, the settlers set aside a day to give thanks for the survival of their small company. Their day of thanks continued to be observed on December 4 until 1622, when a conflict with Indians almost devastated the colony. [The American Book of Days, by Jane M. Hatch, 1978, pages 1053-1054.]

The official historical pilgrim Thanksgiving day was not even a day completely given to thanks and praise, as the pilgrims were accustomed to doing. This day was primarily a show of military power for the Indians.

Thanksgiving, An American Holiday, An American History, by Diana Karter Applebaum, pages 7-11, tells us the true story of the pilgrims' feast in the fall of 1621.

Landing at Plymouth in December 1620, the Pilgrims faced winter without an adequate food supply, sheltered from the elements only by such dwellings as they could build quickly...

The first autumn, an ample harvest insured that the colony would have food for the winter months. Governor Bradford, with one eye on the divine Providence, proclaimed a day of thanksgiving to God, and with the other eye on the local political situation, extended an invitation to neighboring Indians to share in the harvest feast. In order to guarantee that the feast served to cement a peaceful relationship, the three-day long meal was punctuated by displays of the power of English muskets for the benefit of suitably impressed Indian quests.

This "first Thanksgiving" was a feast called to suit the needs of the hour, which were to celebrate the harvest, thank the Lord for His goodness, and regale and impress the Indians. We have Edward Winslow's testimony that the feast was a success:

Thanksgivings were holy days of solemn prayer in the Puritan lexicon, days akin to sabbaths and feast days on which "Recreations" and "exercising of Armes" would not have been countenanced. Had the governor proclaimed a day of thanksgiving to Almighty God, Edward Winslow, one of the Pilgrim Fathers, would have written about the religious services the settlers held. Thus this feast was more harvest celebration than prayerful day of thanksgiving.

Preparing a feast for 90 Indians and 50 settlers must have taxed the strength of the four Englishwomen and two teenage girls on hand to do the cooking... They

worked with the resources at hand, and, although they successfully fed the hungry men, the feast bore little resemblance to the modern Thanksgiving dinner...

...Oysters, clams and fish rounded out the abundant, but far from epicurean, <u>feast</u> <u>that the celebrators would have been more</u> <u>likely to call a "harvest home" than a</u> "thanksgiving" celebration.

However satisfying it would be to point to a particular day and say, "This was the first Thanksgiving," it definitely would not be the truth. This American holiday gradually grew up in the culture of Puritan New England, an origin more complex than the legend the public schools have nurtured for generations.

The Harvest Home

The *Encyclopedia Britannica*, 1980, Volume 5, tells of **harvest home**:

Harvest Home, also called <u>Ingathering</u>, traditional English harvest festival, <u>celebrated from antiquity and surviving to modern times</u> in isolated regions. Participants celebrate the last day of harvest by singing, shouting, and decorating the village with boughs

• Observations on the Popular Antiquities of Great Britain, by John Brand, George Bell and Sons, pages 16-33 gives a complete description of harvest home. A few excerpts are displayed here:

HARVEST HOME

Macrobius tells us that, among the Heathens, the heads of families, when they had got in their harvest, were wont to feast with their servants who had laboured for them in tilling the ground.

The respect shown to servants at this season seems to have sprung from a grateful sense of their services. Everything depends at this juncture on their labour and despatch. <u>Vacina</u> (or Vacuna), among the ancients, was the name of the <u>goddess</u> to whom rustics sacrificed at the con-

clusion of harvest.

Moresin tells us the popery, in imitation of this, brings home her chaplets of corn, which she suspends on poles; that offerings are made on the altars of her tutelar gods, while thanks are returned for the collected stores, and prayers are made for future ease and rest.

In a Journey into England, by Paul Hentzner, in the year 1598, ed. 1757, p.79, speaking of Windsor, he says: 'As we were returning to our inn, we met some country people celebrating their <u>Harvest Home</u>; their last load of corn they crown with flowers, having besides an image richly dressed, by which perhaps they would signify <u>Ceres</u>"...

Hutchinson, in his History of Northumberland, ii. ad finem, 17, says, 'I have seen in some places, an image apparelled in great finery, crowned with flowers, a sheaf of corn placed under her arm, and a scycle in her hand, carried out of the village in the morning of the conclusive reaping day, with music and much clamour of the reapers, into the field, where it stands fixed on a pole all day, and when the reaping is done, is brought home in like manner. This they call the Harvest Queen, and it represents the Roman Ceres.'

The Oxford English Dictionary, Oxford, Clarendon Press, London, England, pages 108-109, tells us of harvest home and the harvest queen.

Harvest home, harvest-home.

- 1. The fact, occasion, or time of bringing home the last of the harvest; the close of the harvesting.
- b. A shout or song of rejoicing on that occasion.
- 2. The festival or merry-making to celebrate the successful homing of the corn, called in Scotland 'the kirn'. (Now rarely held.)

Harvest queen. A name given a. to <u>Ceres</u>, <u>the goddess of agriculture and crops</u>; b. to a young woman chosen from the reapers (or an image or doll dressed up, cf. *harvest-doll*), to whom was given a post of honour at the harvest-home.

Thanksgiving, An American Holiday, An American History, Applebaum, pages 19-29, tells us the truth about the ancestors of this holiday.

...it was in the towns of the Connecticut River valley and the farming villages of Plymouth Colony that the holiday as we know it evolved. Neither created intentionally nor copied from a paradigmatic "first Thanksgiving," the new celebration was a synthesis of four distinct and ancient traditions, elements of which united in the unique cultural milieu of Puritan New England to give birth to Thanksgiving. The newborn Thanksgiving holiday had a Puri-

tan "mother" from Connecticut, a Pilgrim "father" from Plymouth and, for "grand-parents," four traditions from the Old World.

Harvest Home

New Englanders came from Old England, where the Harvest Home-one of the "grandparents" of Thanksgiving-was celebrated. The Harvest Home was a holiday on which the villagers joined together to bring together the last loads of grain from the fields and share a merry feast when the work was done. English villages followed local harvest customs: some dressed a maiden in white to ride atop a loaded cart as "Queen of the Harvest." Others fashioned a figure from the grain itself to be robed in a white gown and set in the center of a circle of rejoicing farmers. There was sufficient taint of idol worship and evidence of licentious behavior in the old English Harvest Home for Puritans to reject the custom summarily. They recoiled from these remnants of the pagan customs that predated Christianity in England, but memories of the harvest feast lingered all the same.

Christmas

Like the Harvest Home, Christmas-another of the old-world "grandparents" of Thanksgiving-was remembered but not celebrated by the Puritans. The practice of designating the day of Jesus' birth, and especially of making merry on that day, were viewed as one of the grave errors of the churches of both Rome and England and as a departure from the purity of the early church.

The spirit of Christmas, however, was sorely missed, and during the 1600s, when Thanksgiving was becoming a popular festival, small pieces of the English Christmas crept into the celebration of the Yankee Thanksgiving. Those quintessential English Christmas dishes, plum pudding and mince pie, became as indispensable a part of the Thanksgiving menu as turkey and pumpkin pie itself.

Civil Proclamations

Thanksgiving Day, our unique American holiday, ought not to be confused with still a third "grandparent," the special days of thanksgiving proclaimed by civil authorities in Europe and throughout the American colonies. When some stroke of extraordinary good fortune befell a nation, the civil authorities often declared a day of thanksgiving and prayer, marked by special services in every church.

Religious Proclamations

Fourth "grandparent" to the American Thanksgiving Day was the tradition of individual Puritan congregations declaring days of thanksgiving and prayer.

Synthesis of the Traditions

The Thanksgiving holiday born in Puritan New England in the 1630's and 1640's was shaped by four traditions the Harvest Home, Christmas, proclamations of civic thanksgiving and congregational days of thanksgiving and prayer.

Connecticut made Thanksgiving day an annual festival for the ordinary blessings of the year and for the fruits of the earth, a new holiday was born which was based upon ancient practices. *The American Book of Days*, by Jane M. Hatch, page 1053, tells us:

Although Thanksgiving is one of the most popular holidays in the United States, the idea of setting aside a day to express gratitude for good fortune did not originate in this country. In ancient times many peoples held special festivals in the autumn to give thanks for bountiful harvests. The Greeks honored Demeter, their goddess of agriculture, with a nineday celebration, and in a similar fashion the Romans paid tribute to Ceres (identified with Demeter). After the crops had been gathered, the Anglo-Saxons rejoiced at a "harvest home," which featured a hearty feast. In Scotland the harvest celebration was known as a kirn and included special church services and a substantial dinner.

Thus, since most of the settlers who came to America probably had known some form of thanksgiving day in their homelands, it is not surprising that they transplanted this custom to the New World.

• Celebrations: The Comprehensive Book of American Holidays, by Robert J. Myers, pages 271-272, tells us:

The Pilgrims, who in 1621 observed our initial Thanksgiving holiday, were not a people especially enthusiastic about the celebration of festivals. In fact, these austere and religious settlers of America

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would have been dismayed had they known of the long and popular history of harvest festivals, of which their Thanksgiving was only the latest.

The harvest festival, with its attendant rites, seems to have spread out from a relatively small area of land, from Egypt and Syria and Mesopotamia. The first or the last sheaf of wheat was offered to the "Great Mother," or the "Mother of the Wheat"—for the earth-power was essentially a feminine force. Astarte was the Earth Mother of the ancient Semites; to the Phrygians she was Semele; under the name of Demeter she was worshiped by the Greeks at the famous Eleusinian Mysteries; Ceres, the Roman goddess of corn, presided over the October Cerelia.

Thanksgiving for the plentiful foods did not just come into the mind of Governor Bradford in the year 1621 c.e. as some imagine. On the contrary, the pagan harvest festivals can be traced to the land of Ancient Babylon and the worship of the original great mother. *Unger's Bible Dictionary*, Moody Press, page 413, tells us that **Astarte** is the Greek name for **Ashtoreth**, the Canaanite goddess of sensual love, maternity, and fertility. Licentious worship was conducted in her honor at her shrines.

Our Wonderful World, by Grolier Incorporated, Volume 17, page 220, tells us of the **harvest festivals**.

The Harvest Festivals

We often think of Thanksgiving as an American holiday, begun by the Pilgrims in Plymouth in 1621. At that time, so the story runs, the survivors among the Mayflower passengers celebrated their first harvest in the New World. Actually a thanksgiving for the annual harvest is one of the oldest holidays known to mankind, though celebrated on different dates. In Chaldea, in ancient Egypt, and in Greece, the harvest festival was celebrated with great rejoicing. From Holidays Around the World, by Joseph Gaer, by permission of Little, Brown & Co. Copyright, 1953, by Joseph Gaer. Revised by editor, 1959.

The <u>Romans</u> celebrated their <u>Thanksgiving</u> early in October. The holiday was <u>dedicated</u> to the goddess of the harvest, <u>Ceres</u>, and the holiday was called Cerelia. (That is where the word "cereal" comes from).

From Rome to the New World

The Christians took over the Roman holiday and it became well established in England, where some of the Roman customs and rituals for this day were observed long after the Roman Empire had disappeared.

In England the "harvest home" has been observed continuously for centuries. The custom was to select a harvest queen for this holiday. She was decorated with the grain of their fields and the fruit of their trees. On Thanksgiving Day she was paraded through the streets in a carriage drawn by white horses. This was a remnant of the Roman ceremonies in honor of Ceres. But the English no longer thought of Ceres or cared much about her. They went to church on this day and sang their Thanksgiving songs.

The Pilgrims brought the "harvest in" to Massachusetts. But they gave it a slightly new meaning, since they were thankful for much more than their harvest.

The merriment of the <u>harvest festivals</u> is older than recorded human history.

Thanksgiving day worship is merely the ancient fertility rites veneered with the respectability of Christianity. However, the fact still remains, that it is ancient fertility worship. The Apostle Shaul tells us of the gods, and the sacrifices to these gods:

● I Corinthians 10:20-21—

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.

The Apostle Shaul has told us that the things the Gentiles sacrifice are sacrificed to the demons, and we are not to have any fellowship with this demon worship.

• Romans 12:2—

And do not be conformed to *the pattern of* this world; but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may *be able* to *test and* prove what is the Righteous, and acceptable, and Perfect Will of Yahweh.

● I Yahchanan 2:15, 17—

15 <u>Do not love the world, nor the things that are in the world.</u> If anyone loves the world, the Love of the Father is not in him.

17 And the world passes away, with the lust that is in it; but <u>he who</u> does the Will of Yahweh abides forever.

● I Yahchanan 5:19—

We know that we belong to Yahweh, and that <u>the whole world is under the</u> control of the evil one.

It is an absolute fact that the world only loves worldly things. This holiday called Thanksgiving was used to help cement relations between the north and the south directly after the Civil War in the United States. *The American Book of Days*, by Hatch, page 26, tells us:

The establishment of a national Thanksgiving Day on a permanent annual basis was largely the result of the work of Sarah Josepha Hale. ... Hale's editorial appeared at a significant moment. The Civil War divided the nation into two armed camps in 1863. Despite the staggering loss of human life, the battle of Gettysburg was an important victory for the North. The result produced great rejoicing throughout the North, and this general feeling of elation, together with the clamor produced by Hale's editorials, undoubtedly prompted Abraham Lincoln to issue the proclamation on October 3, 1863, setting a last Thursday in November 1863 as a national Thanksgiving Day.

The world still loves this holiday, for it is now the beginning of the Christmas shopping season, which is so dear to merchants everywhere, and the signal for innumerable football games, so dear to fans everywhere. Continuing from *The American Book of Days*:

After three centuries as a holiday in its own right, <u>Thanksgiving</u> was rudely demoted to serve as <u>the official opening day of the Christmas shopping season</u>....and Madison Avenue saw <u>Thanksgiving as a handy way to promote Christmas sales</u>.

In 1921, Gimbel's Department Store in Philadelphia sponsored the first Thanksgiving parade designed to kick off and promote the holiday buying season.

...The charge of commercialization could not be rebutted. Macy's responded to the claim of interference with churchgoing by scheduling the parade for 1:00 P.M. that year, but it was soon back in its morning time slot. The afternoon schedule would conflict with Thanksgiving football games and by the 1920s, that was the more serious conflict for many families.

So, when anyone, or any book, tries to tell you that Thanksgiving day is really in honor of Yahweh, you will know differently.

Please note that our monthly *Prophetic Word* magazine, monthly Newsletter and various booklets are available free for your viewing or downloading on our Internet site: www.yahweh.com.

True Stories About

CHRISTMAS

Christmas is the most commercialized holiday of the year. People overspend to buy gifts for their friends and relatives. They try to celebrate what they believe is the birth of their Savior, who was sacrificed for their sins.

In our own Holy Scriptures, long before the birth of the Messiah, the Creator speaks of the festival of Christmas being celebrated, as **Yeremyah 10:1-5** indicates.

The Encyclopedia Britannica, Volume II, under **Christmas**, says:

In the Roman world, the <u>Saturnalia</u> was a time of <u>merrymaking and exchanging of gifts. December 25th</u> was also regarded as the <u>birthdate</u> of the Iranian Mystery god, <u>Mithra, the Sun of Righteousness</u>.

In A Book of Christmas, by William Sansom, McGraw-Hill, pages 28-39, we find the following information:

...Early Northern people, who had no exact astronomical findings began their Winter festivals earlier...in November... when the signs of the sun's recession... (dying) and the scarcity of animal food made the slaughter of the increase of the herd necessary. Later, the ceremonies moved forward to mid-December and the anticipation of the Saturnalia... that wonderful, heartwarming, emotional festival introduced by the Romans by their occupation of the then-known world.

In Roman Times...a Pre-Christian Message of 'peace and god's will' to all men accompanied the Saturnalia. The Saturnalia was within the solstice and Saturnalia-Kalendae period... starting December 17 and going through January 1st. The first period of feasting was generally for seven days. The god celebrated was Saturn... farmer of a former gold age and eater of his own children.

The giving of presents... particularly candles and dolls called Sigillaria also derives from the insistent origin of human sacrifice at this time of year.

Directly following the Saturnalia was the Kalendae... more mathematically

concerned with the date of the <u>new Roman year</u>...and the <u>celebration of the god Janus</u>, god of doors (as a two-way engine) who looks back on the past and forward to the future.

One may think of the Saturnalia as 'Roman in Rome'...but the truth is: The Roman Empire was a world-ruling empire at that time. The customs of Rome were spread to all the known world. It was an empire-wide celebration. All the people in this Empire, save only a few... gathered in their homes to drink wine... to dance and sing... to light their candles and exchange presents...giving their children the little clay dolls that represented their former sacrifices.

Many other customs have become engrafted into the <u>ancient celebration</u> occurring at this time of year. Mummers and Wild Men roam the British Isles and Europe. The <u>evergreen tree is an ancient custom</u> incorporated. The Vikings gave their Yule... the <u>druids</u> donated their <u>magic mistletoe</u>... the <u>Father Christmas</u> in Briton and the <u>Santa Claus of German origin</u> were all donated and incorporated into the holidays known <u>worldwide as Christmas</u> and New Year.

It was <u>not until the middle of the fourth century c.e.</u> that the birth of the Messiah was officially celebrated at the time of year when the lighting of fires... <u>the praising of the new sun</u>... relaxation and feasting was set <u>on the very same date as that of the birth of the sun god...</u> <u>Mithra</u>.

MITHRAISM: The worship of Mithra shared many similarities with the newer Christian ceremonies. There was baptism, a sacramental meal, and observance of Sunday, and the god himself was born on December 25th.

In Revelation 1:1, the Apostle Yahchanan is given the Revelation of what will shortly come to pass at the end of this age. Yahchanan is shown the end of the babylonian mystery religions that this whole deceived world worships in this very day and time.

● **Revelation 17:1-5**—

1 And there came one of the seven Malakim who had the seven bowls, and talked with me, saying to me: Come, I will show you the sentence of the great whore that sits upon many waters.

2 With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication; practiced idolatry: godworship (the worship of elohim), and the inhabitants of the earth have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication.

3 So he carried me away in the Spirit into the *midst of* godworshipers (worshipers of elohim); and I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet colored beast, <u>full of names of blasphemy</u>, having seven heads and ten horns.

4 And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet color, and decked with gold, and precious stones, and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication.

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.

In Revelation 17:5, we are shown a religion of mystery, the great whore, or great god worshiper, as this religion should be called, which brings abominations to all peoples, multitudes, nations and languages.

Collier's Encyclopedia, Volume 16, pages 349-350, tells us of these ancient mystery religions.

The mystery religions furnish an ancient example of a missionary movement. Originally they were magical ceremonies designed to induce bountiful crops. They dramatized the annual decay of vegetation in the autumn as the death of a divine youth over whom a goddess mourned. Later they celebrated with ecstatic joy the return of verdure in the spring as the coming to life again of the departed youth.

...the mystery religions continued to make converts... Though the details of these rites are unknown, because they were secret, it is evident that the drama which the initiates saw enacted was a source of great comfort to them...

<u>Mithraism</u>...seems to have had many affinities with the mystery religions, especially in its graded series of seven

stages of initiation. Mithra or Mithras was the name of an ancient deity among the Aryans. His emblem was *sol invictus*, the invincible sun, and his help was sought especially by those engaged in warfare.

In Egypt, Osiris, the sun god, the son/husband of Isis was born on <u>December 25th</u>. In the Syrian mystery religion, Astarte/Semiramis wept over Adonis/Nimrod. The birthday of Adonis, the sun god of Syria, was <u>December 25th</u>. The festival of Mithras, the sun god of ancient Persia, was celebrated on <u>December 25th</u>. Tree worship and celebrating a birthday on December 25th certainly did not start in the Christian era.

Mithraism was a well known religion in Yahshua's day. The Romans became acquainted with this religion about 200 B.C.E., by the year 200 C.E., it was popular in the Roman armies.

Diocletian, who brought the most severe persecution against The House of Yahweh, worshiped Mithras. His successor, Constantine, who was the historical savior of the Christian religion, also worshiped Mithras.

Collier's Encyclopedia, Volume 9, page 431, says:

As social and economic conditions became worse, the Roman masses turned more and more to the colorful, strongly emotional, and superstitious mystery religions imported from the East. The cults of the great mother, of Isis, and of Mithras were the most popular. They all emphasized spiritual salvation and a future life—in a word they offered comfort.

Constantine was a worshiper of Mithra. He used religious toleration for the Christians as a political ploy to strengthen his own power as the emperor of Rome.

He was still a sun worshiper when the religion that is called Christianity today was initiated.

The Last Two Million Years, by The Readers Digest Association, pages 217-218, says:

By a stroke of tactical genius the Church, while intolerant of pagan beliefs, was able to harness the powerful emotions generated by pagan worship. Often, churches were sited where temples had stood before, and many heathen festivals were added to the Christian calendar. Easter, for instance...

By harnessing the emotions generated by pagan religions, one can truthfully say that the pagan religions are a part of Christianity.

Constantine, was also the leader of the First Council of Nicaea in the year 321 C.E. Sunday worship was established for Christianity at that time.

The last, diverse kingdom that subdued three kingdoms is the religious power of papal Rome. This religious power changed the Feast Days of Yahweh to the pagan festivals that were already popular.

The most popular pagan festival was the birthday of the invincible sun on <u>December 25th</u>. The Mithraic and Roman religions were already celebrating the rebirth of the sun. It was not a hard task to place the mask of Christianity over this pagan birthdate and call it the birthday of Jesus.

Strange Stories Amazing Facts, by The Readers Digest Association, pages 283-284, says:

<u>Christmas</u> and Easter, although the greatest festivals in the Christian calendar, <u>are celebrated with customs</u> that originated in superstition and heathen <u>rites hundreds of years before Christ was born.</u>

Even the dates owe more to pagan practices than to the birth and resurrection of Jesus. It was not until the fourth century that December 25 was fixed arbitrarily as the anniversary of the Nativity—because the pagan festivals from which so many Christmas customs spring were held around that time.

Although Christianity has swept the world in a relatively short time, as the histories of great religions go, the early missionaries faced an uphill task. The pagans were reluctant to give up their false gods and ancient practices.

So the missionaries, unable to convert them easily to an entirely new code of worship, did the next best thing. They took the pagan festivals as they were and gradually grafted the observances of the new faith onto these festivals and the rites and customs surrounding them.

<u>December 25 was not called</u> <u>Christmas until the ninth century.</u> Until then it had been the Midwinter Feast, a combination of the <u>Norse Yule Festival</u> and the <u>Roman Saturnalia</u>, both of which took place in late December.

How was this deceit perpetrated on mankind? The Last Two Million Years,

by The Readers Digest Association, pages 217-218, tells us how:

...Meanwhile at the centre, in Rome itself, the popes had an efficient organization, the curia, patterned on that of the Roman Empire. Papal legates abroad reported back to the pope on shifts of policy and political power, and held a powerful diplomatic weapon in their right to refer disputes to Rome. The pope claimed the sole power to grant absolution for sin. Through the bishops and the parish priests, his authority reached into almost every corner of Europe.

The only educated people were the Roman Catholic clergy. The great majority of the population were ignorant, uneducated, and superstitious. When the priests said this was the way of worship, this was the way of worship no matter that it originated in paganism, or that it had nothing to do with the Bible.

Child Sacrifice

● *Mythology of All Religions*, Volume 5, page 52, says:

It may be presumed from the human (infant-child) sacrifices to Malik (Molech) in Canaan and to Melqart (Bel-Baal-Lord) as <u>Cronus</u> at Carthage that the Phoenicians offered the <u>first born in the fire which celebrated the Sol Invictus</u> (the <u>same Invincible Sun Constantine worshipped</u>) and insured themselves against the wrath of the relentless god. The Malik of Tyre was identified with Hercules...

Living infants and children were burned in the fire to the god Molech during this time.

Unger's Bible Dictionary, page 416 says:

Molech (molek; Heb. Melek, king), a detestable Semitic deity honored by the sacrifice of children, in which they were caused to pass through or into the fire...

Moloch (molok), another form in English (Amos 5:26; Acts 7:43) of Molech (q. v.).

● The Concise Encyclopedia of Greek and Roman Mythology, page 261, under Saturnus, we find:

A sacrifice was made to <u>Saturnus</u> in his temple with uncovered head according to the Greek observance because Saturnus had come from Greece. After

the sacrifice there was a public banquet... People exchanged presents, most frequently clay puppets (dolls) in memory of the fact Hercules (Molech) abolished human (infant-child) sacrifice when he introduced the cult of Saturnus.

This same Babylonian worship of Molech, which came down through the Greeks and Romans, through Constantine and through the great whore of **Revelation 17:1**, is worshiped by the same practices and the same customs, at the same time of year, by the whole deceived Christian world today.

Holidays Around The World, by Joseph Gaer, page 133, says:

Christmas is a very old holiday. It clearly started as a celebration of the passing of the winter solstice, and the start of the sun's return journey from the north to the south.

The ancient Romans observed this time with a festival dedicated to Saturn, the god of agriculture, and it was <u>called Saturnalia</u>. This festival was observed with great merriment and abandon. <u>Gifts were exchanged</u>.

When Emperor Constantine decreed Christianity as the new faith of the Roman Empire, early in the fourth century, the Christians gave the holiday an entirely new name and an entirely new meaning.

They called the holiday the Mass of Christ, or Christ Mass, which was shortened to <u>Christmas</u>. And <u>they declared that Christmas was the birthday of Jesus of Nazareth. Though the exact day and year when Jesus was born are not known, tradition has set the date as December 25, 4 B.C., according to our present-day reckoning.</u>

All of the practices of Christmas have come from paganism. They are merely the modern day practices of the same worship that Yahweh says is an abomination to Him.

Regardless of the fact that these pagan festivals are covered with the mask of Christian respectability—the adoration of the child; the tree worship with the burning of the yule log; ham on Christmas and New Year; exchanging of gifts; and all of the magic of this season—they are still the ancient worship of Nimrod, the mighty one of the earth who opposed Yahweh.

New Year?

The Saturnalia was celebrated up through the Calends, or first of January, as it is still being celebrated today by the whole deceived world.

The Two Babylons, by Alexander Hislop, 1959, pages 94-96, shows us:

Christmas Day among the ancient Saxons... was observed to celebrate the birth of any lord of the host of Heaven... The Saxons regarded the <u>sun as a female god</u> and the <u>moon a male god</u>. The birth of this 'Lord Moon' was on December 25th. The <u>name</u> of this 'Lord Moon' in the East... Babylonians, Chaldeans and among the Canaanites... was <u>Meni—The Numberer</u>.

According to Hislop, Gad refers to the sun god, and Meni the moon god. The people offered sacrifices to these gods in Isayah 65:11.

Holidays Around The World, by Joseph Gaer, 1953, page 137, says:

<u>The date</u> we celebrate as New Year's, like the date of Christmas, is an <u>inheritance</u> from the Romans.

Christmas and New Year go together like hand and glove today, just as they have from ancient ages.

Collier's Encyclopedia, Volume 6, page 404, tells us:

Gifts and Cards. The practice of exchanging presents at Christmas stems from the ancient Roman custom called Strenae. During the Saturnalia Roman citizens used to give "good luck" gifts (strenae) of fruits, pastry, or gold to their friends on New Year's Day.

● *Holidays Around the World*, by Joseph Gaer, pages 138-139, says:

Janus was represented among the Roman gods as having two faces. One face always looked back to the old year, and the other always looked forward to the new...

There was also great rejoicing before the gates of the temple of Janus on New Year's Day when the people gathered to do homage to the god of all beginnings. Gifts were exchanged among friends. Resolutions to be friendly and good to each other were made. And the entire day was given to festivities.

When the Romans under Constantine accepted Christianity as their new faith, they retained the Festival of Janus as their New Year's Day.

Janus, the god that the month of January is named for was the father of the gods, and at the same time the mediatorial divinity. He is identified with Bacchus or Adonis (the sun god) and was invoked in the religion of mystery as Satur, Saturn, mystery.

Saturn is identified with Cronos (or Kronos), the father of the gods. *Gods and Mortals in Classical Mythology*, Michael Grant and John Hazel, pages 124-125, tells us more about Cronos, the father of the gods:

...This aspect of Cronos links him with Saturn, the Roman god with whom he was identified. Some Greeks associated Cronos' name, wrongly, with the word chronos (time), and consequently depicted him as an old man with a scythe—Father Time.

Saturnus and Cronos are one and the same god. *The Concise Encyclopedia of Greek and Roman Mythology*, Sabine G. Ostwalt, page 261, says this about Saturnus:

...an ancient agricultural deity who came to Rome from Etruria. But he was very early identified with the Greek-Cronus and his consort was thought to be Ops (Greek-Rhea)... Saturnus introduced the cultivation of the vine and taught them to use a sickle for reaping corn; hence... his statue held a sickle.

The modern version of Father Time is that of an old man with a sickle (representing the old year) who dies at the year's end and is immediately reborn as an infant in the New Year.

Strange Stories, Amazing Facts, by The Readers Digest Association, 1980, pages 283-284, tells us of some of the customs that were transferred to Christmas and New Year:

Wearing paper hats and using firecrackers are throwbacks to the wilder excesses of ancient Rome. Yule logs and candles belong to the Norse tradition: They were symbols of fire and light, bringing welcome relief in the cold and darkness of the northern midwinter.

In the centuries that followed the Norman Conquest, as Christianity gained a firmer hold, carols and the Nativity play were added. And Father Christmas evolved as a mixture of the red-robed Lord

of Misrule and St. Nicholas (Santa Claus), the patron saint of children.



It is a proven fact that the festivities of Christmas and New Year are the same worship to the same gods which Yahweh tells us is an abomination to Him. Yahweh also says to us in:

● Yeremyah 10:2-5—

- 2 This is what Yahweh says: <u>Do not learn</u> the way; *religious practices*, of the heathen; *Gentile nations*; and do not be deceived by the signs of heaven; though the heathen are deceived by them; *using them to set their feasts*.
- 3 For the *religious* customs of the peoples *are* vain; *worthless!* For *one* cuts a tree out of the forest, the work of the hands of the workman, with the ax.
- 4 They decorate it with silver and with gold; they fasten it with nails and with hammers, so that it will not move; topple over.
- 5 They *are* upright, like a palm tree, but they cannot speak; they must be carried, because they cannot go *by themselves*. Do not give them Reverence! They cannot do evil, nor *is it* in them to do Righteousness!

Yahweh has told us emphatically, "Do not learn the way of the heathen!" The way of the heathen is written in the chapters of man's customs and traditions that have come down from Nimrod/Semiramis/Ninus/mother/son/husband adoration or worship.

Yahweh's Way is written in the Holy Scriptures. His Way is there to read and then to obey.

• Deuteronomy 4:1-2—

- 1 Hear now, O Israyl, the Statutes and the Judgments which I teach you to observe and do, that you may live, and go in and possess the land which Yahweh, the Heavenly Father of your fathers, is giving you.
- 2 You shall not add to the Word which I command you, nor shall you take anything from it, so that you may keep the Laws of Yahweh your Father which I command you.

We realize that these customs of Christmas and New Year are presented to this world as beautiful things. These holidays are well bounded in the very fabric of life in the world. These are times when families come together, gifts are exchanged, and the tree is set up with all the old decorations. These festivals play on the emotions and senses of mankind. These are exactly the kinds of feelings Satan uses to get this world to give her the worship she desires.

The Apostles and early Believers kept the commanded Holy Days of Yahweh: the weekly Sabbath, Yahshua's Memorial, the Passover and Feast of Unleavened Bread, the Day of Pentecost, the Feast of Trumpets, the Day of Atonement, the Feast of Tabernacles and the Last Great Day.

The Apostles and early Believers never taught the pagan custom of Christmas. This deception was brought into the congregations after the death of the Apostles.

The world does not hear Yahweh's Words. The reason this world does not hear the Word of Yahweh is because Satan has deceived this whole world, as we are told in **Revelation 12:9.** The people have disobeyed Yahweh not only by learning heathen ways, but also by practicing these heathen ways yearly.

Yeremyah 10:3—

For the *religious* <u>customs</u> of the <u>peoples</u> *are* vain; *worthless*!...

Notice what Yahweh says in Yeremyah 10:3. The customs that all the world practices are vain customs. These customs will not bring Salvation.

The vain Christmas custom that Yahweh commands us not to learn is practiced every year. They cut their evergreen trees, and they deck their trees just as they did in the time of Yeremyah. This world thinks nothing of practicing this vain custom, although it is a custom of worship to pagan gods. The practice of this vain custom also breaks the First Commandment: "I am Yahweh, you shall have no hinder gods."

This custom practiced during this month of the year is not a new doctrine ordained by any of the followers of Yahweh. This custom named Christmas is an old, pagan practice from the worship of Baal.

These pagan practices brought on the death of the first established House of Yahweh. Satan managed to slowly bring pagan practices and false doctrines into The House of Yahweh after all of the Apostles died. The Apostles fought against these practices and doctrines until their deaths.

The House of Yahweh was the Pillar and Ground of the Truth of Yahweh when it was under the direct leadership of the Apostles. When pagan practices and false doctrines entered in, those polluted assemblies were no longer the Pillar and Ground of Yahweh's Truth.

As the Apostles would not yield to pagan customs or false doctrines, we also should not yield to churches today that teach these doctrines. Yahshua gave us this warning in:

● Yahchanan Mark 7:7—

But in vain do they worship Me, teaching as doctrine the commandments of men.

These customs and practices are the worship of gods that Yahweh warned against in:

●Deuteronomy 12:30-31—

- 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).

Pagan practices will not lead to Eternal Life. Those who follow vain customs are called whoremongers and worshipers of gods by Yahweh.

The only way to Everlasting Life is Yahweh's Way. There is no other way. Praise Yahweh.

The Real Meaning Behind Valentine's Day!

In the month of February candymakers unload tons of heart shaped boxes full of candy. This candy is then purchased by individuals for the people they love. Millions of innocent schoolchildren are indoctrinated to exchange valentine cards with each other. Florists consider February 14, St Valentine's Day, as one of their best business days.

Compton's Pictured Encyclopedia And Fact Index, F.E. Compton & Company, 1948, Volume 13, page 12, gives this information concerning St. Valentine's Day:

SAINT VALENTINE'S DAY: For centuries February 14 has been observed as Saint Valentine's Day.

Traditionally, February 14 is a day for lovers. In medieval times young people in England, Scotland, and France used to assemble on Saint Valentine's Eve. They drew names by chance from an urn. Each person then became the "valentine," that is, the special friend of the one whose name he drew. It is still customary on this date to exchange gifts, many of them heart-shaped, as an expression of affection.

• Compton's Pictured Encyclopedia, Volume 13, page 12, tells us that the Roman festival Lupercalia might have something to do with St. Valentine's day:

Of the several saints named Valentine, the most important were a Roman priest and a bishop of Terni, both of whom were executed in Rome in the third century. That their feast day is also the day set aside for lovers seems to be merely a coincidence. The Roman festival Lupercalia, which occurred on February 15, may be related to the modern celebration.

Centuries before the birth of Yahshua Messiah, the Romans were celebrating the evening of February 14 and the day of February 15 as an idolatrous and sensuous festival in honor of Lupercus.

Lupus is the Latin word for **wolf**. The wolf is a symbol for valor, as *A*

Dictionary of Symbols, by J.E. Cirlot, 1983, page 375, says:

Valorentine was a common Roman name, which Roman parents often gave to their children in honor of the famous man who was first called valiant: Valentine, in antiquity, <u>Lupercus</u>, The Hunter.

The Romans identified Lupercus with Faunus, a god of nature. The Greeks called this nature god Pan. The Dictionary of Mythology, Folklore, and Symbols, by Gertrude Jobes, 1961, tells us about Faunus in Part 1, page 552, and about Pan in Part 2, pages 1230-1231:

FAUNUS: In Roman mythology, grandson of Saturn; son of Picus, brother-husband of Fauna; father of Acis and Latinus, suitor of Galatea; ancestor of the fauns. A rural and woodland deity; patron of herding, hunting, and husbandry. Worshiped in groves, where his oracles were heard by a visitant while asleep on a sacred fleece. He revealed nature's secrets to men only.

<u>Faunus means to favor. He was also called Inuus (fertilizer) and Lupercus (one who wards off wolves).</u>

PAN: Greek woodland spirit. God of flocks, hills, pastures, and wild life. Lusty deity of weather or wind insofar as weather affected crops and herds. Chief of satyrs, he presided over rural occupations, was patron of fishermen, hunters, and shepherds, and created mirages and other pitfalls for travelers.

He is said to have caused groundless fear, hence the word panic.

Plutarch relates that Thamus, passing the island of Paxos, heard a mighty voice commanding Thamus to proclaim, "Pan is dead." Probably a misunderstanding of the lament for the mutilated Tammuz.

He usually is portrayed with the head, chest, and arms of a man, a crooked nose, the legs, horns, tail, and sometimes the ears of a goat to typify his fertile powers. He is said also to personify the sensual (animal) as well as the spiritual (godly) attributes in mortals.

● *The World Book Encyclopedia*, Volume 6, page 59, shows us:

Faun, fawn, was a half-human god of the woods and herds in Roman mythology. The fauns corresponded to the satyrs of Greek

mythology. They had pointed ears, short horns, and a tail. Their legs are sometimes represented as human, sometimes as covered with shaggy hair and with feet like a goat. The fauns were followers of Pan, god of the fields and woods, and Bacchus, god of wine. They were generally represented as playful creatures.

Pan was an Arcadian god of light, and as such was equivalent to the Sun God: Baal, Bel, Belu, as Part 1 of *The Dictionary of Mythology, Folklore, and Symbols* tells us on page 167:

BAAL (BAL, BEL, BELU): Any of the numerous local deities among ancient Semitic peoples, typifying the productive forces of nature and worshiped with orgiastic rites. Nameless deities are oldest, and Baal simply meant lord. An atmosphere or wind deity, also a heaven or sun deity. His worshipers believed he was the originator of life, the soul of the world. He brought earthquakes, fire, and storms; he was the generative principle in nature, originator of good and evil, provider of food. Among Egyptian sects worshiped as a god of the burning destroying sun. The Hebrews applied the name to any false god. As a Phoenician sun deity he was the male reproductive power. In Syria worshiped as a lunar god, lord of heaven, creator. Controlling fertility, rain, and thunder, he ultimately acquired solar attributes. He was accompanied by Baalath. Probable source of Ball, Beal, Blaise.

Baal, as the Sun, was the symbol of the male reproductive power.

Baal which is mentioned so often in the Holy Scriptures, was a title of Nimrod, the hunter who was against Yahweh. We read in:

• Genesis 10:9. KIV—

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

● *The Two Babylons*, by Alexander Hislop, pages 21-25, gives us this information:

That son, though represented as a child in his mother's arms, was a person of great stature and immense bodily powers, as well as most fascinating manners. In Scripture he is referred to (Ezek. viii. 14) under the name of Tammuz, but he is commonly known among classical writers under the name of Bacchus, that is, "The Lamented one." To the ordinary reader the name of Bacchus suggests nothing more than revelry and drunkenness, but it is now well known, that amid all the abominations that attended his orgies, their grand design was professedly "the purification of souls," and that from the guilt and defilement of sin. This lamented one, exhibited and adored as a little child in his mother's arms, seems, in point of fact, to have been the husband of Semiramis, whose name, Ninus, by which he is commonly known in classical history, literally signified "The Son."

As Semiramis, the wife, was worshipped as Rhea, whose grand distinguishing character was that of the great goddess "Mother," the conjunction with her of her husband, under the name Ninus, or "The Son," was sufficient to originate the peculiar worship of the "Mother and Son," so extensively diffused among the nations of antiquity; and this, no doubt, is the explanation of the fact which has so much puzzled the inquirers into ancient history, that Ninus is sometimes called the husband, and sometimes the son of Semiramis.

Now, this Ninus, or "Son," borne in the arms of the Babylonian Madonna, is so described as very clearly to identify him with Nimrod.

The hunter, Nimrod, it is said, pursued wolves in the Appenine Mountains of Italy, and acquired the title of Lupercus—wolf hunter (hunter of valor) [Valens: to be strong, powerful, mighty].

What this does not say, but what any researcher can find, is the symbolic meaning of the word, hunter. *A Dictionary of Symbols*, by J.E. Cirlot, page 154, has this to say about this word. **hunter**:

...that it is <u>desire itself</u>. Similarly, Zagreus, another name for Dionysos, means: The Great Hunter, and stands for the insatiable incontinence of desire.

Nimrod, Baal-Lord-Sun God of the ancients, was born at the winter solstice, in agreement with the mythology of the birth-initiation-death fertility cycle. In the year 2100 b.c.e., the winter solstice occurred on January 6. Semiramis, Nimrod's mother/wife, ordered Nimrod's birthday to be celebrated on January 6.

As the precession of the equinoxes continued, Julius Caesar ordered the Roman Empire to celebrate this birth date on the new date of the winter solstice—on December 25 of the reformed calendar. This day, during the time of Julius Caesar was called the Brumalia. Today, this day is called Christmas.

The Purification

The time of the winter solstice on January 6, 2100 b.c.e., was the exact time the pagans celebrated the birth of the son, who was first known to pagan antiquity as Nimrod. Epiphany is still celebrated today on January 6, with the same rituals to the same fertility gods and goddesses. The Dictionary of Mythology, Folklore, and Symbols, Part 1, page 516, tells us about this ancient pagan ceremony:

EPIPHANY: Ancient Greek festival celebrating the appearance of a deity; hence an appearance or revelation of a supernatural being. In the Christian Church, festival in commemoration of the manifestation of Christ to the Gentiles in the persons of the Magi at Bethlehem, celebrated January 6, the twelfth day after Christmas. Formerly called Twelfthday or Twelfthtide. The mystery of incarnation. The Christian festival was borrowed from European pagan winter solstice rites, which were encouragements to the rebirth of the year.

It is within Yahweh's Laws that a mother who had just given birth to be unclean for a specified number of days, depending upon whether she bore a male or female child. The religions hold on to a mixture of Righteousness and evil. Semiramis, the mother, gave birth to a male child, Nimrod, and was unclean for a period of 40 days. The 40th day after January 6 is February 15th.

February 15, which began on the evening of February 14, was the day on which the **Lupercalia** was celebrated.

The Dictionary of Mythology, Folklore, and Symbols, Part 2, page 1026, tells us about **Lupercus** and the **Lupercalia**.

Lupercus: A very ancient Italian rustic deity; god of fertility identified with Faunus. The name means one who wards off the wolves. Resembles Pan.

<u>Lupercalia</u>: Roman festival celebrated on February 15 to honor <u>Lupercus</u>. As a conclusion

to their rites, the Luperci (priests of Lupercus), clad in goatskins, ran about Palatine Hill striking those they encountered, particularly women, with goatskin thongs. This was believed to insure fertility and easy delivery.

• Webster's Deluxe Unabridged Dictionary, 1979, page 1075, tells us that the **Lupercalia** was an ancient Roman festival with fertility rites:

Lu.per.ca¢li.a, n.pl. [L., from Lupercalis, of Lupercus, from Lupercus, from lupus, a wolf.] an ancient Roman festival with fertility rites, held on February 15 in honor of Lupercus, a pastoral god sometimes identified with Faunus.

According to *The Dictionary of My-thology, Folklore, and Symbols,* Part 1, page 552:

Faunus was called Inuus (Fertilizer) and Lupercus (one who wards off wolves). Faunus' main festival was the Lupercalia; his priests were the Luperci.

What is the significance of these facts? Well, the proper surname of Lupercus was Februsus, as *The Dictionary of Mythology, Folklore, and Symbols*, Part 1, page 557, then shows.

Februsus: <u>Properly a surname of Lupercus.</u> <u>Lustrations</u> were performed in his honor at the <u>Lupercalia</u> on February 15.

Lustrations were performed in his honor at the Lupercalia on February 15. *The Dictionary of Mythology, Folklore, and Symbols*, Part 1, page 557, tells us what the **Februation** was:

Februation: Roman rite of ceremonial purification, observed on February 15 at the Lupercalia.

● *The Dictionary of Mythology, Folklore, and Symbols,* Part 2, page 1026, tells us about the **lustral bath**:

Lustral Bath: From earliest times a method of purification and expiation, frequently attended by sacrifices. Kings take a lustral bath at coronation.

The following definitions are from Webster's Deluxe Unabridged Dictionary, which tells us:

lus•tral, a. [L. *lustralis*, from *lustrum*, \underline{a} purificatory sacrifice.]

1. used in, pertaining to, or connected with <u>ceremonial purification</u>.

lus-trate, v.t.; lustrated, pl., pp.; lustrating, ppr. [L. lustratus, pp. of lustrare, to purify by means of a propitiatory sacrifice, from lustrum, a purificatory sacrifice.] to make clear or pure; to purify by means of certain ceremonies.

lus-tra-tion, *n*. 1. the act of lustrating or making pure; a ceremonial cleansing.

The purification of the mother was the fertility ritual performed at the Lupercal, a cave below the Palatine Hill in Rome. Goats or dogs were sacrificed as her ritual offering for her uncleanness. The skins of these offerings were then used to confer fertility upon women.

The Februation was a rite of purification observed on February 15–the very day upon which the mother of the husband was said to be now purified, and to have appeared in public with her son/husband for the first time since his birth on January 6.

On this day, the celebration of the Lupercalia on February 15, the mother was cleansed 40 days after her son/husband was born—40 days after his appearance—Epiphany on January 6.

The significance of this mythology was the fact that the mother was now purified; the mother was now able to have sexual relations again. The mother could again marry her son/husband, to fertilize the world. The purification of the mother was the fertility rite.

Symbols And The Fertility Rites

The question, "Will you be my Valentine?" asked by millions of deceived people at this time of year was asked by the hunters in this age-old fertility rite.

Collier's Encyclopedia, Macmillan Educational Corporation, 1980, Volume 12, page 191, tells us about this day dedicated to lovers:

St. Valentine's Day: a day that has been dedicated since the 14th century to lovers. Valentine's Day is traditionally observed by the sending of messages and gifts, usually employing the motif of a red heart, by young men and women. One tradition derives the customs of the day from the old Roman February feast called the Lupercalia, at which young men and maidens drew partners by lot for the coming February feast. Later this ancient festival custom was associated with the name of a Christian bishop, Valentine, who was martyred Feb. 14, 271. Other tradition attributes the observances of the day to the fact that it falls within the mating season for birds and is, therefore, an appropriate season for young people to choose their "valentines," or lovers.

Cupid and Love?

● *The Book of Festival Holidays*, by Marguerite Ickis, Dodd, Mead, & Co., New York, 1964, page 35, tells us:

<u>Cupid</u> was one of the gods of Mythology, whose name in Latin <u>means "desire</u>." He is usually represented as a chubby, naked, winged boy...with a quiver of arrows by which he transfixed the hearts of youths and maidens. His darts, some of which were poisonous at the tip, could pierce anywhere.

The rose, which speaks of love, is undoubtedly the most popular flower in the world. By rearranging the letters in the word "rose," we get "Eros" the god of Love. This may explain why it has always been called the flower of romance, the choice of lovers in every century.

In mythology, it is said when Nimrod's mother saw him as a young boy, she desired him. Nimrod became her cupid, her desired one, and later became her god of valor, her hunter.

Arrows?

● A Dictionary of Symbols, by J.E. Cirlot, pages 19-20, tells us about the symbolism of arrows:

...it was used to designate the sun's rays. But, because of its shape, it has undeniable phallic significance, specially when it is shown in emblems balanced against the symbol of the 'mystic centre', feminine in character, such as the heart. The heart pierced with an arrow is a symbol of conjunction.

The conjunction referred to indicates sexual relations. In other words, these symbols were used in fertility rituals.

The Heart

The most predominant symbol of the fertility rite of Valentine's day is the heart. In America, the heart symbol has the same meaning as love. "I ♥ you." "I ♥ America." Almost everywhere one looks one can see examples of this love. The heart is also a popular design for costume jewelry, saying love without saying it.

This symbol was also familiar in ancient Babylon, but this symbolized the god who was worshiped. This symbol did not just come down to our day as pure as the driven snow, as this deceived world thinks. In *The Two Babylons*, by Alexander Hislop, pages 188-190, we read about the **Sacred Heart**:

It is not very long since the worship of the "Sacred Heart" was first introduced; and now, everywhere it is the favourite worship.

It was so in ancient Babylon, as is evident from the Babylonian system as it appeared in Egypt. There also a "Sacred Heart" was venerated. The "Heart" was one of the sacred symbols of Osiris when he was born again, and appeared as Harpocrates, or the infant divinity, borne in the arms of his mother Isis. Therefore, the fruit of the Egyptian Perséa was peculiarly sacred to him, from its resemblance to the "HUMAN HEART." Hence this infant divinity was frequently represented with a heart, or the heart-shaped fruit of the Perséa, in one of his hands... the following extract, from John Bell's criticism on the antiques in the Picture Gallery of Florence, will show that the boyish divinity had been represented elsewhere also in ancient times in the same manner. Speaking of a statue of Cupid, he says it is "a fair, full, fleshy, round boy, in fine and sportive action, tossing back a heart." Thus the boy-god came to be regarded as the "god of the heart," in other words, as Cupid, or the god of love. To identify this infant divinity, with his father "the mighty hunter," he was equipped with "bow and arrows..." He was the woman's seed. Venus and her son Cupid, then, were none other than the Madonna and the child.

As the boy-god, whose symbol was the heart, was recognized as the god of childhood, this very satisfactorily accounts for one of the peculiar customs of the Romans. Kennett tells us, in his Antiquities, that the Roman youths, in their tender years, used to wear a golden ornament suspended from their necks, called bulla, which was hollow and heart-shaped.

How did the heart take on such importance in ancient paganism? *The Two Babylons*, by Alexander Hislop, pages 190-191, tells us:

Is it asked. How came it that the "Heart" became the recognized symbol of the Child of the great Mother? The answer is, "The Heart" in Chaldee is "Bel"; and as, at first, after the check given to idolatry, almost all the most important elements of the Chaldean system were introduced under a veil, so under that veil they continued to be shrouded from the gaze of the uninitiated, after the first reason-the reason of fear-had long ceased to operate. Now, the worship of the "Sacred Heart" was just, under a symbol, the worship of the "Sacred Bel," that mighty one of Babylon, who had died a martyr for idolatry; for Harpocrates, or Horus, the infant god, was regarded as Bel, born again.

In Chaldee the heart is Bel, as *The Two Babylons* by Alexander Hislop tells us on page 190. *Strong's Hebrew Dictionary*, corroborates this fact

- 1077. bal, bal; from 10%; prop. a failure; by impl. nothing: usually (adv.) not at all; also lest:—lest, neither, no, none (that...), not (any), nothing.
- nothing.

 1078, bm B&l, bale; by contr. for 1168; Bel, the Easl of the Babylonians:—Bel.
- Baal of the Babylonians:—Bel. 1079. ba bal (Chald), but from 1080; prop. anxiety, i.e. (by impl.) the heart (as its seaf):—heart.

Heart shaped love tokens, which are sent one to another in this deceived world on Valentine's day, are nothing more than symbols of baal. Those who send these abominations, and those who receive them, are telling each other, in effect, that this is who they truly love, baal.

An example of the beautification of the fertility ritual called the **Lupercalia**, is shown to us in *Collier's Encyclopedia*, 1980, Volume 9, pages 625-626:

Lupercalia: The Lupercalia (Faunalia) was held on February 15 in honor of Faunus or Lupercus, the god of fertility, woodlands, and pastures. In a.d. 494 Bishop Gelasius replaced the Lupercalia with the Feast of the Purification of the Virgin, held on the same day.

The next beautification for an old fertility ritual is that of Valentine's day. *The Book of Holidays*, by J. Walker McSpadden, pages 27-28, shows:

What is this very special holiday, which has a fragile but enduring quality all its own, and which seems to have no connection with Saint Valentine, the martyred Christian saint? Well, actually, it is two days thrown into one, the merging of a pagan and a Christian feast. Many of the customs of Valentine's Day are from pagan times, but the name is Christian. In ancient Rome, when wolves were a great menace, there was a god Lupercus, corresponding somewhat to the Greek god Pan, who kept the wolves away. And in his honor there was a festival, called Lupercalia, every fifteenth of February, at which young people always drew lots for game partners for the year. Later, when Valentine, a priest in Rome, killed about A.D. 270 during the persecution of the early Christians, was canonized, or made a saint, his feast day was established on the fourteenth of February, and the two days were combined.

● *All About American Holidays*, by Mayme R. Krythe, page 40, tells us:

There are conflicting ideas about the origin of St. Valentine's Day. Some sources say it goes back-perhaps to the third century-when there were hordes of hungry wolves outside Rome. The god, Lupercus, was said to watch over the shepherds and their flocks. Therefore, in February Romans celebrated a feast, called the Lupercalia, in his honor. Even after the danger from these fierce animals was over, people still observed this festival.

When Christianity became prevalent,

the priests wanted their converts to give up former heathen practices. Therefore, the officials Christianized the ancient pagan celebration and called the Feast of Lupercalia St. Valentine's Day.

The Modern Cycle Of Pagan Worship

It is a documented fact that pagan customs were grafted into the Christian religion, almost en masse. The Reader's Digest Association, in their book: *Strange Stories*, *Amazing Facts*, 1980, page 283, tells us emphatically:

Although Christianity has swept the world in a relatively short time, as the histories of great religions go, the early missionaries faced an uphill task. The pagans were reluctant to give up their false gods and ancient practices.

So the missionaries, unable to convert them easily to an entirely new code of worship, did the next best thing. They took the pagan festivals as they were and gradually grafted the observances of the New Faith onto these festivals and the rites and customs surrounding them.

Yes, the Christian missionaries took each of these pagan festivals and veneered them with Christian respectability by changing their names. That is why today we have Christmas rather than the Saturnalia; Easter rather than the festival of the goddess of the dawn; and Valentine's day rather than the Lupercalia, the festival of the purification of the mother.

Even though the Christian missionaries took the pagan festivals as they were, and gradually grafted the observance of the new faith onto these festivals, with their rites and customs, they are still abominations in the sight of Yahweh.

Yahweh inspired the following to be said about those who "...took the pagan festivals as they were and gradually grafted the observances of the new faith onto these festivals and the rites and customs surrounding them:"

II Corinthians 11:13-15—

13 For such *are* <u>false apostles</u>, <u>deceitful workers</u>, <u>transforming themselves into the apostles of the Messiah</u>.

14 And no marvel; for <u>Satan herself</u> is transformed into an angel of light.

15 Therefore, *it is* no great thing if her ministers also are transformed as

the ministers of Righteousness—whose end will be according to their works.

Although these fertility rituals have come down to us through Satan's ministers, in forms of beauty, we are still creating, maintaining, and renewing fertility to the same pagan gods that Yahweh says are an abomination to Him, if we are practicing pagan celebrations in honor of these gods.

It is a Scriptural fact that we cannot serve Yahweh while serving in this world's god worship.

● I Corinthians 10:20-21—

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.

We are told emphatically that we are servants to whom we obey in:

● Romans 6:16—

Do you not know that to whom you yield yourselves as servants to obey, his servants you are whom you obeywhether of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to Righteousness?

If we obey Yahweh, by practicing every Word that proceeds from His Mouth, without adding to His Word or taking from His Word, we are then Servants of Yahweh. However, if we follow after the servants (ministers) of Satan, who are deceived into grafting pagan customs into Christianity, then we are servants of Satan. It is that simple.

These customs and practices are the worship of gods that Yahweh warned against in:

Deuteronomy 12:30-31—

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).

Pagan practices will not lead to Eternal Life. Those who follow vain customs are called whoremongers and worshipers of gods by Yahweh.

The only way to Everlasting Life is Yahweh's Way.

An Easter Remembrance

The New International Dictionary Of The Christian Church, by J.D. Douglas, page 322, gives the following information about the Christian celebration called **Easter**:

EASTER. The celebration of Christ's resurrection. Although the Scriptures make no provision for the observance of Easter as the day of resurrection, all the evidence suggests that the celebration of the death and resurrection of Christ began at a very early date in the history of the church, probably as early as the apostolic age. It would seem also that the Christians of the first century consciously sought to create a Christian parallel to the Jewish Passover, since the close relationship between the significance of that event in the O.T. and the crucifixion in the N.T. made a transformation of that Jewish feast into Easter both logical and easy.

After A.D. 100, <u>Easter</u>, <u>Pentecost</u>, and <u>Epiphany</u> became the final parts of the church year.

Easter does not come from the Scriptures. This pagan custom has another source. As we have read, there was a transformation of the Feast of Passover into Easter. Remember though, this was done by man and not by Yahweh.

*he New International Dictionary Of The Christian Church, by J.D. Douglas, page 322, tells us how this transformation was accomplished in the religion called Christianity.

CHRISTIAN YEAR, THE. The early Christians who were mainly Jews were used not only to keeping one day in the week as separate but also to marking the year with certain religious festivals, notably Passover, Tabernacles, and Pentecost. From early times Christians kept a commemoration of Christ's resurrection. This was held at Passover time and was finally fixed on the Sunday following Passover. Pentecost was then celebrated at the appropriate time; the fifty days between the two were days of joy and rejoicing. The choice of 25 December (in the East, 6 January) for the

birth of Christ is almost certainly because that day was the great pagan day of honor to the sun, and in Rome in the fourth century it was transformed into a Christian festival.

When Constantine "the great" presided over the Council of Nicea in 325 c.e., his main objective was political: how to merge religion and politics efficiently. Since there were more politically powerful pagans than there were politically powerful believers, the celebrations that the pagans were accustomed to observing were the celebrations which were accepted. Reading from Funk and Wagnall's Standard Reference Encyclopedia, Volume 8, we find the following.

An important historic result of the difference was that the Christian churches in the East, which were closer to the birthplace of the new religion, and in which old traditions were strong, observed Easter according to the date of the Passover festival, while the churches of the West, whose communicants were descendants of Græco-Roman civilization, celebrated Easter on a Sunday.

Settlement of this difference was one of the objects of the Roman emperor Constantine in convoking, in 325 A.D. the Council of Nicæa (see NICÆA, COUNCILS OF).

The justification for using the vernal equinox to set their date for Easter Sunday, which the Protestant churches have accepted completely, comes from the words of Constantine himself, at the Council of Nicea in the year 325 of this Common Era, saying:

And truly, in the first place, it seems to everyone a most unworthy thing that we should follow the <u>customs of the Jews</u> in the celebration of this most holy solemnity, who, polluted wretches! Having stained their hands with a nefarious crime, are justly blinded in their

minds. It is fit, therefore, that <u>rejecting</u> the practice of this people, we should perpetuate to all <u>future ages</u> the celebration of this rite, in a <u>more legitimate order</u>, which we have kept from the first day of our "Lord's" passion even to the present times. <u>Let us then have nothing in common with the most hostile rabble of the Jews</u>. (Council of Nicea, pg. 52.)

The Council of Nicea, page 23, then says:

Easter day was fixed on the Sunday immediately following the full moon which was nearest after the Vernal Equinox, because it is certain that our Saviour rose from the dead on the Sunday which next succeeded the Passover of the Jews.



The Pagan Worship Of Easter

Reading from *Compton's Pictured Encyclopedia*, Volume 4, page 140, we find that Easter is the greatest festival of the Christian church, which commemorates the resurrection of Jesus Christ, which festival was named after the ancient anglo saxon goddess of spring.

EASTER. The greatest festival of the Christian church commemorates the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

The name Easter comes from the ancient Anglo-Saxon goddess of spring, Eostre or Ostara, in whose honor an annual spring festival was held. Some of our Easter customs have come from this and other pre-Christian spring festivals. Others come from the Passover feast of

the Jews, observed in memory of their deliverance from Egypt (see Passover). The word "paschal," meaning "pertaining to Easter," like the French word for Easter, Pâques, comes through the Latin from the Hebrew name of the Passover.

• *Unger's Bible Dictionary*, by Merrill F. Unger, page 283, goes on to corroborate this fact.

Easter (Gr. pascha, from Heb. pesah), the Passover, and so translated in every passage excepting "intending after Easter to bring him forth to the people" (Acts 12:4). In the earlier English versions Easter had been frequently used as the translation of pascha. At the last revision Passover was substituted in all passages but this. See Passover.

The word Easter is of Saxon origin, Eastra, the goddess of spring, in whose honor sacrifices were offered about Passover time each year. By the 8th century Anglo-Saxons had adopted the name to designate the celebration of Christ's resurrection.

It is a fully documented historical fact that the day which was chosen by the Christian church to celebrate this resurrection, was a day which had been celebrated by pagans from antiquity. Yes, the only difference between these two celebrations, is the fact that its name was changed to veneer it with Christian respectability.

It is simply no secret that Easter originated with the worship of a pagan goddess. This fact is presented almost every time one researches the word Easter. *Compton's Encyclopedia*, Volume 4, says the following about **Easter**:

Many Easter customs come from the Old World...colored eggs and rabbits have come from pagan antiquity as symbols of new life...our name 'Easter' comes from 'Eostre', an ancient Anglo Saxon goddess, originally of the dawn. In pagan times an annual spring festival was held in her honor. Some Easter customs have come from this and other pre-Christian spring festivals.

Reading about this pre-Christian spring festival from Funk & Wagnall's Standard Reference Encyclopedia, Volume 8, page 2940, we learn:

Although Easter is a Christian festival, it embodies traditions of an ancient time antedating the rise of Christianity. The origin of its name is lost in the dim past; some scholars believe it probably is derived from Eastre, Anglo-Saxon name of a

Teutonic goddess of spring and fertility, to whom was dedicated Eastre monath, corresponding to April. Her festival was celebrated on the day of the vernal equinox, and traditions associated with the festival survive in the familiar Easter bunny, symbol of the fertile rabbit, and in the equally familiar colored Easter eggs originally painted with gay hues to represent the sunlight of spring.

Such festivals, and the myths and legends which explain their origin, abounded in ancient religions. The Greek myth of the return of the earth-goddess Demeter from the underworld to the light of day, symbolizing the resurrection of life in the spring after the long hibernation of winter, had its counterpart, among many others, in the Latin legend of Ceres and Persephone. The Phrygians believed that their all-powerful deity went to sleep at the time of the winter solstice, and they performed ceremonies at the spring equinox to awaken him with music and dancing. The universality of such festivals and myths among ancient peoples has led some scholars to interpret the resurrection of Christ as a mystical and exalted variant of fertility myths.

Reading on page 103 of *The Two Babylons*, by Alexander Hislop, we find that Easter and Ishtar are the same.

Then look at Easter. What means the term Easter itself? It bears its <u>Chaldean origin</u> on its very forehead. <u>Easter is nothing else than "Astarte"</u>, one of the titles of Beltis, "The Queen of Heaven" whose name, as "pronounced" by the people of Nineveh, was evidently identical with that now in common use in this country. That 'name', as found by Layard on the Assyrian monuments, is "Ishtar".

Ishtar of Assyria was worshiped in pagan antiquity during her spring festival. *Collier's Encyclopedia*, Volume 15, page 748, gives us the following information.

Ishtar, goddess of love and war, the most important goddess of the Sumero-Akkadian pantheon. Her name in Sumerian is Inanna (lady of heaven). She was sister of the sun god Shamash and daughter of the moon god Sin. Ishtar was equated with the planet Venus. Her symbol was a star inscribed in a circle. As goddess of war, she was often represented sitting upon a lion. As goddess of physical love, she was patron of the temple prostitutes. She was also considered the merciful mother who intercedes with the gods on behalf of her worshippers.

Astarte of Phoenicia was the offshoot

of Ishtar of Assyria. To the Hebrews, this abomination was known as Ashtoreth—Ashtoroth. From *Collier's Encyclopedia*, Volume 3, page 13, we read:

ASHTAROTH the plural of the Hebrew 'Ashtoreth, the Phoenician-Canaanite goddess Astarte, deity of fertility, reproduction, and war.

• Watson's Biblical and Archaeological Dictionary, tells us more about this mother goddess, Ashtaroth.

ASHTAROTH, or ASTARTE, a goddess of the Zidonians. ... She was also called the queen of heaven; and sometimes her worship is said to be that of "the host of heaven." She was certainly represented in the same manner as Isis, with cow's horns on her head, to denote the increase and decrease of the moon. Cicero calls her the fourth Venus of the Syrians.

● The Interpreter's Dictionary, Volume 3, page 975, tells us of Ishtar's role as the queen of heaven:

Ishtar, the goddess of love and fertility, who was identified with the Venus Star and is actually entitled "Mistress of Heaven" in the Amarna tablets... The title "Queen of Heaven" is applied in an Egyptian inscription from the Nineteenth Dynasty at Beth-shan to "Antit," the Canaanite fertility-goddess Anat, who is termed "Queen of Heaven and Mistress of the Gods." This is the most active goddess in the Ras Shamra Texts, but in Palestine her functions seem to have been taken over largely by Ashtoreth.

We have found that Astarte is the Greek name for the Hebrew Ashtoreth. From *Collier's Encyclopedia*, Volume 3, page 97, we find that Astarte-Ashtaroth is merely the Semitic Ishtar—Easter.

ASTARTE [æsta'rti], the Phoenician goddess of fertility and erotic love. The Greek name, "Astarte" was derived from Semitic, "Ishtar," "Ashtoreth." Among the Canaanites, Astarte, like her peer Anath, performed a major function as goddess of fertility.

The worship of Ishtar-Easter spread throughout the ancient pagan world, where she was venerated in almost every segment of society. The original of this goddess, however, loomed upon the historical scene in Babylon. From *The Two Babylons* by Hislop, pages 20-22, we find this information about the original of this great mother goddess—Semiramis.

The Babylonians in their popular religion, supremely worshipped a Goddess Mother, and a Son, who was represented in pictures and in images as an infant or child in his mother's arms. From Babylon, this worship of the Mother and the Child spread to the ends of the earth.

The original of that mother, so widely worshipped, there is reason to believe, was Semiramis... the great goddess "Mother."

It was from the son, however, that she derived all her glory and her claims to deification. That son, though represented as a child in his mother's arms, was a person of great stature and immense bodily powers... In Scripture he is referred to (Ezek. viii. 14) under the name of <u>Tammuz</u>, but he is commonly known among classical writers under the name of Bacchus, that is, "The Lamented One." This lamented one, exhibited and adored as a little child in his mother's arms, seems, in point of fact, to have been the husband of Semiramis, whose name, Ninus, by which he is commonly known in classical history, literally signified "The Son,"* As Semiramis, the wife, was worshipped as Rhea, whose grand distinguishing character was that of the great goddess "Mother,"* the conjunction with her of her husband, under the name of Ninus, or "The Son," was sufficient to originate the peculiar worship of the "Mother and Son," so extensively diffused among the nations of antiquity; and this, no doubt, is the explanation of the fact which has so much puzzled the inquirers into ancient history, that Ninus is sometimes called the husband, and sometimes the son of Semiramis.§ This also accounts for the origin of the very same confusion of relationship between Isis and Osiris, the mother and child of the Egyptians; for as Bunsen shows, Osiris was represented in Egypt as at once the son and husband of his mother; and actually bore, as one of his titles of dignity and honour, the name "Husband of the Mother."||

The Babylonian worship of the Great Mother spread throughout the known world. This mother goddess was known by different names, but the form of her religion has not transformed since antiquity.

The Ishtar Egg

The egg was a sacred symbol to the Babylonians. Legend says an egg of wondrous size fell from heaven into the Euphrates River; from this marvelous egg the goddess Astarte (Easter) was hatched. Each pagan nation had its own representation of this wonder. The Greeks had their

sacred egg of Heliopolis, and the Typhon's Egg.



Sacred Egg of Heliopolis; and Typhon's Egg. Prom BRYANT'S Mythology, vol. iii. p. 62.

The Roman Catholic Church now has their own Official Representation of Ishtar, "the Virgin Mother," who stands upon the top of this sacred egg of Heliopolis, with the serpent Typhon at her feet.



The Ishtar Fertility Hare The Easter Bunny

From *The Encyclopedia Britannica*, we find the following information about **Easter**:

Like the Easter Egg, the Easter Hare came to Christianity from antiquity. The hare is associated with the moon in the legends of ancient Egypt and other peoples... Through the fact that the Egyptian word for hare—um, means also open and period. The hare came to be associated with the idea of periodicity both lunar and human, and with the beginning of new life in both the young man and young woman, and so a symbol of fertility and of the renewal of life.

Easter eggs and rabbits are the symbols of sexual fertility in the ancient, pagan religions. *The Reader's Digest Book of Facts*, page 122, gives the following information.

EASTER AND THE BUNNY—Children's stories in many countries tell how Easter eggs are brought not by a chicken but by hares and rabbits. These long eared

hopping mammals have represented fertility in many cultures because they breed so quickly. In traditional <u>Christian art the hare represents lust...</u> Yet as a symbol of life reawakening in the spring—often portrayed as the innocent and cuddly Easter bunny—the rabbit coexists in many places with the <u>solemn Christian rites of Easter</u>.

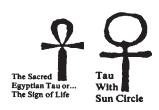
Hot Cross Buns

Another custom closely associated with Easter is the baking and eating of hot cross buns. There is, of course, no Scriptural justification for this custom, but there is great pagan justification involved. The cross is the original sign of the god tammuz. The cross is the letter T.

● *The Two Babylons*, by Alexander Hislop on pages 197-200, tells us the following about the sign of the cross.

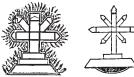
The magic virtues attributed to the so-called "sign of the cross", the worship bestowed on it, never came from [Yahshua or His Apostles]. The same sign of the "cross" that Rome now worships was used in the Babylonian Mysteries, and was applied by paganism to the same magic purposes (signing oneself, kissing the cross, holding the cross, wearing it as a charm), was honored with the same honors. That which is now called the "Christian Cross" was originally no Christian emblem at all, but was the Mystic Tau of the Chaldeans and Egyptians—the true original form of the letter "T"—the initial of the name of Tammuz...that mystic "Tau" was marked in baptism on the foreheads of those initiated in the Mysteries...The mystic "Tau", as the symbol of the great divinity, was called "the Sign of Life" it was used as an amulet ("good luck charm") over the heart; it was marked on the official garments of the (ancient pagan) priests, as (now) on the official garments of the priests of Rome (today)... The Vestal Virgins of Pagan Rome wore (the cross) suspended from their necklaces, as the Nuns do today... men as well as women wore earrings and they frequently had a small cross suspended to a necklace or to the collar of their dress... (the cross) was also appended to the robes of the "Rot-N-No" (Pagan Priests); and traces of it may be seen in the fancy ornaments of the "Rebo" (Pagan Priests), showing that it was already in use as early as the Fifteenth Century before the Christian Era...





There is hardly a pagan tribe where the cross has not been found. The cross was worshipped by the pagan Celts long before the "incarnation" and death of Christ... The Druids in their groves were accustomed to select the most stately and beautiful tree as an emblem of the deity (god) they adored, and having cut the side branches, they affixed two of the largest of them to the highest part of the trunk, in such a manner that those branches extended on each side like the arms of a man, and, together with the body, presented the appearance of a huge cross, and on the bark, in several places, was also inscribed the letter "Thau". It was worshipped in Mexico for ages before the Roman Catholic missionaries set foot there, large stone crosses being erected, probably to the "god of rain". The cross thus widely worshipped, or regarded as a sacred emblem, was the unequivocal symbol of "Bacchus", the Babylonian Messiah, for he was represented with a head-band covered with crosses.





The International Standard Bible Encyclopedia, Volume 4, page 725, shows that the original of the name Tammuz, which is dumuzi, means invigorator of the child. Tammuz was the same Sumerian and Babylonian god of fertility, who married Easter-Ishtar at the vernal equinox.

TAMMUZ tam'uz, tä'mooz [Heb. tammûz; Akk. tammuz; Sum. dumuzi—"invigorator of the child (?)"]. A Sumerian and Babylonian god of fertility mentioned once in the O.T. (Eze. 8:14). The prophet in a vision during his Babylonian exile saw an abomination: women in the north gate of the Jerusalem temple wailing for Tammuz.

Hot Cross Buns are in reality Tammuz cakes. These little magic Tammuz cakes were made and used in the worship of Ishtar-Easter: the queen of heaven.

During the time that the Prophet Yeremyah was proclaiming Yahweh's Laws to the people, Yahweh inspired him to rebuke His people for this pagan practice.

● Yeremyah 7:17-18—

- 17 Do you not see what they do in the cities of Yahdah and in the streets of Yerusalem?
- 18 How the children gather wood, and the fathers kindle the fire, while the women knead dough to make cakes for the queen of heaven, and how they pour out drink offerings to the hinder gods...

From *The Last Two Million Years* by The Reader's Digest Association, page 215, we learn how the worship of a pagan goddess became the most important Christian festival.

Pagan rites absorbed

By a stroke of tactical genius the Church, while intolerant of pagan beliefs, was able to harness the powerful emotions generated by pagan worship. Often, churches were sited where temples had stood before, and many heathen festivals were added to the Christian calendar. Easter, for instance, a time of sacrifice and rebirth in the Christian year, takes its name from the Norse goddess Eostre, in whose honour rites were held every spring. She in turn was simply a northern version of the Phoenician earth-mother Astarte, goddess of fertility. Easter eggs continue an age-old tradition in which the egg is a symbol of birth; and cakes which were eaten to mark the festivals of Astarte and Eostre were the direct ancestors of our hot-cross buns.

Many Encyclopedias will make the statement that Easter is the worship of a pagan goddess and at the same time will state this celebration is one of the most important Christian celebrations today. In each of these reference works a statement is made, in one form or another, that Easter is the day on which the Christian church commemorates our Savior's resurrection.

The Sunday Resurrection Lie

Christendom teaches that the Messiah rose from His grave on Sunday

morning and because of this, they say, they are worshiping on the day of His resurrection. There is, however, no Scriptural proof for this Good Friday–Easter Sunday tradition. Was Yahshua, our true Savior resurrected on Easter Sunday morning? The answer is, NO! For complete information on when the Messiah was resurrected, please request our booklet, *Was The Resurrection On Sunday*. You will learn beyond a shadow of a doubt that the Messiah was not resurrected on Sunday morning.

Do Not Practice It!

Shortly, Easter Sunday morning will be upon us. Almost the entire Christian world will participate in a sunrise service that they believe to be in celebration of the resurrection of our Messiah. Factually, this is a pagan custom celebrated long before our Savior was even born. Yahweh condemns this pagan practice through the pages of your own bible.

The only ones who will be given Eternal Life in Yahweh's Kingdom are the ones who obey every Word that proceeds from Yahweh's Mouth.

Deuteronomy 6:25—

And it will be our Righteousness, if we observe to do all these Commandments; His Laws, before Yahweh our Father, as He has commanded us.

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.

• Revelation 22:14-15—

- 14 <u>Blessed are those who keep His</u> Laws, that they may have right to the <u>Tree of Life</u>, and may enter in through the gates into the City.
- 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 Laws.

There is no Salvation to the worshipers of Baal and Ashtoreth. It is time to come out of pagan worship and start obeying Yahweh. Only Yahweh is able to give Eternal Life.

● I Yahchanan 3:7-8—

7 Little children, <u>let no man deceive</u> <u>you</u>; <u>he who practices Righteousness is Righteous</u>, just as He is Righteous.

8 <u>He who commits sin is of the devil</u>, 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.

Confess your sins, the Apostles said. That means confessing that you have been breaking Yahweh's Laws. Confess that you have not been practicing Yahweh's Laws.

●I Yahchanan 3:7—

Little children, let no man deceive you; he who practices Righteousness is Righteous, just as He is Righteous.

Many are being deceived today into thinking that they do not need to practice Yahweh's Laws. In fact, all of the world's religions are practicing this deception of Satan.

●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.

• Revelation 12:9—

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

Yes, the whole world has been deceived into practicing sin. This has been done by teaching the same lie that was taught to Eve, "you won't die if you sin". Yes, with this lie, Satan is still deceiving the world today, the whole world, not just Eve.

The Religions Will Not Repent

The Savior shows that this world's religions belong to Satan and will not repent, even after a third part of mankind is destroyed by the nuclear baby that is soon to be released. Yes, a third part of man will be killed over a

fourth part of the earth in and around the great River Euphrates by nuclear war, disease epidemics, and famine. For full details of these Last Days Prophecies you can find them in our book *Birth of the Nuclear Baby* and also on the following websites: www.yahweh.com and www.yisraylhawkins.com. You can also call 325-893-5899 or 325-672-5420 for further information.

The nuclear baby comes from a combination of many Prophecies in your bible. The end Prophecies are found in the **Book of Revelation**, which is the last of the Inspired Prophecies. This book was given by Yahweh to Yahshua Messiah, Who sent it through His Malak to the Apostle Yahchanan who copied it for us today.

Yahchanan was <u>arrested</u> and <u>imprisoned for teaching the same</u> <u>Message that I preach today, the words straight from the Savior</u>. The Message that I teach is that you must practice keeping Yahweh's Laws or you will not be given Eternal Life. This world's religions in this time period do not have Eternal Life to offer because they will not practice keeping Yahweh's Laws. Notice first:

● Revelation 1:1—

The Revelation of Yahshua Messiah, which Yahweh gave to Him, to show His Servants things which must shortly come to pass; and He sent and signified *it* through His Malak to His Servant Yahchanan:

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.

• Revelation 13:1-8—

1 And I stood upon the sand of the sea, and saw a beast rise up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and upon his horns ten crowns, and upon his heads the names of blasphemy.

2 And the beast which I saw was similar to a leopard, and his feet were as *the feet* of a bear, and his mouth as the mouth of a lion; and the dragon

gave him his power, and his throne, and great authority.

- 3 And I saw one of his heads, as it were, wounded to death. And his deadly wound was healed; and all the world wondered; *followed*, after the beast.
- 4 And they worshiped the dragon which gave power to the beast; and they worshiped the beast, saying: Who is like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?
- 5 And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things, and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to make war for forty-two moons; *months*.
- 6 And <u>he opened his mouth in blasphemy against Yahweh, to blaspheme His Name, and His House</u>, and those who dwell in heaven.
- 7 And it was given unto him to make war with the Saints, and to overcome them. And <u>authority was given him over all tribes</u>, and peoples and languages, and nations.
- 8 And all who dwell upon the earth will worship him—whose names have not been written from the foundation of the world, in The Book of Life of the Lamb Who was slain.

Please notice, verses 6-8 show that Yahweh allows this religious system to work deceiving the nations, proving what comes from breaking His Laws. What comes from breaking Yahweh's Laws? Sickness, disease, confusion, hatred, violence, fighting and wars. All of the curses mankind brings upon himself by breaking Yahweh's Laws that are shown in Leviticus chapters 11 and 18, and Deuteronomy 28. Notice again:

● Revelation 13:8—

And all who dwell upon the earth will worship him—whose names have not been written from the foundation of the world, in The Book of Life of the Lamb Who was slain.

The only people whose names are written in the Book of Life are those who keep Yahweh's Laws as is shown by the Savior.

Revelation 22:14—

Blessed *are* those who <u>keep His</u> <u>Laws</u>, that they may have right to the Tree of Life, and may enter in through the gates into the City.

The details of this Prophecy of the nuclear wars that will kill a third part of man over a fourth part of the earth in and around the great River Euphrates are found in our book Birth of the Nuclear Baby. You also need our book, *The End*. This book shows all the Prophecies of this Last Days deception. It shows which religion is leading the nations, why there is hatred, violence, sickness, disease, confusion, war, and in the end, nuclear wars that will darken the sun in this generation. Yes, this will take place in this generation.

● Mattithyah (Matthew) 24:21-22, 29, 34—

- 21 For then will be Great Tribulation, such as has not come to pass since the beginning of the world to this time—no, nor ever will be.
 22 And unless those days were
- shortened, there would no flesh be saved; but for the Elect's sake, those days will be shortened.
- 29 Immediately, but after the Tribulation of those days will the sun be darkened, and the moon will not give her light, and the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken.
- 34 Truly I say to you: That generation will not pass away, until all these things are fulfilled.

The curses or plagues shown in Mattithyah chapter 24 are already visible. They also have nuclear bombs that can darken the sun. This complete chapter is about to be fulfilled. You will not survive what is coming next on this world unless you repent of sin and convert to practicing Yahweh's Laws.

The Savior's Judgment for life or death is plainly written. Notice first:

• Revelation 20:11-15—

- 11 And I saw a Great White Throne, and Him Who sat on it, from Whose Face the powers of the earth and the powers of the heavens, the Gods (elohim), were driven away; for the verdict was reached that there is no place for them.
- 12 And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before Yahweh. And the books were opened; and another book was opened, which is The Book of Life. And the dead were judged out

of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.

- 13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and sheol; the grave, delivered up the dead which were in them. And they were judged, every man, according to his works.
- 14 And death and sheol were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.
- 15 And whoever was not found written in The Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.

How does one get their name written in the Lambs Book of Life? Notice the Savior's Words in:

● Matthew 19:16-17, *KIV*—

- 16 And, behold, one came and said unto him, Good Master, what good thing shall I do, that I may have eternal life?
- 17 And he said unto him, Why callest thou me good? there is none good but one, that is, God; but if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments.

● Mattithyah 19:16-17, *BOY* —

- 16 And behold, one came to Him. and said; Teacher, what Righteous thing may I do, so that I may have Eternal Life?
- 17 But He said to him: Why do you question Me about Righteousness? There is only One Who is the Standard of Perfection, and He is Yahweh; so if you would enter into life, keep the Laws of Yahweh.

So what if we do not keep the Commandments? Notice:

● Mattithvah 7:15-19—

- 15 Beware of false prophets who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.
- 16 You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thorns, or figs from thistles?
- 17 Likewise, every Righteous tree brings forth Righteous fruit; but a tree of evil brings forth fruit of iniquity.
- 18 A Righteous tree cannot bring forth fruit of iniquity, nor can a tree of evil bring forth fruits of Righteous-
- 19 Every tree which does not bring forth Righteous fruit is cut down, and cast into the fire.
- Verse 19 shows that one who does not keep the Commandments is cast into the fire. This agrees with:

• Revelation 20:15—

And whoever was not found written in The Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.

Now, let's go back to Mattithyah 7.

● Mattithyah 7:21-22—

- 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?

That's what all the preachers in Abilene are saying now, "we are doing wonderful works". The celebration of Christmas and giving the poor a turkey dinner on Christmas day are what they are referring to when they say they are doing wonderful works.

First off, Christmas (December 25) is not the birth date of the True Savior. It's the birthday of a pagan God and was celebrated many years before the True Savior was born in honor of this sun God. It was condemned then by the Holy Prophets just as it is condemned today by Yahweh's House. Read it for yourself in your own bible. How did they celebrate this pagan God's birthday? They set up a Christmas tree and decked it with silver and gold. Sound familiar? Now, notice this in your bible.

● Jeremiah 10:1-5, *KJV*—

- 1 Hear ye the word which the Lord speaketh unto you, O house of Israel:
- 2 Thus saith the Lord; Learn not the way of the heathen, and be not dismayed at the signs of heaven; for the heathen are dismayed at them;
- 3 For the <u>customs of the people are</u> vain: for one cutteth a tree out of the forest, the work of the hands of the workman, with the axe.
- 4 They deck it with silver and with gold, they fasten it with nails and with hammers, that it move not.
- 5 They are upright as the palm tree, but speak not: they must needs be borne, because they cannot go. Be not afraid of them; for they cannot do evil, either also is it in them to do good.

For more information on the origin of this day and other pagan God worshiping days such as Halloween, the worship of the dead, or Easter, the worship of the fertility Goddess, Ishtar, which are also condemned by the Prophets in your bible, read the content of this magazine.

What does the lie of colored eggs or a rabbit laying them have to do with Righteousness? Nothing! Righteousness is practicing the Righteous Laws of Yahweh that are written in your bible. Sin (evil, wickedness) is breaking Yahweh's Laws of Righteousness.

●I Yahchanan 3:4-8 —

- 4 Whoever commits sin, transgresses also the Laws; for sin is the transgression of the Laws.
- 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.

Yahweh's Righteousness that teaches our children moral character has been pushed aside by the religions and replaced with vain customs that the Holy Prophets condemned. Notice what the Prophet Isayah said about those who practice the custom of Halloween, which is the worship of the dead.

● Isayah (Isaiah) 65:1-5—

- 1 I am sought by those who did not ask for Me; I am found by those who did not seek Me. I said: Here I am, here I am, to a nation that was not called with My Name.
- 2 I have spread out My Hands all the day to a rebellious people, who walk in a way which is not right, after their own thoughts; devices;
- 3 A people who continually act defiantly against Me to My Face; who sacrifice in gardens, and burn incense on altars of brick;

- 4 Who assemble and spend the night keeping memorials for the dead, who eat swine's flesh, and the broth of abominable things; *unclean foods*, is *in* their vessels.
- 5 Who say; Stand by yourself! Do not come near me, for <u>I am holier than you!</u> These *are* an abomination before Me, men who will be judged on that last day.

The worship of the dead instead of the Heavenly Father Yahweh is what Halloween is all about.

● Isayah 66:17—

They who sanctify themselves, and purify themselves in the gardens, following after the priests in the midst of those who eat swine's flesh and the rodent—will be consumed together: says Yahweh.

Remember:

●Mattithyah 7:19—

Every tree which does not bring forth Righteous fruit is cut down, and cast into the fire.

• Revelation 20:15-

And whoever was not found written in The Book of Life was <u>cast into the lake of fire</u>.

You may be deceived into thinking that these ways of worship are Righteousness but they will only get you burnt in the lake of fire. They are as the Prophet Yeremyah (Jeremiah) said in:

• Jeremiah 10:3, *KJV*—

For the customs of the people are vain...

People who come before the Judgment Throne thinking they have done wonderful works by celebrating these pagan holidays will be greatly disappointed about their failure to practice Yahweh's Laws of Righteousness. Notice the Savior's Words.

● 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.

According to the Greek dictionary in Strong's Exhaustive Concordance, the word iniquity is word #458 from word #459, and means: doing away with Yahweh's Laws, not subject to the Laws.

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

459. ἄνομος anòmòs, an'-om-os; from r (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.

Remember:

● I Yahchanan 3:4, 7-8—

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

7 Little children, <u>let no man deceive</u> you; <u>he who practices Righteousness</u> <u>is Righteous</u>, 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.

• Hebrews 10:16, 26-27—

- 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;
- 26 For if we <u>sin willfully after we</u> have received the Knowledge of the Truth, there <u>no longer remains a sacrifice for sins</u>,
- 27 But a certain fearful expectation of Judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries.

Their names are not written in the Lamb's Book of Life unless they repent and convert to practicing Yahweh's Laws. They will only see the following:

● Luke 13:25-28—

25 When once the Ruler of the house has risen up and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside, and to knock at the door, and say; Teacher!

Teacher! Open for us!—He will answer, and say to you; <u>I do not know you</u>, nor where you are from.

26 Then you will begin to say; We ate and drank in Your presence, and You were taught in our streets.

27 But He will say; I tell you, <u>I do</u> not know who you are! Get away from Me, all you workers of iniquity.

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.

Please notice that the Savior named Abraham because Abraham kept Yahweh's Laws.

• Genesis 26:1-5—

1 There was a famine in the land, besides the first famine that was in the days of Abraham. And Isaac went to Abimelech king of the Philistines in Gerar.

2 Then Yahweh appeared to him, and said: Do not go down to Egypt;

- 3 Stay in this land, and I will be with you and bless you; for to you and your seed I give all these lands, and I will confirm the oath I vowed to Abraham your father.
- 4 And I will make your seed multiply as the stars of heaven; I will give to your seed all these lands; and in your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed;
- 5 Because <u>Abraham obeyed My</u> <u>Voice</u>, and <u>kept My Charge</u>, <u>My</u> <u>Commandments</u>, <u>My Statutes</u>, and <u>My</u> Laws.

Remember:

Mattithyah 19:17—

But He said to him: Why do you question Me about Righteousness? There is only One Who is the Standard of Perfection, and that is Yahweh; so if you would enter into life, keep the Laws of Yahweh.

So who does your Savior say will be allowed to receive Eternal Life? Compare the following:

● Yahchanan 6:63—

It is the Spirit that gives Life; the flesh is useless. The <u>Laws</u> that I speak to you, *they* are Spirit, and *they* are <u>Life Everlasting</u>.

■ Mattithyah 7:24-29—

24 Therefore, everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does them,

is like a wise man who built his house on the rock:

25 And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat against that house; but it did not fall, for it was founded upon the rock.

26 But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, but does not do them, is like a foolish man who built his house upon the sand:

27 And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat against that house; and it fell, and great was the fall of it.

28 And when Yahshua had finished these sayings, the people were astonished at His teaching;

29 For He taught them as One Who had Authority, and not like the scribes.

● Yahchanan 5:25-29—

25 Truly, truly, I say to you: The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead will hear the Voice of the Son of Yahweh; and those who hear will live.

26 For *just* as the Father has life in Himself, so He has given to the Son to have life in Himself:

27 And has given Him Authority to execute Judgment also, because He is the Son of Man.

28 Do not be astonished at this—for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His Voice,

29 And will come forth. Those who have practiced Righteousness will be resurrected *in order* to live; and those who have practiced wickedness will be resurrected *in order* to be damned.

●Hebrews 10:26-27—

26 For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the Truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins,

27 But a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries.

● I Yahchanan 3:7-8, 10, 15—

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.

10 In this the Children of Yahweh and the children of the devil are manifest. Whoever does not practice Righteousness is not of Yahweh, and he does not love his neighbor!

15 Whoever hates his neighbor is a

<u>murderer</u>; and you know that <u>no</u> <u>murderer has Eternal Life abiding in</u> <u>him.</u>

• Revelation 20:11-15—

11 And I saw a Great White Throne, and Him Who sat on it, from Whose face the powers of the earth and the powers of the heavens, the Gods (elohim), were driven away; for the verdict was reached that there is no place for them.

12 And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before Yahweh. And the books were opened; and another book was opened, which is *The Book* of Life. And the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works.

13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and sheol; *the grave*, delivered up the dead which were in them. And they were judged, every man, according to his works.

14 And death and sheol were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death.

15 And whoever was not found written in The Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.

● Revelation 22:12-14—

12 And behold, I come quickly, and My Reward *is* with Me, to give every man according as his work will be.

13 I am the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.

14 Blessed *are* those who keep His Laws, that they may have right to the Tree of Life, and may enter in through the gates into the City.

How does one achieve the position of entering Yahweh's Kingdom and Eternal Life?

•Acts 3:17-21—

17 And now, brothers, I know that you did this through ignorance, as *did* also your rulers;

18 But those things which Yahweh foretold by the mouth of all the Prophets, that Messiah must suffer, He has fulfilled this.

19 <u>Repent</u> therefore, and <u>be</u> <u>converted</u>, that <u>your sins may be</u> <u>blotted out</u>; that times of refreshing may come from the Presence of Yahweh;

20 And that He may send Yahshua, the Messiah Who was preached to you,

21 Whom the heaven must retain until the time of the restoration of all things, about which Yahweh spoke by the mouths of His Holy Prophets since the world began.

The world today is filled with deception. Everything that is evil is increasing—the sin of adultery, fornication, sodomy, and bestiality from which come sickness, disease, confusion, and defilement of mankind's bodies, the food supply, animals, air, water, and land. This defilement in turn causes more confusion, uncontrolled hatred and illegal lust, violence, and war. It is leading to the soon coming nuclear baby that will kill a third part of mankind over a fourth part of the earth in and around the great River Euphrates, but the religions still will not repent.

• Revelation 9:20-21—

20 And the rest of the men who were not killed by these plagues, still did not repent of the works of their hands, that they should not worship demons, and Gods (elohim, teraphim) of gold, and silver, and brass, and stone, and of wood: which can neither see, nor hear, nor walk;

21 Neither did they repent of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts.

All of the above are the result of sin, which is the breaking of Yahweh's Laws.

●I Yahchanan 3:4—

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

The Teachings of the Prophets, the Savior and the Apostles are the inspired guides to life, abundant life. Those who preach against the way of Righteousness that the Prophets and Apostles taught and wrote about are called false religions, imposters who belong to Satan. Read this in your own bible, then repent and be converted to Righteousness as Yahweh commands you to do.

●I Yahchanan 2:4—

He who says: I know Him, but does not keep His Laws, is a liar, and the Truth is not in him.

● I Yahchanan 3:4, 7-8, 10—

4 Whoever commits sin, trans-

gresses also the Laws; for sin is the transgression of the Laws.

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.

10 In this the Children of Yahweh and the children of the devil are manifest. Whoever does not practice Righteousness is not of Yahweh, and he does not love his neighbor!

• Acts 3:19-21-

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

20 And that He may send Yahshua, the Messiah Who was preached to you,

21 Whom the heaven must retain until the time of the restoration of all things, about which Yahweh spoke by the mouths of His Holy Prophets since the world began.

Yahshua's coming is near. You will not be able to repent if you wait until His coming. Look at what He is saying to you.

• Revelation 22:12-17—

12 And behold, I come quickly, and My Reward is with Me, to give every man according as his work will be.

13 I am the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.

14 Blessed *are* those who <u>keep His Laws</u>, 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 <u>practices breaking the Laws</u>.

16 I, Yahshua, have sent My Malak to testify to you these things in the congregations of The House of Yahweh. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, and the Bright and Morning Star.

17 And the Spirit and the brides, 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.

●Luke 13:24-27—

24 Strive; contend for, exert one's

self, to enter in at the narrow gate; for many, I say to you, will seek to enter in, and will not be able.

25 When once the Ruler of the house has risen up and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside, and to knock at the door, and say; Teacher! Teacher! Open for us!—He will answer, and say to you; I do not know you, nor where you are from.

26 Then you will begin to say; We ate and drank in Your Presence, and You were taught in our streets.

27 But He will say; I tell you, I do not know who you are! Get away from Me, all you workers of iniquity.

Let's look at the word iniquity again.

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

459. ἄνομος anòmòs, an'-om-os; from s (as a neg. particle) and 3551; lawless, i.e. (neg.) not subject to (the Jewish) <u>law;</u> (by impl. a Gentile), or (pos.) wicked:—without law, <u>lawless</u>, <u>transgressor</u>, <u>unlawful</u>, wicked.

● 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.

If Your Religious Leaders Will Not Repent, Then Repent Without Them

Yahweh shows that the religions, as a whole, will not repent; nor will they start practicing Righteousness.

● Mattithyah 7:17—

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

Remember iniquity means doing away with Yahweh's Laws, not subject to the Laws. Iniquity is what the religions are bringing forth at this time when they refuse to teach and keep the Commandments of Yahweh. When they teach that they have Salvation to offer but do not teach the Laws that one

must keep in order to have Salvation, that is also iniquity.

A Saint is one who keeps the Commandments.

• Revelation 14:12, *BOY*—

In this manner are the Saints purified—by keeping the Laws of Yahweh, in conformity with the Faith, as Yahshua Messiah.

● Revelation 14:12, *KJV*—

Here is the patience of the <u>saints</u>: here [are] they that <u>keep the</u> <u>commandments</u> of God, and the faith of Jesus.

Did you notice who is a Saint? Read it again, **Revelation 14:12**, a Saint is not what this world's religions are teaching. A Saint is what the Inspired Prophets, Apostles, and Savior show. One who practices Yahweh's Laws is a Saint.

Keeping the Commandments is a must for Salvation.

• Mattithyah 19:17, BOY—

But He said to him: Why do you question Me about Righteousness?

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There is only One Who is the Standard of Perfection, and He is Yahweh; so if you would enter into life, keep the Laws of Yahweh.

• Matthew 19:17, *KJV*—

And he said unto him, Why callest thou me good? [there is] none good but one, [that is], God: but if thou wilt enter into life, keep the commandments.

Revelation 22:14—

Blessed *are* those who <u>keep His</u> <u>Laws</u>, that they may have <u>right to the</u> <u>Tree of Life</u>, and may enter in through the gates into the City.

● Yaaqob 2:10-12—

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 <u>transgressor of the Laws</u>.

12 So speak, and so do, as those who are being judged by the Laws of liberty—

 ${f T}$ he Ten Commandments are found in:

• Exodus 20:3-17—

3 You shall have no hinder Gods (elohim) *at all*. They are in opposition against Me.

4 You shall not make for yourself any carved image; *an idol*, in the form of anything in heaven above, or on the earth beneath, or in the waters below.

- 5 You shall not bow down to them nor serve them; for I, Yahweh your Father, am a Heavenly Father Who is zealous for My House. I will make it known that the diseases caused by the sexual misconduct of the fathers will be upon their children to the third and fourth generation of those who hate Me.
- 6 But I will show My love to thousands who love Me by keeping My Laws.
- 7 You shall not take the Name of Yahweh your Heavenly Father to bring it to nothing, for Yahweh will not hold him guiltless who brings dishonor upon or profanes His Name.
- 8 Remember the Sabbath Day, to keep it Holy.
- 9 Six days you shall labor and do all your work,
- 10 But the Seventh Day is the Sabbath of Yahweh your Heavenly Father. *In it* you shall not do your work: you, *nor your wife*, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your manservant, nor your maidservant, nor your cattle, nor the stranger who

dwells within your gates.

- 11 For *in* six days Yahweh made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that are in them; and rested the Seventh Day. Therefore, Yahweh blessed the Sabbath Day, and hallowed it; *Yahweh made the Sabbath Day Holy*.
- 12 Honor your father and your mother, so your days may be long upon the land which Yahweh your Father is giving you.
 - 13 You shall not murder.
 - 14 You shall not commit adultery.
 - 15 You shall not steal.
- 16 You shall not bear false testimony against your neighbor.
- 17 You shall not covet; *lust after*, your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his donkey, nor anything that *belongs to* your neighbor.

Please notice again:

• Exodus 20:10-11—

- 10 But the <u>Seventh Day is the Sabbath</u> of Yahweh your Heavenly Father. *In it* you shall not do your work: you, *nor your wife*, nor your son, nor your daughter, nor your manservant, nor your maidservant, nor your cattle, nor the stranger who *dwells* within your gates.
- 11 For *in* six days Yahweh made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that are in them; and rested the Seventh Day. Therefore, Yahweh blessed the Sabbath Day, and hallowed it; *Yahweh made the Sabbath Day Holy*.

The Fourth Commandment is the keeping of the Sabbath, which is the seventh day of the week, not the first or the sixth. Remember:

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 Laws.

● I Yahchanan 3:4, 7-8, 10—

- 4 Whoever commits sin, transgresses also the Laws; for sin is the transgression of the Laws.
- 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.

10 In this the Children of Yahweh and the children of the devil are manifest. Whoever does not practice Righteousness is not of Yahweh, and he does not love his neighbor!

• Hebrews 10:26-27—

26 For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins.

27 But a certain fearful expectation of Judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries.

The religions make every excuse as to why they will not practice this Righteousness. The fact is, they don't keep the Sabbath because they don't believe. They practice disobedience instead of practicing Righteousness; therefore, they all belong to Satan. See this for yourself.

● I Yahchanan 3:4, 7-8, 10—

- 4 Whoever commits sin, transgresses also the Laws; for sin is the transgression of the Laws.
- 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.
- 10 In this the Children of Yahweh and the children of the devil are manifest. Whoever does not practice Righteousness is not of Yahweh, and he does not love his neighbor!

${f Y}$ ahweh says to you in:

Revelation 18:4-5—

- 4 And I heard another voice from heaven, saying: <u>Come out of her</u>, My People, so that you <u>do not partake in her sins</u>, and so that you do not receive of her plagues,
- 5 For her sins have reached unto heaven, and Yahweh has remembered her iniquities!

Come out from those who practice sin. Breaking the Fourth Commandment is sin

● I Yahchanan 3:4—

Whoever commits sin, transgresses

also the Laws; for sin is the transgression of the Laws.

● I Yahchanan 2:4—

He who says: I know Him, but does not keep His Laws, is a liar, and the Truth is not in him.

The Religions Are Unbelievers

The Inspired Scriptures show that those who rebel against keeping Yahweh's Sabbaths are unbelievers. Therefore, they are disobedient to Righteousness.

Remember, Yahshua said these unbelieving, disobedient, false religions described as evil trees bring forth iniquity. Again, **iniquity** means doing away with Yahweh's Laws. That's what the religions have done and they will not repent.

Iniquity is what we see among all of the world's religions. Now notice what the Inspired Scriptures show.

● Hebrews 4:1-11—

- 1 Therefore, since a promise of entering His Rest remains, let us be faithful so that none of you should come short of it.
- 2 For this Message was preached to us, as well as to them; but the word which they heard did not benefit them, because they did not share in the Faith of those who obeyed—
- 3 However, we who have believed do enter that Rest, as He has said: So I vowed in My Judgment; They will not enter into My Rest, although the works were finished from the foundation of the world,
- 4 For He spoke in a certain place of the Seventh *Day*, in this way: And Yahweh <u>rested the Seventh Day</u> from all His works.
- 5 And in this *place* again: If they will enter into My Rest.
- 6 Since therefore it remains that some *must* enter it, and those to whom it was first preached did not enter because of disobedience,
- 7 Again, He designates a certain day, saying in David: "Today," after so long a time, as it has been said: Today, if you will hear His voice, do not harden your hearts.
- 8 Now Yahshua caused them to rest in <u>obedience to the Law</u>, spoken of by Yahweh in a day previously.
 - 9 Therefore, there <u>remains the keep-</u>

ing of the Sabbath to the People of Yahweh,

- 10 For he who has entered into His rest has also ceased from his own works, as Yahweh *did* from His.
- 11 Therefore, let us be zealous to enter into that Rest, so that no one may fall after the same example of unbelief.

There still remains the keeping of the Seventh Day Sabbath. Those who keep it practice Righteousness and belong to Yahweh, the Creator. Those who don't, belong to Satan.

● I Yahchanan 3:7-8, 10—

7 Little children, let no man deceive you; he who <u>practices Righteousness is</u> <u>Righteous</u>, 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.

10 In this the Children of Yahweh and the children of the devil are manifest. Whoever does not practice Righteousness is not of Yahweh, and he does not love his neighbor!

They can only look forward to death. They do not have an immortal soul, as they teach. See this for yourself.

● I Yahchanan 3:15—

Whoever hates his neighbor is a murderer; and you know that no murderer has Eternal Life abiding in him.

• Ezekiel 18:4, *KJV*—

Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine; the soul that sinneth, it shall die.

They sin each and every Sabbath and crucify the First Begotten Son of Yahweh afresh (again and again).

• Hebrews 10:21-29, KJV—

- 21 And having a high priest over the house of God:
- 22 Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water.
- 23 Let us hold fast the profession of our Faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)
- 24 And let us consider one another to provoked unto love and to good works.

- 25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, so the manner of some is, but exhorting on another, and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.
- 26 For if we sin willfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins.
- 27 But a certain fearful looking for of <u>judgment</u> and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries.
- 28 He that <u>despised Moses' law</u> <u>died without mercy</u> under two or three witnesses:
- 29 Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?

Again, Yahweh says to you:

• Revelation 18:4-5—

4 And I heard another voice from heaven, saying: <u>Come out of her, My People</u>, 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!

The plagues are here and they are getting worse each day. The viruses that are now being experienced are just the beginning of the prophesied plagues. The world is filled with defilement and abominations that are caused by breaking Yahweh's Health Laws. The cause is shown by the Inspired Prophets. Notice this in:

● Isayah 24:1-6—

- 1 Before Yahweh's *very* Eyes, the earth is made empty and it is made waste; the face of it is perverted and its inhabitants scattered abroad;
- 2 And it will be: as with the people, so with the priests; as with the servant, so with his owner; as with the maid, so with her mistress; as with the buyer, so with the seller; as with the lender, so with the borrower; as with him who takes usury, so with him who gives usury to him:
- 3 The land will be utterly emptied and utterly plundered, for it has come to pass that this Judgment has been pronounced.
- 4 The earth mourns and fades away, the world mourns and fades

- away, and the haughty people of the earth languish.
- 5 The earth also is defiled because of the inhabitants of it, because they have transgressed the Laws, changed the Ordinance, and broken the Everlasting Covenant.
- 6 Because of this, the curse has devoured the earth, and they who dwell therein are desolate; therefore, the inhabitants of the earth are burned, and few men left.

Did you notice the cause? The cause is the changing of Yahweh's Laws by the religions. That is called iniquity. They are also transgressing Yahweh's Laws, which is sin. Because of this the curse has devoured the earth. Notice again:

● Isayah 24:5-6—

- 5 The earth also is defiled because of the inhabitants of it, because they have transgressed the Laws, changed the Ordinance, and broken the Everlasting Covenant.
- 6 Because of this, the curse has devoured the earth, and they who dwell therein are desolate; therefore, the inhabitants of the earth are burned, and few men left.

You will not survive what is coming next on this world if you refuse to believe Yahweh and repent of sin and convert to practicing Righteousness.

• 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.

If You Convert, You Will Be Persecuted

You will be persecuted as they now persecute us, The House of Yahweh, and as they persecuted the Prophets, Apostles and the Savior, <u>but you will receive Eternal Life from Yahweh and the Savior</u>.

Yahchanan 15:22-23—

- 22 If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not have had their sins revealed; but now they have no cloak, covering for, their sins.
- 23 He who hates Me, also hates My Father.

• Yahchanan 5:27-29—

- 27 And has given Him Authority to execute Judgment also, because He is the Son of Man.
- 28 Do not be astonished at this—for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice,
- 29 And will come forth. Those who have <u>practiced Righteousness</u> will be resurrected *in order* to live; and those who have <u>practiced wickedness</u> will be resurrected *in order* to be damned.

● Revelation 20:13-15—

- 13 And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and sheol; *the grave*, delivered up the dead which were in them. And they were judged, every man, according to his works.
- 14 And death and sheol were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death
- 15 And whoever was not found written in The Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.

■ Revelation 22:14—

Blessed *are* those who <u>keep His</u> <u>Laws</u>, that they may have right to the Tree of Life, and may enter in through the gates into the City.

It's <u>your</u> choice. It's your life or death. Yahweh is asking you to choose life.

• Deuteronomy 30:15-16, 19-20—

- 15 See, I have set before you this day Life by Righteousness, and death and destruction—
- 16 In that I command you this day to love Yahweh your Father, by walking in *all* His ways, by keeping His Laws, His Statutes, and His Judgments, so that you may live and multiply, and so Yahweh your Father may bless you in the land which you go in to possess.
- 19 I call heaven and earth as witnesses against you this day, *that I* have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Therefore <u>choose Life</u>, so both you and your children may <u>live</u>;
- 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...

You know that I am right. I await your response.

Overseer Yisrayl Hawkins

After the first nuclear war (the birth of the nuclear baby), I know that many people will know where the actual Work of the Creator Yahweh is and they will come to the only Protected Place on earth for this time period. They will come out of this Great Tribulation from all nations

Those who are left alive, who come out of the Great Tribulation, will be keeping the very Laws and Sabbaths that the religions refuse to keep at this time. They will be keeping the very Laws done away with by this major religion. These Laws will bring peace to what is left of the nations, according to the Prophet Isayah.

● Isayah 2:4—

...They will beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks; nation will not lift up sword against nation, neither will they learn war anymore.

The religions preach "just believe," but its truly unbelief that holds them back from Salvation. Those who come out of the Great Tribulation in this time period will be obedient to Yahweh's Laws. They will have the Seal of Yahweh upon their hands and foreheads and the plagues will not come near them.

Revelation 18:4—

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.

There is still time to be a part of this Righteous Family of Yahweh if you will come out of religions of and by the people. Yahweh has carried out His Plan for 6,000 years, and it will soon be finished. In fact, we are shown in Prophecy that the 6,000 years allotted for the finishing of Yahweh's Plan of Creation will also be the same time that the rebellious, those who will not repent of sin, will destroy themselves.

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