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Please note you may see many references to numbers such as (084). This teaching is meant to be viewed with images and slides. These numbers are referencing the images or slides to be used at that point of the presentation.

Sunburned

Part 2

Before you begin watching Part 2 of “Sunburned” we sincerely ask that you have watched Part 1.

In Part 1 we test Christmas and Easter to two things:

1. **The Deuteronomy 12:31 Test:** Are the origins of Christmas and Easter of cultic pagan sun god traditions, and thus an attempt to worship unchanging Yahweh in a way that He hates, as the nations worship their gods.
2. **The John 4:24 Test:** Are the days of Christmas and Easter worshipping God in ways that are truth or in ways that are false, as the Father only wants us worshipping in spirit and in truth.

As you should recall, we discovered that the overwhelming evidence, citing factual historical references and peer reviewed scholarly Christian resources, clearly proving that Christmas and Easter in no way passed the mentioned tests.

We then found that the common and only Christian theologian defense for observing Christmas and Easter is that those days were “Christianized” and thus we, as man, made something evil into something good; that we can worship God in our own way, despite what God asks for or instructs. We discovered that such thinking was *the mind of Cain*, and spawned such events as the Israelites with the golden calf.

Now what we want to find out is, ‘how did all these cultic pagan sun god days and traditions become part of the practices of the Christian faith?’ To answer that, we need to go back to the time of Nimrod. We can find the story of Nimrod in the Bible and the Babylonian legends.

The ancient Babylonians began the mother\child cult worship, which is still alive and well today. Nimrod of the Bible was the founder of this false religion. He is also known as Ninus in historical documentation. Scripture says that Nimrod was a mighty hunter before Yahweh.

The primary regions of his kingdom were Babel, Erech, Akkad, and Calneh in the land of Shinar. From that land he went to Assyria, where he built Nineveh, Rehoboth-Ir, Calah, and Resen, which is between Nineveh and the great city of Calah.

(118)

Genesis 10:8-9

Cush fathered Nimrod; he was the first on earth to be a mighty man.* He was a mighty hunter before the LORD. Therefore it is said, "Like Nimrod a mighty hunter before the LORD (Yahweh)."

The fact that Nimrod was "a mighty hunter" does not necessarily only infer that Nimrod was a great gamesman. He was also a conqueror and hunter of men. Furthermore, the Hebrew preposition in verse 9 could and should be translated "*against Yahweh.*"

The Historian Romani Scriptorium states that:

Ninus strengthened the greatness of his acquired dominion by continued possession. Having subdued, therefore, his neighbors, when, by an accession of forces, being still further strengthened, he went forth against other tribes, and every new victory paved the way for another, he subdued all the peoples of the east.

Thus, Nimrod was most certainly feared in his day. The great city he built was Babel, later called Babylon. (067) He also built Nineveh, which actually means "*the habitation of Ninus.*" Semiramis was married to Ninus, or Nimrod. After Ninus died, Semiramis continued the pagan worship he had inspired and declared that Ninus had become the Sun god and was to be worshipped. She had an illegitimate son and named him Tammuz.

To conceal her adultery, she claimed that Tammuz was supernaturally conceived in her by the rays of the Sun which she claimed was her dead (but now alive) husband Nimrod, who had become the sun god - and that Tammuz was actually the reincarnated Ninus.

This Tammuz is the exact same one we see in Scripture, where women in the temple of Yahweh facing east and worshipping and weeping for Tammuz.

Ezekiel 8:14

Then he brought me to the entrance of the north gate of the house of the LORD (Yahweh), and behold, there sat women weeping for Tammuz.

Many churches worldwide often have the pews facing east, toward the rising sun, and worshipping on sun-day instead of the seventh day Sabbath. These were all sun god worship practices that were injected into the Christian faith by a Constantine Trojan horse in the fourth century. But, God's people have always had such problems well before the fourth century. How many know that there *is nothing new under the sun?*

Ecclesiastes 1:9

What has been is what will be, and what has been done is what will be done, and there is nothing new under the sun.

God's people are fantastically good at making the same mistakes over and over again, each time believing that this is something new, and something good. The pagan practices begun in ancient Babylon by Nimrod were also adopted and practiced by the Israelites.

The celebration of the birthday of Tammuz customarily was observed at the winter solstice. Many ancient people believed that the sun was a god and that winter came every year because the sun god had become sick and weak. They celebrated the solstice because it meant that at last the sun god would begin to get well. Evergreen boughs reminded them of the green plants that they would grow again when the sun god was strong and summer would return.

In ancient times, the winter solstice was celebrated in Babylon as the birth of Tammuz, the god of vegetation. This was the shortest day of the year, in the latter part of December. According to the pagans, the reincarnated god Nimrod would visit the evergreen tree and leave gifts upon it.

This festival later became known as the Saturnalia, and friends and family would exchange gifts. During the time of Nimrod and thereafter, many of the earth's inhabitants were sun worshipers because the course of their lives depended on the yearly round in the heavens. Feasts were held to aid its return from distant wanderings.

Frazier admits that:

The largest pagan religious cult which fostered the celebration of December 25 as a holiday throughout the Roman and Greek worlds was the pagan sun worship -- Mithraism.... this winter festival was called 'the Nativity' -- the 'nativity of the sun' (The Golden Bough, p. 471).

Interestingly, the winter solstice was also celebrated centuries later by the followers of Mithras as the "nativity" or "birthday of the unconquered sun." In Persia and afterward in Rome, Mithraism was renamed Babylonian mother-child worship. This is why Catholicism, which is a derivative of Constantine sun god interests, focuses so much on Mary and baby Jesus...not because the Bible merits such focus, but because it helped turn the sun god worshipping pagans, and those following the way of Y'shua, to become this new religious sun mixed hybrid. And even though Protestants rightfully took a step out of Catholicism ...they still retain the mistake of leaving one foot in Constantine ways.

It all started with Nimrod, and each culture over the years simply transliterated the sun god names into their own language. Just as Ninus or Nimrod was the sun god of the Babylonians, Mithras was the sun god of the Persian Empire, whose (birthday) rebirth was also celebrated at the winter solstice around December 25th.

Worship of Mithras was widespread throughout the Roman Empire in the days of the early believers of the first century C.E. Like the mother-child religions of the other cultures, which were copied and renamed from the Babylonian mother-child worship, Mithraism had its mother and child:

Mithras was born of Anahita, an immaculate virgin mother once worshipped as a fertility goddess before the hierarchical reformation. Anahita was said to have conceived the Saviour

from the seed of Zarathustra preserved in the waters of Lake Hamun in the Persian province of Sistan. Mithra's ascension to heaven was said to have occurred in 208 B.C., 64 years after his birth. This birth took place in a cave or grotto, where shepherds attended him and regaled him with gifts, at the winter solstice. (Payam Nabaraz, Mithras and Mithraism,) www.taivaansusi.net/historia/mithraism.html)

Mithras was not the only pagan deity said to be born at this time of year. Osiris, Horus, Hercules, Bacchus, Adonis, Jupiter, Tammuz and other sun gods were supposedly born at the time of the winter solstice!

In the south of Europe, in Egypt and in Persia, the sun god was worshiped with elaborate ceremonies at the season of the winter solstice, as a fitting time to pay tribute to the benign god of plenty. In Rome, Saturnalia reigned for a week. In northern lands, mid-December was a critical time because the days became shorter and the sun was weak and far away.

Thus these ancient peoples held feasts at the same period that Christmas is now observed, and kept many of the same traditions. They built great bonfires in order to give the winter sun god strength and bring him back to life again. When it became apparent that the days were growing longer, there was great rejoicing because of the promise of lengthening days to follow.

Thus, the central idea of the winter solstice - *the return of the light* - was adopted by the Christian world because of its themes of "life" and the "birthday of the child." When the feast was celebrated in Rome, it was called the festival of Saturn and lasted for five days.

In both ancient Rome and more ancient Babylon, this festival was characterized by bouts of drunkenness, wild merrymaking, and orgies, which would begin with an "innocent kiss" underneath the mistletoe and would then lead to justification of all sorts of sexual excesses, perversions and abominations.

The historical record is replete with testimonies confirming the pagan roots of December 25 celebration. All the customs and practices surrounding Christmas can be traced back to pagan celebrations of their sun gods.

The religion of Mithraism in the Persian Empire, which featured the worship of mother and child - the child being Mithras the sun god - was adopted by the Roman Empire as the dominant religion of the Romans.

Mithraism remained in place until the fourth century of the Common Era when it "mysteriously" disappeared - about the same time that Christianity was declared by Constantine to be the new official religion of the Roman Empire.

Emperor Constantine was a devout Mithraist - a worshipper of the sun god. During the time of his reign, his kingdom was divided religiously between worshippers of the sun god Mithras, and worshippers of Yahweh, the One true God. Constantine cleverly realized that because of the many similarities, the two religions could be folded together. So, he declared to have seen a vision in the sky of a cross, and declared that he had become a Christian. He then decreed that Christianity was the new official religion of the Roman Empire. But nothing really changed. Mithraism merely got renamed. It came to be called Christianity, with Mary and Jesus as the mother and child. *And the birthday of the sun god became the birthday of the Christ child.*

The adversary was brilliant. He created his sun god worship ages ago, knowing that worship traditions would result. Because it was similar to what Yahweh promised through His son, the adversary, or often called Satan, knew that such ways would then be adopted into worshipping Yahweh...this makes the adversary smile, because those ways came from him, and Yahweh declared that He hates being worshipped with sun god traditions.

We have been duped, and our Creator appeals for us to come back to only the Word of God, and leave the sun god ways behind. Constantine took all that was formerly sun-god worship and he called it all "Christian."

At the Council of Nicea, he forced all believers in the Messiah to abandon all the Scriptural worship practices, including the Sabbath observance, Pesach (Passover), Succot (Tabernacles) and each of the other Appointed Times. He made it illegal to only eat clean, and forced the eating of unclean things, such as pig. He changed all the customs and observed holy days to those times, which the pagans had been observing for thousands of years to honor the sun gods.

This is the same thing that every anti-christ in history has also done. For example, we can read about the Maccabean period in which Antiochus Epiphanies did the exact same thing. Even Daniel mentions the changing of the appointed times and laws.

Daniel 7:25

He shall speak words against the Most High, and shall wear out the saints of the Most High, and shall think to change the times and the law;

That is what all antichrists do...time and time again.

However, Constantine accomplished something that no other person before him accomplished... after merging everything together like some strange religious sun god soup, he proceeded to continue to call himself and everyone else "Christian."

Many believers in the Messiah who were obeying the commandments and worshipping on Sabbath and keeping the Appointed Times, who refused to give up their walk of obedience to the Scriptures, were killed.

In the fifth century, the Western Church ordered Messiah's birth to be celebrated forever on the day of the old Roman feast of the birth of the sun. In the interest of preserving their sun god ways and traditions, they simply just changed the name, and switched out the sun god with our Messiah. Does that sound like something God would do, or Satan would do? *Seriously*. Would God want His son to be celebrated on a sun god's birthday? Or would Satan love to watch God's people celebrate on a that day that he made? *Who do we want to follow?*

It was the celebration of the birth of the sun god in ancient Rome that was accompanied by profusion of lights and torches on the decoration of trees. To facilitate the acceptance of the Christian faith by the pagan masses, the Church of Rome found it expedient to make not only the Day of the Sun the weekly celebration of Christ's resurrection, but also the Birth Day of the Invincible Sun-God on December 25, the annual celebration of Christ's birth. (Samuele Bacchiocchi, *The Date and Meaning of Christmas*)

When the so called "fathers of the church," in AD 440 decided upon a date to celebrate the event, they chose the day of the winter solstice which was firmly fixed in the minds of the people and was already their most important festival. It was certainly quite convenient for Constantine to adopt this common custom as the birthday of the messiah, at the time he was trying to merge the world religions of Mithraism and Christianity.

Why did the Roman Church fix upon December 25 as the day to honor the Messiah's birthday when it was clearly a pagan festival day? There is many opinions on this. The prevailing reason was that they justified the switch by insisting that the birthday of the sun was appropriate because they would still be celebrating the "birthday" of the son of righteousness (see Malachi 4:2). However, this flavor of thinking began happening well before it was all solidified into law:

"Others, with greater regard to good manners, it must be confessed, suppose that the sun is the God of the Christians, because it is a well-known fact that we pray toward the east, or because we make Sunday a day of festivity." (Tertullian [155-225 AD.], Ad Nationes, i 13, in The Ante-Nicene Fathers, vol. III, p. 123)

Believe it or not Tertullian has been called "the father of Latin Christianity" and "the founder of Western theology." It should be a little disturbing that a supposed "Church Father" believed himself to basically be a sun god worshipper. Now you understand the type of thinking that caused us to be in such a theological mess. The end result, as it stands today, is a perverse adoption of the pagan practices of sun god worship into the Christian faith.

Let's go back to Saturnilia...

The pagan festival at Rome lasted several days, and loose reins were given to drunkenness and revelry. This was precisely the way in which the Babylonian midwinter festival was celebrated. But the Christian church not only adopted the 25th of the month to celebrate the Messiah's birthday, they also adopted the prevailing customs which the pagans had long been accustomed to during their festival. So they did not just adopt the day, but many of the traditions as well.

Some attempt to defend Constantine's "If you can't beat them, then join them" approach to merging Christianity and Mithraism, citing that Constantine was truly converted and that he was a believer. Unfortunately, the prevailing evidence proves that Constantine was a cultic Mithra sun god worshiper till the end while still also claiming Christianity. He played both sides of the fence.

For example, Constantine continued to mint coins in honor of "*sol invictus*" (meaning the unconquerable sun) till at least 335 CE. (084) We will admit though, he was most certainly a good politician, and had many fooled....and sadly, many are still fooled today. But Biblically, we should not be fooled...

2 Corinthians 6:14

Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what fellowship has light with darkness?

1 Corinthians 10:21

You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons. You cannot partake of the table of the Lord and the table of demons.

We cannot mix things of God and things of the adversary, and just pretend it is ok.

Before Constantine, for the longest time, until the sun god ways began to creep in, God's people kept the holidays mentioned in the Bible. In the spring, before there was Easter, there was Passover, Unleavened Bread and First Fruits.

All we have to do is examine their writings.

Don't believe it? That after the cross, and before sun god influence, that believers still kept God's real holidays? Here is one example:

At the end of the second century, Victor, the bishop of Rome began to threaten other Church leaders in an attempt to get them to abandon Passover completely in the favor of the Roman Easter celebration.

Polycrates, the bishop of Ephesus, wrote this to Victor sometime between 130 and 196 CE.

Then there is Polycarp, both bishop and martyr at Smyrna; and Thraseas from Eumenia, both bishop and martyr, who rests at Smyrna. Why should I speak of Sagaris, bishop and martyr, who rests at Laodicea? of the blessed Papirius, moreover? and of Melito the eunuch,⁸ who performed all his actions under the influence of the Holy Spirit, and lies at Sardis, awaiting the visitation⁹ from heaven, when he shall rise again from the dead? These all kept the Passover on the fourteenth day of the month, in accordance with the Gospel, without ever deviating from it, but keeping to the rule of faith.

Moreover I also, Polycrates, who am the least of you all, in accordance with the tradition of my relatives, some of whom I have succeeded-seven of my relatives were bishops, and I am the eighth, and my relatives always observed the day when the people put away¹⁰ the leaven. (Polycrates Bishop of Ephesus 130-196 CE.)

Supposedly, according to Christian scholars, based on the writings of Irenaeus, Polycarp was a disciple of John the apostle himself...yet, he kept Passover? In Ephesus. Paul though, knew it would not last, for he told those in Ephesus, the following:

Acts 20:29-30

I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them.

So from Polycarp to Polycrates, 8 generations of bishops, all kept the Passover. If they kept the Passover we can rest assured that they kept God's other holidays as outlined in Leviticus 23 as well. That was of course until Rome made it illegal to follow God in Leviticus 23 and instituted they're Christianized sun god ways. Thus, the true Biblical holidays were not abolished by our Messiah, or by Paul. Those are simply misunderstandings. For more information on that subject, consider watching our teaching series titled, *The Pauline Paradox*.

The Catholic Church readily admits that they are the ones, beginning with Constantine, that solidified through their law, the abolishment of the Biblical holidays and punishable by death.

For example:

"It was the Catholic Church which made the law obliging us to keep Sunday holy. The church made this law long after the Bible was written. Hence said law is not in the Bible. The Catholic Church abolished not only the Sabbath, but all the other Jewish festivals." (T. Enright, Bishop of St. Alphonsus Church, St. Louis, Missouri, June, 1905, emphasis supplied.)

Also consider:

"Since the second century A.D. there had been a divergence of opinion about the date for celebrating the paschal (Easter) anniversary of the Lord's passion (death, burial and resurrection). The most ancient practice appears to have been to observe the fourteenth (the Passover date), fifteenth, and sixteenth days of the lunar month regardless of the day of the [Julian] week these dates might fall on from year to year. The bishops of Rome, desirous of enhancing the observance of Sunday as a church festival, ruled that the annual celebration should always be held on the Friday, Saturday, and Sunday following the fourteenth day of the lunar month. . . . This controversy lasted almost two centuries, until [the Emperor] Constantine intervened in behalf of the Roman bishops and outlawed the other group." (Robert L. Odom, Sunday in Roman Paganism, p. 188, emphasis supplied.)

The problem is this, despite all that occurred at the reformation, there are still many traditions and doctrines that many hold on to that were simply the result of the unbiblical marriage of Christianity and Mithraism. Unfortunately, despite the thousands of Christian denominations that exist, there exists not one that has take both feet out of the sun god mixture that became known as the Roman Catholic Church. We would have historically done much better in the faith if we would have simply considered and practiced the following:

Ephesians 5:11

"And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them."

We have no intent to offend, but the facts are clear, even from their very own writings. The Roman Catholic Church history is saturated with encouraging and successfully blending of sun god religions, contrary to Yahweh's instructions. There might not be a better example, than the statue of Peter in Rome.

Here is the famous statue of Peter in Rome. (002) However, this statue was not always Peter, as crazy as it sounds, it was in fact originally the god of Jupiter. The statues of the 'gods' from the Pantheon are now found in the Vatican Museum with the exception of the great statue of Jupiter, which has been modified, retitled, and seated on a throne in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome as St. Peter.

The historical church, consistent with adopting sun god ways and supposedly "Christianizing" them, has a sun god statue that they knowingly simply renamed Peter. What is even worse is that thousands of pilgrims kiss the foot of Jupiter while thinking it is the statue of Peter.

(001) [FYI: A NUMBER IN PARENTHEESE REPRESENTS A PICTURE IN THE VIDEO TEACHING]

You can actually see how the bronze has worn away from so many of thousands bowing down and kissing the god of Jupiter statue's feet. Typical of sun god tradition, this statue in St. Peter's

Cathedral in Rome also includes a solar disk above his head and he is also showing a "secret trident" hand. (002)

Now watch how these symbols such as the hand gesture of a trident and sun disk appear all over the works of the Catholic Church, directly from the influence of Babylon and pagan sun god worship. The trident of Babylon was placed in hands of all Pagan gods -the pitchfork. On the head of the infant Jesus, his Hebrew name Y'shua, there is a trident symbol. This pagan symbol is from Babylon as we saw evidence in the god of Jupiter statue. (004)

Here is another Trident gesture and sun god disk (071)

Again (074)

And again (075)

And again (072)

More sun disks (073)(076)

Here we have a happy sun disk party (085)

Y'shua at the transfiguration with not only a sun disk, but the Tammuz symbol in the disk as well. (079)

More sun disks and a Tammuz sign (086)

Again (088)

And again (089)

And again

Even sun disks on animals (087)

Here we have the pope and a sun disk burst (091)

And Y'shua as the sun god (110)

Sun disks are simply everywhere in 4th century Christianity and beyond (097 - 098 -099 - 100)

The sun god disk was a prominent symbol in sun god worship (077)(081) ...and because Christianity blended sun worship with the faith, it should be of no surprise that the artists simply changed the names, but not the sun symbolism. Nearly all false religions are grounded in sun worship. Here the Hindu god Surya has a clear depiction of a sun god disk. (082)

Here we find a pagan goddess of fertility in the Vatican. (080)

Here is the sun god Mithra with a sun disk...(111)(108)(112)

Some Irish monks here (109)

More sun god disks (094) (104) (105) (113)

Here is an interesting ancient depiction of sun gods(114)....recognize this symbol right here? It should look familiar (115)

Here is Pope Benedict holding what is called a Monstrance. (005) It is used to display a round wafer of bread, called the host, which is used in what is called Mass, the Lord's Supper, or Communion meal.

The Catholic believes this wafer of bread turns into the actual body of Christ when consecrated during the Mass. With no sense of shame, the Roman Catholic Church even admits the Monstrance to be a sunburst:

"During the baroque period, it took on a rayed form of a sun-monstrance with a circular window surrounded by a silver or gold frame with rays."

Source: The Dictionary of the Liturgy by Rev. Jovian P. Lang, OFM

The priest sometimes holds up the sunburst monstrance with the host inside for the congregation to adore and venerate. Virtually any time the monstrance is viewed by the congregation, they kneel in submission.

A Catholic cannot walk past this sun symbol without acknowledging it by kneeling and, or making the sign of the cross with their hands. Inside the glass enclosure is a crescent, upon which the round wafer god host is placed, called a "lunette" or "luna" (moon). Note the similarity to the symbol of Baal: a cross within a circle. (107)

The world's largest pinecone sculpture is in the grounds of the Vatican (003). In Babylon the pinecone described the fertility and the regeneration power of Tammuz. The pine cone staff in Egypt was a symbol of the sun god Osiris.

The Vatican/St Peter's Basilica is truly an impressive building. (007) It's the largest church in the world. Vatican means "Hill of Divination" and Basilica has its root meaning in the magical word, "basilisk".

The solar wheel was another symbol of Baal Worship. (009) When Israel turned to Baal, they made chariots dedicated to the sun god, which they thought traveled across the sky in a great chariot.

2 Kings 23:11

"And he took away the horses that the kings of Judah had given to the sun, at the entering in of the house of the LORD, by the chamber of Nathanmelech the chamberlain, which was in the suburbs, and burned the chariots of the sun with fire".

All through the Vatican there are images and symbols of the sun wheel but the biggest sun wheel in the world is right in St Peter's Square. (008) It is also known as the occult 8-Wheel Path of Enlightenment by pagans/wiccans today. St Peter's also faces due east.

If you look at the center of the wheel you see that there is an obelisk in the center and at the center of the huge eight-point sun wheel, (105) is a smaller four-pointed sun wheel, the same symbol as found on the altar stone in the temple of Baal in Hatzor. (006)

In Babylonian history Nimrod was killed and his body was cut into pieces. His wife Semaramis collected all the parts except for one - his reproductive organ. Legend says that when the fish ate it, hence when Nimrod was reborn, he was part man part fish – also known as Dagon.

In Egyptian history Nimrod was called Osiris and the obelisk represents the male phallus of Osiris. When the Roman ancient Empire fell, the Roman Catholic Church began to increase its power and influence until it gained total power, both spiritually and politically. Soon, the Vatican purchased one of Egypt's ancient obelisks.

The Obelisk from Egypt was brought to Rome in 37 AD. It came from Heliopolis, Egypt, where it had been built by the Pharaoh Mencares in 1835 BC in honor of the sun. It is also a sundial, its shadows mark noon over the signs of the zodiac in the white marble disks in the paving of the square. (106)

The obelisk rests upon four couchant lions, each with two bodies whose tails intertwine, where they placed in St. Peter's Basilica. Therefore, whenever the Pope holds audience to vast crowds within the Basilica, the Pope is facing the obelisk. Perhaps Exodus 34 comes to mind. Instead of purchasing obelisks, Yahweh wants them destroyed!

Exodus 34:13

"But you shall destroy their altars, dash in pieces their pillars, obelisks, images, and cut down their Asherim, symbols of the goddess Asherah."

The fish symbol has been used for millennia worldwide as a religious symbol associated with the Pagan great mother goddess (014-015). Fish were originally worshiped as a symbol of Nimrod because the fish survived Noah's flood. The sun god, who after being killed, was reborn in the womb of his wife Semiramis.

Her womb represented "the waters of the great deep". Nimrod then became the fish-god being reborn in these "waters." Here you will see a drawing of the pagan goddess with the fish head of Dagon on her head (016). And another picture (015) this time with Isis crowned with a fish on her head. She was known as Isis Incarnate - The Great Fish of the Abyss. The old priests of Dagon wore a particular type of headdress and the Catholic religion uses this same exact design on their papal headdress" (110 -114)

According to Egyptian mythology, when the judges found Osiris [Nimrod] guilty of corrupting the religion of Adam and cut up his body, they threw the parts into the Nile. It was said that a fish ate one of these chunks (his reproductive organ) and became transformed. Later, Isis [or Semiramis] was fishing along the riverbank when she fished up a half-man, half-fish. This sea creature was Dagon, the reincarnated Nimrod. And Dagon is the representation of Nimrod of ancient Babylon resurrected out of the ocean depths as a half-man, half-fish.

QUOTE

"Dagon is the diminutive of dag, and signifies... fish...The Babylonians believed that a being, part man and part fish, emerged from the Erythraean Sea, and appeared in Babylonia in the

*early days of its history...Representations of this fish-god have been found among the sculptures of Nineveh. The Philistine Dagon was of a similar character."
- Manners and Customs of the Bible; by James Freeman.*

"In Babylon there was "Oannes" a fish god who imparted great knowledge to the people. He taught them how to build cities.

Zephaniah 1:9,10,14

"On that day I will punish those who worship Dagon....On that day, says Yahweh, a cry will be heard at the Fish Gate... I will punish those who are satisfied with themselves, who think, 'The Lord won't help us or punish us.' The Lord's day of judging is coming soon; it is near and coming fast. The cry will be very sad on the day of the Lord; even soldiers will cry."

Now that we have a fairly introductory understanding of the Babylonian history becoming part of the Christian faith, let's look at some of the sun god traditions that Christianity adopted as a result.

Let's start with Santa Clause.

ORIGINS OF TRADITIONS

SANTA CLAUSE

The story begins in the northern regions of Europe where the supreme god Odin, (024) also known as Wodan among the German tribes, reigned. He still lives among us as Wednesday, which is actually Wodan's day.

Odin/Wodan was the god of wisdom, magick and the occult knowledge, runes, poetry and war. (025) His name means "the inspired one". Like a shaman he could travel in other worlds to gather more insight while his two black ravens Huginn (Thought) and Muninn (Memory) kept him informed about the news in the world. (026) Odin was depicted as a tall, old man with a white beard and wearing a cloak. (022) He rode the skies and the seas on his fast white horse with its 8 legs (021), while carrying his never missing spear in his hand. (023)

He had one eye, for he had offered the other eye in exchange for gathering wisdom at the well of the head Mimir (020) and with that he became a shapeshifter, able of seeing in the outward world with his normal eye and understanding the inward worlds with his black, removed, eye. He was very beloved among his friends and followers who felt happy and energized in his surroundings. His enemies however he could paralyze or kill with his sight.

Odin trained many men and women as warriors for the final battle against the forces of destruction in the underworld. His fearless warriors often painted their bodies black and fought in the middle of the night. Odin is a mythical representation of goodness with his wisdom, white beard and white horse. His helpers are black ravens and black spiritual warriors.

So now we have a wise, good man performing miracles with a white horse riding the skies, a white beard, a cloak, a spear and black advisors or informers or helpers and he is also the god of poetry.

Next we go to the Roman Empire where in December the pagan Saturnalia were celebrated, big feasts with a lot of merrymaking, dancing, gambling, sensuality and the exchange of gifts. (027)

This festival was meant to celebrate the return of the sun on the shortest days of the year and to counteract the depression due to lack of sunlight.

Time goes by.

Christianity begins merging and blending with these religions.

In the 4th century in Myra, Turkey, a Christian bishop named Nicholas lived with a great reputation for goodness, benevolence and performing miracles for the poor and unhappy. (28) In this depiction of him, notice the sun god disk around his head and the trident symbol with his hand. This is the same exact disturbing hand gesture we saw earlier with the God of Jupiter statue...also with its own sun disk image.

Legend has it that he miraculously supplied gold to three girls as marriage dowries so they did not have to become prostitutes and he brought three children back to life who had been chopped up by a butcher.

It is not difficult to understand that during the poverty of the Middle Ages the bishop became extremely popular as Saint Nicholas in all parts of Europe. His feast day, it was said to be his birthday, which was supposedly December 5 or 6, no one really knows. There is no historical evidence however for the true existence of this saint. So now we see a benevolent, miracle performing bishop with a white dress and a red cloak.

After the reformation Saint Nicholas became forgotten in all the protestant countries of Europe except for Holland. There he became Sinterklaas; a kind and wise old man with a white beard, white dress, and red cloak. He is riding the skies and roofs of the houses on his white horse, accompanied by his Black Jacks. (017) Sinterklaas will visit you on his birthday December 5 and 6 and donate gifts.

His Black Jacks have miraculously gathered information about your behavior during the last year; if you were good you will now be rewarded with presents, if you were bad you will be punished by the Black Jacks who will beat you with their rods or even worse: put you in a big bag and take you to Spain, said to be the residence of Sinterklaas. (018) On the other hand: if you do behave nice you will be rewarded with sweets and gifts accompanied by humoristic poems that will give you insight in your weaknesses.

Here is actually some video depicting Sinterklass. Here the mix becomes clear between Odin the good magician god and the miracles of the benevolent Sinterklaas. They both ride a white horse in the skies, wear a white beard, and a cloak and a spear. They both have black helpers. They try to support goodness and dispel evil through knowledge. And remember the poetry part? And then it is all blended with Roman influences, which shows itself in a December feast with gaiety and presents.

In the 17th century Dutchmen immigrated to Northern America and brought their tradition of Sinterklaas with it. In the new English-speaking world the name changed to Santa Claus. In 1930 a designer for the Coca-Cola Company was asked to draw attractive advertisements because this drink did not sell well in wintertime. (031) He had to use the company colors red and white and create some kind of cozy type. (029) He remembered the Dutch Santa Claus with his white dress, red cloak, long white beard, kindness and benevolence. (030) The eight-legged horse was

replaced for eight flying reindeer. (032) A punishing Black Jack was inappropriate in this concept, so he disappeared. (034, 035, 036) The helpers became elves. (033) So many do not know that the famous Santa Clause hat is actually the hat of Mithra. Much of the rest stayed the same. This new Santa Claus, or “god of Odin” became a big hit. He became so popular that right now in Europe he is serious competition for the Sinterklaas.

So on to the Christmas Tree and Wreath

Wreaths are circular, and so in sun god tradition, they represent the female sexual organs. Wreaths are associated with fertility and the “circle of life”. Wreaths are also associated with Ishtar, or Samiramis, also known as the Queen of Heaven. The counter part male version of the wreath is actually the decorated Christmas tree.

A Christmas tree decorated with spheres are to represent the complete phallic symbol of Nimrod. A sun god starburst at the top represents the sun god origins and is a tribute to the sun god deities. Various tree worship existed in Egypt and other sun god cultures. It was passed on to different nations and the sun god traditions embedded in Germany eventually passed this tradition on in the United States.

(095)

The Name Easter

Worship was always associated with the worship of Baal or sun worship. Astarte was Baal’s wife. Another name for Astarte was Ashtaroth.

Easter is nothing else than Astarte, one of the titles of Beltis, the queen of heaven...Now, the Assyrian goddess, or Astarte, is identified with Semiramis by Athenagoras (Legatio, vol. ii. p. 179), and by Lucian (De Dea Syria, vol iii. p. 382)...Also known as Semiramis, as queen of Babylon, later known as the name of ‘Asht-tart,’ for that just simply means ‘The woman that made towers’...Ashturit, then...is obviously the same as the Hebrew ‘Ashtoreth’”

Notice this conclusive quote from Microsoft Encarta Multimedia Encyclopedia: *“Ishtar was the Great Mother, the goddess of fertility and the queen of heaven.”*

So, in actuality, Ashtaroth (Ishtar) was Nimrod’s harlotrous, mother/wife widow, Semiramis, as many other ancient historians attest. Easter is now established as none other than Ashtaroth of the Bible.

We can now examine the scriptures that show how God views the worship of this pagan goddess—by any name!

Judges 2:11, 13

“And the children of Israel did evil in the sight of the Lord...And they forsook the Lord, and served Baal and Ashtaroth [Easter]”

1Samuel 7:3-4

“...put away the strange gods and Ashtaroth (Easter) from among you, and prepare your hearts unto the Lord, and serve him only...Then the children of Israel did put away Baalim and Ashtaroth (Easter), and served the Lord only”

So perhaps you are familiar with the tradition of New Easter Clothing. Where did that come from?

Everyone knows that Easter is the day that everyone has to wear their new Easter clothing. This mentality stems from the pagan tradition that it was unlucky not to wear some sort of new clothing or personal adornment, because it symbolically signified the end of the old, and the beginning of the new. (037, 038, 039)

Perhaps you have heard of Hot Cross Buns

The history of the hot cross bun goes back to the Babylonian queen of heaven (Astarte, Ishtar, or Easter), and a reference to it is made in Jeremiah 7, which talks about making "cakes to the queen of heaven."

The Hebrew word for "cakes" is "kavvan" and is properly translated as "buns."

In Athens, about 1500 years before Christ, these buns or sacred bread, were used in the worship of the goddess. They were called "boun." Egyptians made buns inscribed with two horns in honor of the moon goddess, and the Greeks changed it to a cross, which fits the sign of Tammuz. The Anglo-Saxons made buns with a cross on them in honor of their goddess of light.

Notice how in one of the pictures, they are included with eggs, another fertility symbol of sun god worshipers. Today, these same buns are made in respect to the sun goddess Easter, the Queen of Heaven.

Carnival and Mardi Gras

(042 -046)

QUOTE

"In the traditional Christian calendar, it is a period of feasting and merrymaking immediately preceding Lent." Within Europe, traditions and customs are "especially strong in rural areas where magical rites carried over from pre-Christian times mingle comfortably with Christian ritual and precept." (Encyclopedia Americana, Vol. 5).

"Carnival" simply means "doing without meat" and as a "Christianized" observance, is supposed to remind people of Christ fasting in the wilderness for 40 days – the time of Lent. However, consider this article by the Houston Chronicle:

"Actually, there was a pagan festival in ancient Rome, one called carne levare, levamen, meaning 'take away the flesh.'

Pagans believed the best way to give up 'flesh' (aka meat) was by filling up on it big time first, before the sundial brought on abstinence.

QUOTE

In rural Europe several of the main features that have endured in the Carnival celebrations are:

1. *Dramatizations symbolizing the death of winter and the resurrection of life in the spring;*
2. *Customs and rites to ensure fertility and abundance in man and nature;*
3. *Rich food, drink and merrymaking,*
4. *The temporary suspension or inversion of social roles, rank and superiority (Encyclopedia Americana).*

Shrove Tuesday is well known as Mardi Gras in the United States. The French word "Mardi Gras" actually means "Fat Tuesday." This was the day that everyone gorged themselves on all their rich foods. They did this before the "Lenten fasting"

Sunrise Service

This too, was an aspect of old pagan customs associated with sun worship. Though the custom no longer directly and intentionally celebrates the rising of the sun among Christians, God does condemn the type of service from which it was derived (Ezek. 8:16).

Many years after Christ's death, the Catholic church began to associate the tradition with Christ's supposed early morning resurrection in an apparent effort to compromise with their new converts previously held religious traditions.

The Catholic Churches efforts to justify are clearly misguided, because when the ladies came to Christ's tomb early Sunday morning, He already wasn't there! The Jews during the time of Jeremiah and Ezekiel had blended sun worship with the worship of God, as we can clearly see in the Scriptural references in regard to the "queen of heaven."

Ezekiel 8:15-16 talks about men standing with their backs to the Temple of God, facing the east and worshipping the sun. Albert Pike once wrote that all pagan religions worshipped the sun. Whether they knew it, or not, they were actually worshipping Satan, the adversary.

The Temple of Yahweh faced the east, so that when they worshipped God, they would be turned away from the rising sun in the east. The sunrise service actually stems from the pagan rite of spring that was held during the vernal equinox to welcome the coming sun.

According to pagan tradition, when the sun would rise on Easter morning, it would dance in the heavens, so, those who would congregate, would dance in honor of the sun. The assembly of sun-day is a derivative of sun god day...Sun god worshippers were meeting on the day after the Sabbath for ages.

Constantine made it so that Christians who assembled on Sunday, instead of the Sabbath. For more on this, please see our teaching titled, *The Sabbath Day*...if you wish to know what day our Creator declared to be His and set apart, versus the day the sun god worshippers declared to be theirs and set apart.

Easter Ham

The pig was sacred to the Greek goddess Demeter, the corn goddess, who represented fertility and abundance, and is another counterpart of Astarte. (051) In various depictions of her, she is either shown carrying, or being accompanied by a pig.

So, pigs were often sacrificed to her, and it was believed, that by eating what a pig, it represented and embodied their goddess; they were in fact, eating of her body. (053) The prophet Isaiah warned of this in Isaiah 65:3-5. Another source says that the pig represents the wild boar that killed Tammuz, and eating ham was done in remembrance of him. (052) Also, the tradition of the Easter Ham evolved from the English tradition of eating unclean to show their resentment and contempt for the Jewish custom of not eating pork. (054)(Is. 61)

On to the Easter Bunny

The Easter bunny is a pagan symbol of fertility and new life. Bede, the eight century English monk and scholar related that the Tutonic goddess of spring and fertility, Eastre, had the hare as her symbol. (058) (The American Book of Days, ed. by Jane Hatch, 1978, p. 302)

To begin with, it is actually the hare, and not the rabbit, which is Easter's main character, because according to ancient tradition, the hare was a symbolic representation for the Moon, since they only came out at night to eat.

Also, the Egyptian name for the hare was "Un" (which means "open"), because they are born with their eyes open, while a rabbit's are not. (057) Legend has it, that the hare never blinks or closes it eyes. To some pagan cultures, the Moon was the "open-eyed watcher of the skies." (055) The hare is associated with the goddess Ishtar, and was the symbol of fertility because they reproduce so quickly. (056)

There is also a pagan tradition concerning a bird who wanted to be a rabbit, so the goddess Oestre turned the bird into a rabbit, who could still lay eggs. Every Spring, during the festival dedicated to Oestre, the rabbit laid beautiful colored eggs for the goddess. (060) This tradition is exemplified in the Cadbury television commercial for the filled chocolate eggs. (062)

Another tradition, which has been passed down, comes from Germany. According to the legend, during a time of famine, a poor woman dyed some eggs and hid them in a nest, as Easter presents for her children. (063) When the children found the nest, a big rabbit leaped away, which led to the story that the rabbit brought the eggs.

QUOTE

"The Easter Rabbit lays the eggs, for which reason they are hidden in a nest or in the garden. The rabbit is also a pagan symbol and has always been an emblem of fertility "-Simrock, Mythologie, 551 -Catholic Encyclopedia (061)

The image of a bunny is very well known ancient symbol of fertility, derived from the bare breasted goddess Ishtar or also known as Easter. This is why the bunny logo was chosen as a fitting symbol for an unfortunately popular U.S. organization. (059)

So what about Easter Eggs

Eggs are a sacred symbol of rebirth and fertility among the Babylonians, Druids, Egyptians and other pagan cultures. (063) Dyed eggs were used as sacred offerings during the pagan Easter season and were also used as symbols of the Goddess Ishtar in various cultures. (Encyclopedia Britannica)(065)

During the rule of Caesar Augustus, Hyginus, an Egyptian who was the librarian at the Palatine library in Rome, wrote:

"An egg of a wondrous site is said to have fallen from heaven into the river Euphrates. (066) The fishes rolled it to the bank, where the doves having settled upon it, and hatched it, out came Venus, who afterwards was called the Syrian goddess (Astarte)."

Part of their worship to this goddess was the ritual involving the "golden egg of Astarte." (064) This was where we received the tradition of the Easter egg.

Now on to Obelisks

An obelisk is a monolithic stone monument whose four sides, which generally carry inscriptions, gently taper into a pyramidion at the top. The ancient Egyptians usually erected them in pairs and associated them with the rays of the Sun, which increase in width as they reach the Earth. So popular were these monuments among the Roman emperors that 13 of them were taken to Rome.

These monuments are centered around Baal worship, and are traditionally representative of Nimrod's sex organ. Today, in Christianity, these monuments intentionally moved from Egypt, to Rome, and then actually to steeples on tops of churches.

(078) (079) (092) (102)

Though many have done it anyway, Yahweh did not like the stone pillars that the sun god worshipers put up:

Deuteronomy 16:33

And you shall not set up a pillar, which the LORD (Yahweh) your God hates.

And finally - Child Sacrifice

This is one of the most disturbing practices of sun god worship.

(116)(117)

This horrible practice associated with the worship of the fire sun god Nimrod, Saturn, Kronos, Molech and Baal. Nimrod, as the representative of the devouring fire to which human victims, and especially children, were offered in sacrifice, was regarded as the great child-devourer...he was, of course, the actual father of all the Babylonian gods; and, therefore, in that character he was afterwards universally regarded.

As the representative of Moloch or Baal, infants were the most acceptable offerings at his altar. We have ample and depressing evidence on this subject from the records of antiquity. *'The Phoenicians,' says Eusebius, 'every year sacrificed their beloved and only-begotten children to Kronos or Saturn.'*

But why was human sacrifice such a key to the worship of this terrible god? What possible good could human beings think they saw in slaughtering their own children?

...he who approached the fire would receive a light from divinity” and “through divine fire all the stains produced by generations could be purged away.”

Therefore, **Jeremiah 32:35**

“children were made to pass through the fire unto Molech”

He implores us to not worship Him in their way, because it reminds Him of the children offered to the fire:

Deuteronomy 12:30-31

Take care that you be not ensnared to follow them, after they have been destroyed before you, and that you do not inquire about their gods, saying, ‘How did these nations serve their gods?—that I MAY ALSO DO THE SAME.’ 31 You shall NOT worship the LORD (Yahweh) your God in their way, for EVERY...EVERY abominable thing that the LORD (Yahweh) hates they have done for their gods, for they even burn their sons and their daughters in the fire to their gods.

When Yahweh sees a Christmas tree, He sees sacrificed children to sun gods. When Yahweh sees Easter eggs, He sees sacrificed children to sun gods. When Yahweh sees any tradition derived from sun gods and then we do the same in our worship of Him...He only sees every abominable thing that was done for the sun gods instead. But we do not have to celebrate the days of Christmas and Easter. We can leave all of those traditions behind. As emotional as that may be for us now, imagine how Yahweh feels about these days and where they came from. Fortunately, Yahweh has a much better solution, His feasts.

Yahweh’s Feasts

By losing the sun god saturated days of Christmas and Easter, Yahweh offers us His days, which are found in Leviticus 23. These are the real days that eternally represent the real Messiah, Y’shua.

In the spring, we have the weeklong appointed time of Unleavened Bread. During this time, we also have the Feast of Unleavened Bread, where we can eat of the feast of the Passover, and we have First Fruits, which is the real day on the real calendar that the Messiah was resurrected.

Then a little later, we have Shavuot, also known as Pentecost.

In the fall, we have the Day of Trumpets, known as Yom Terah.

10 Days later we have the Day of Atonement, known as Yom Kippur,

And finally, we have the Feast of Tabernacles, also known as Sukkot. This feast last for 7 days, and has a bonus 8th day added on at the end.

Scholarly research has shown, based on biblical evidence, around the revealed timing of the birth of John the Baptist that we can calculate the timing of the birth of Yeshua. As it turns out and it should be of no surprise that Yeshua was actually born on one of God’s appointed times, the feast of Sukkot and then circumcised on the eighth day of Sukkot, painting a glorious picture that only God himself could take credit for. So if you really want to celebrate the birth of Messiah, then read up on God’s Feasts – His days that he gave to us to bless us. In fact it is during the feast of Sukkot

that we are actually commanded to be joyful. Sometimes many find them confused thinking that these are Jewish Feasts, but our Creator – He call's them His feasts:

Leviticus 23:3

“Speak to the people of Israel and say to them, These are the appointed feasts of the LORD (Yahweh) that you shall proclaim as holy convocations; they are my appointed feasts.

He gave us these days to draw us closer to Him, and to each other, in love and fellowship. The days also have real meaning embedded in them, to teach us about what our Messiah has done, and still has left to do in matters of prophecy.

Whereas Christmas and Easter are not from God, and any Christian symbolism is completely fabricated by man, and is actually derived from sun god traditions. Once you begin participating in something that is real, something that is really worshipping Yahweh in Spirit and in Truth, you will then begin to experience something that has been intended for His people since the beginning...something we unfortunately lost because the influences Yahweh despises.

We realize that this has been a long teaching, and we appreciate the time you invested in considering this material. The reality is that there is so much more, so much more, but hopefully, at minimum, this pointed you in the right direction...fueling a desire to love God with all of your heart, soul, and mind, on the path that He wants for all of us.

We hope that this teaching has blessed you, and remember, continue to test everything.

Shalom

For more on this and other teachings, please visit us at www.testeverything.net

Shalom, and may Yahweh bless you in walking in the whole Word of God.

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