

The Truth Behind Easter

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The Goddess Ishtar

Note: This teaching is a compilation of much study on the subject of *Easter*. In other words, I attempted to take the “main” parts of what other teachers or scholars wrote on the subject of Easter and compile them into one “fairly understandable” teaching. However, there is so much available on the subject—agreement and disagreement, so I had to lean heavily on the discernment of the Holy Spirit for much of the teaching.

I pray that in reading this teaching you will be blessed with the information, but also find peace in putting this wickedness to end. I also pray that you will discern to who and how much of the information you share. For instance, I would not attempt to share this information with those who are *not* living under the salvation power of Jesus Christ, our main purpose for those is to get them born-again, *first and foremost*. They cannot understand a teaching of this proportion without Jesus Christ. However, for someone who is an atheist and they already know some of the history, it might make a good topic of discussion, especially the Scripture verses listed. This would be an attempt to let them know that God is indeed aware of what’s going on in the pagan world—many Christians have been clueless, but God has not been. Whatever your situation or case, again, use discernment!

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“Christianity did not destroy paganism; it adopted it.” ~Will Durant, *The Story of Civilization*
Isaiah 2:6—*“You have abandoned your people, the house of Jacob. They are full of superstitions from the East; they practice divination like the Philistines and clasp hands with pagans.”*

The Church of Jesus Christ has indeed “adopted” the pagan worship of *Easter*. *Adopt* means to choose or take as one’s own; make one’s own by selection or assent.

Paganism and Idolatry has been a problem with God’s people and within the Church since its conception. Idolatry was the main sin that the prophets of the Old Testament had to constantly confront and the Apostle Paul had to continuously deal with it. Idolatry was the main source of God’s judgment and wrath upon His people. And, it is just as much a huge problem in the Church today—although most of the Church would absolutely and forcefully deny it. I believe that Idolatry has been such a sin in the New Covenant Church that it has caused the Church to not walk in the full

power and authority it should and a sin for which we will be judged unless we recognize it and repent. I also believe that much of the Church has been under *a curse of their own making*. Today in the Church, we dress up and disguise our idols and make big fanfare out of them. We rejoice and are happy! However, I can't help but believe that it is disgusting to the LORD and an abomination in His sight. *Easter is one of such acts of idolatry. I believe that out of all the pagan holidays that the Church has adopted, Easter just may be one of the most heinous because it directly attacks, defiles and demeans the Resurrection of Christ.*

Exodus 23:13 tells us—*“Be careful to do everything I have said to you. Do not invoke the names of other gods; do not let them be heard on your lips.”*

The Church loves Easter!

We love the springtime celebration of the Oh so cute and cuddly Easter bunnies, the colorful Easter egg hunts, the new Easter clothes, the Easter Lilies, the Hot Cross Buns, the Sunrise services all tossed together with the Resurrection of Jesus Christ! We sing, “He Arose,” and “Because He lives,” in our Easter bonnets while the children open their Easter baskets! And, we are Oh, so happy! It's Spring time!

But, there is one who is even happier than most the Church! Satan, himself! He is very pleased that the Church has defiled the Resurrection of Jesus Christ with a celebration of his appointed goddess, Easter! In addition to defiling the Resurrection of Christ—when the Church celebrates this pagan holiday—it is invoking a self-induced curse of idolatry. Wherever you see a church celebrating Easter with the Resurrection, they are under a curse of idolatry.

Christmas deems many of the same idolatrous connections, however, if the Church so desires, they can essentially keep themselves free from the idolatrous connection with Christmas. And while Christmas is an important celebration for Christians—the celebration of the birth of Christ—it does not nearly hold the utter contempt that Easter does. When it comes to Easter, much of the Church doesn't even try to hide its adulterous affair—they not only use the name, Easter, over the Resurrection of Jesus Christ, but jump on the wagon to celebrate all its idol fanfare. Churches all over the nation hold Easter celebrations complete with Easter egg hunts for the children of the community, giving out Easter baskets and forming Sunrise services all with the thought of Outreach.

I heard the LORD say clearly, *“No more! My people have been ignorant long enough and its destroying them. My people have compromised long enough. My people have been married to the world long enough! No More! I will not allow the Resurrection of My Son to be covered by Ishtar any longer! No more! I will not allow the Resurrection to be defiled by Ishtar. Those who insist on carrying her name, will be under a curse of their own making. Decide this day who you will serve!”*

I had personally never looked at Easter this way until the LORD brought it rather forcefully to my attention! And, if the Church is going to move in a demonstration of the Spirits power in these last days, it must sever itself from ALL idolatry and move out from under its curse!

The Origin of Easter

The Resurrection was not on Easter Sunday! *The Resurrection of Jesus Christ took place the day after the Sabbath during Passover. "Easter" is NOT a Christian name, but rather the title of the idolatrous Babylonian, "Queen of Heaven" that the prophet Jeremiah spoke clearly about.*

The name "*Easter*" is derived from the name *Ishtar or Eastre*, the Teutonic goddess of Spring. The origin of the name and the goddess are ancient—going all the way back to the Tower of Babel. The origin begins not long after the Biblical Flood.

But before we go back to the true origin, let's begin with the fact that the word "Easter" is *not* in the Scriptures. Those who have the beloved King James Bible say that it is found in Acts 12:4, but according to the original Greek text of the bible, they are wrong. Let's look at Acts 12:4 KJV: "*And when he had apprehended him, he put him in prison, and delivered him to four quaternions of soldiers to keep him; intending after EASTER to bring him forth to the people.*"

The translators of the King James Bible corrupted the translation of the Greek word "*pascha*" which means "*Passover*," (or from the Hebrew word "*pasach*" meaning "*to pass over*") by translating it "Easter." (See #3957 in the Strong's Concordance Greek Dictionary).

The One New Man Bible Revealing Jewish Roots and Power has this note in its Glossary: "*Y'shua, the disciples, and every author of the New Testament celebrated Passover. In the year 196 AD the celebration of Passover was replaced with the worship of Ishtar, the Babylonian fertility goddess. The name Ishtar was written in Greek as Istar because there is no "sh" sound in the Greek language. Because the Greek and Latin letters for I are pronounced EE, Istar became Easter when spelled with English letters. The celebration of Ishtar brought with it eggs and rabbits, symbols of reproduction. This was done to separate from Jewish roots and to make it easier for heathens to become Christians by letting them retain the pagan customs.*"

We see that the translators themselves were already corrupted by the pagan holiday.

The word, *Easter*, is absolutely not found in the Bible.

The NASB, NIV and Amplified Bible (as well as many other later translations) do, however, translate the word correctly: "*After arresting Him, he put Him in prison, handing Him over to be guarded by four squads of four soldiers each. Herod intended to bring Him out for public trial after the PASSOVER.*" (NIV)

The King James Bible has actually and single-handedly perpetrated the idolatry of Easter.

Most often in trying to explain to people that the *Easter worship is in fact the worship of the goddess Ishtar*, their immediate reply is that they are worshipping Jesus, and that the Easter worship is the celebration of the risen Christ, His resurrection from the dead. What does it really matter if the word Easter is a transliteration of the word Ishtar? We are still worshipping Jesus Christ and His resurrection. God knows the intent of our hearts.

True enough, God does know the intent of our hearts. But God also knows THE UTTER ABOMINATION OF THIS EASTER/ISHTAR WORSHIP, as well as the fact that most are caught up in this worship through pure ignorance. However, Hosea 4:6 says that God's people are *destroyed* for lack of knowledge. And, this proved so in the Old Testament when God's people allowed and even wor-

shipped other gods—they were often subject to all kinds of judgment and destruction. Sooner or later lack of knowledge will cause judgment and destruction! And as someone once said, “You can be sincere and be sincerely wrong!” *If the intent of the heart is truly holy, then one should have no problem purging oneself from the idolatry of Easter!* If God did not let the Israelites get away with idolatry, why should He let us—those calling upon the name of Jesus and filled with His Holy Spirit—get away with idolatry? We have a greater responsibility today!

The truth is, *Easter has absolutely nothing to do with the Resurrection of Jesus Christ!* While every dictionary and encyclopedia is determined to connect the two, it is far from truth, and Christians should not refer to Christ Resurrection as Ishtar.

We are going to look at the facts surrounding Easter worship, which again is the worship of the goddess Ishtar, and *not* the worship of Jesus Christ, as you have been taught to believe. However, it is up to you to discern the truth of this matter from the facts that will be presented.

Nimrod and Semiramis [or Ishtar]

As mentioned, the name, *Easter*, comes from an ancient Babylonian goddess name, “Ishtar.” *Ishtar* means *movement towards the rising sun (east)*. We see in our English word for Ishtar, which is Easter, the word “east.” Ishtar was considered the goddess of the growing light and spring, associated with fertility and celebrated with a festival of rebirth, thus she was considered the *Sun Goddess* (later referred to as the Queen of Heaven).

Ishtar was first referred to (or went by the name) as, Semiramis, and she was the wife of Nimrod. In the Bible and in legend, Nimrod, son of Cush, grandson of Ham, great-grandson of Noah, was a Mesopotamian monarch.

Now, Semiramis, was also the wife of Cush at one time (that’s right, Nimrod’s father). Many claim that Semiramis was actually Cush’s daughter (and Nimrod’s sister)—who he married—and they produced Nimrod! After Cush died, Semiramis married her own son, Nimrod, and ruled as *Queen*, while Nimrod became a powerful King. If you can stay with this line of thought, Semiramis was actually Nimrod’s sister, mother and wife. Can you say incest?

According to the biblical record, as king, Nimrod created Babylon, Erech, Akkad, Calneh, Nineveh, Rehoboth Ir, Calah, Resen and other cities, all known for lifestyles that promoted *unspeakable evil and perversion*. (Gen.10:8-10). Nimrod was the first to become known as “*A mighty hunter before Yahweh*” (see Gen. 10:9) of which the translation of this verse is often disputed because the language of the verse has a *dark meaning*. Some Hebrew scholars maintain that the word which was translated “*before*” should have been translated “*against*” as *Nimrod becomes a tyrant or despot leading an organized rebellion against the rule of Yahweh*. He hunts not animals, but rather the souls of men. He was a violent invader of his neighbor's rights and properties. He was a man of force and violence. He set up idolatry unto himself.

Nimrod’s very name is from the verb “*let us revolt*,” and therefore obviously signifies *rebellion*.

Nimrod is mentioned in the *Table of Nations* in Genesis 10; in 1 Chronicles; and Micah 5:6. While in the Bible he is an obscure figure; in later interpretations, as recorded by Josephus—the

first century Jewish historian, and the rabbis who compiled the Midrash (a collection of Jewish accounts)—he is the subject in innumerable legends. The most prominent of these was the story that *Nimrod built the Tower of Babel*. (The word *Babel* is translated *Babylon*: Wycliffe Bible Commentary.) Most Bible scholars believe this to be true.

Further, Josephus, speaking about the Tower of Babel, says that it is where Nimrod excited the people to actually rebel against God. Josephus says: “*He . . . was a bold man, and of great strength of hand . . . He gradually changed the government into tyranny, seeing no other way of turning men from the fear of God, but to bring them into a constant dependence on his power. . .*

“Now the multitude were very ready to follow the determination of Nimrod, and to esteem it a piece of cowardice to submit to God and they built a tower, neither sparing any pains, nor being in any degree negligent about the work; and, by reason of the multitude of hands employed in it, it grew very high sooner than any one could expect; but the thickness of it was so great, and it was so strongly built, that thereby its great height seemed, upon the view, to be less than it really was . . . The place wherein they built the tower is now called Babylon, because of the confusion that language which they readily understood before; for the Hebrews mean by the word Babel—confusion . . .”

Thus, Nimrod built a city as the epicenter of his world government. It was there in Babylon that Nimrod was worshipped as a *god*. He bore totalitarian rule over the people, reducing them to slaves in his political, economic and religious systems.

As the people scattered from Babel with different languages, they used many different names for Nimrod and Semiramis. For instance, the pagan Zidonians, the Philistines, Moabites, Edomites, Canaanites, and other surrounding tribes served the same gods and goddesses but these gods and goddesses manifested in different ways. Therefore, while they are the *same* gods/goddesses, their names would change.

Some of Semiramis’ other names from other lands were the Mother Goddess "Ishtar" (originally pronounced Easter—other variations being: Eastre and Eostre). She was also called Beltis; Astarte; Ostera; the Wife of Baal; the infamous, Queen of Heaven (Judges 2:13 and Jeremiah 44:17-19); Ashtaroth or Ashtoreth or Asherah; and *Artemis* aka (or Greek name for) Diana, which the apostle Paul had to continually come against in Ephesus (Acts 19).

Semiramis was worshipped as a *mediator* between the gods and man, as the goddess of fertility; as Mother Nature; the Mother of God, the Queen of Heaven; the goddess of Spring and sexual love and birth; the sun goddess; the goddess of the moon; the goddess of war; and the goddess of freedom and liberty, just to mention a few.

How Ishtar Became a Goddess

Now, we turn our attention back to Semiramis (Ishtar’s) power. We will begin to see many parallels between the idolatrous legends of Semiramis and Christianity and how Easter was derived.

The legend goes that after a period of time, Nimrod dies or is actually murdered through a conspiracy involving none other than, Semiramis! According to *Jewish tradition*, it has Noah’s righ-

teous, eldest son Shem, who slew Nimrod and scattered his body parts throughout the land of Shinar. The scattering of his body parts seems to be a solid part of the story as most researchers of the story say that Semiramis had all of the parts gathered, except for one part that could not be found. That missing part was his reproductive organ. Semiramis claimed that Nimrod could not come back to life *on earth* without it.

Semiramis, would not willingly let Nimrod's kingdom slip through her fingers, therefore, once Nimrod was dead, she told the people of Babylon that Nimrod had ascended to the sun and thereby deified him as "*Baal—the Sun-god*" and "*Life-Giver.*" Semiramis claimed that Nimrod was 2/3's god and 1/3 mortal. She built a monument to him and said he would return soon. In various cultures he kept his title, Sun-god, but later also became known as *Baal* (meaning, lord, master, owner, possessor) of many things such as god of fire, god of rain (thunder, lightning or weather in general); fertility god, the great life-giver, Baalim, Bel, Molech, etc. all representing every kind of idolatry, demon worship, human sacrifice and other practices regarded as evil. Nimrod became a *god-man* to the people, and Semiramis, his mother/wife/sister, became the powerful Queen of ancient Babylon.

Later, when this adulterous and idolatrous woman gave birth to an illegitimate son, she claimed that this son was Nimrod reborn or reincarnate, claiming that Nimrod supernaturally impregnated her with the rays of the sun! Semiramis claimed that that she conceived her son supernaturally [with no human father] and that he was the promised seed, the 'savior'" —promised by God in Genesis 3:15. "However, not only was the child worshipped, but the woman, the MOTHER, was also worshipped as much (or more) than the son!" [Mary, the mother of Jesus, is referred to as the Queen of Heaven or Queen Mother (partner in redemption) by much of the Catholic Church. You can see why!]

(By the way, Nimrod's missing *reproductive organ* was resurrected in the worship of the Asherah (Ishtar) poles—worship to the goddess of fertility. The Asherah/Ishtar pole was most always in the shape of a penis and the pole was worshipped by men and women, but mostly women who wanted to be "fertile" and have lots of boy babies!)

The legend goes that Semiramis delivered and named the child, *Tammuz* the —somehow successfully convincing the people that Tammuz was actually *Nimrod reborn (or reincarnate)*. Tammuz means *abstruse; concealed; consumed*. He was called a shepherd, healing, and savior. Since people had been looking for the promised savior since the beginning of mankind (see Genesis 3:15), many were persuaded by Semiramis to believe that Tammuz was indeed that savior, even that he had been supernaturally conceived. And, of course, before long, in addition to worshipping Tammuz (or Nimrod reincarnate), the people also worshipped Semiramis herself as the Queen of Heaven—Goddess of Fertility—or Mother Goddess "Ishtar."

40 Days of Weeping for Tammuz

The story goes on that when Tammuz was 40 years old, he was gored to death by a wild boar (hog) in a hunting accident. Hence, *40 days of weeping for Tammuz* was instituted: one day for each year of his life.

The springtime ritual was instituted by Queen Semiramis following the death of Tammuz. Legend has it that through the power of his mother's tears, Tammuz was "*resurrected*" in the *form of the new vegetation* that appeared on the earth.

During that time, the sun god worshippers would deny themselves a pleasure in this life for the sake of Tammuz' pleasure in the afterlife.

Easter Sunday is the day that concludes the 40 days of weeping for Tammuz—called by the Catholics and some other denominations—"Lent".

From the time of its inception in Nimrod's Babylon until this very day, this 40-day pagan festival climaxes as the sun god worshippers kill "the wild boar that killed Tammuz" and eat ham after an Easter sunrise orgy and child sacrifice service.

If this story sounds too incredible—that anyone would actually believe it, Ezekiel himself addressed the hideous idolatry in Ezekiel 8, which talks about "*the idol that provokes to jealousy*" (8:3), which is none other than, Ishtar, and also, the people *mourning for Tammuz!* Let's look at Ezekiel 8:13-15—"And He said to me, "Yet you will see still greater abominations which they are committing."¹⁴ Then He brought me to the entrance of the gate of the LORD'S house which was toward the north; and behold, women were sitting there *WEEPING FOR TAMMUZ.*¹⁵ He said to me, "Do you see this, son of man? Yet you will see still greater abominations than these."

Indeed, the Jews not only believed the legend, but were wholeheartedly involved in worship in every aspect of its lies and abominations!

The legend goes on that after Nimrod's death, the queen, Tammuz's mother, concocts a legend for herself fit for the devil! Semiramis claims openly that *she* herself was *immaculately conceived*. She taught that the moon was a goddess that went through a 28-day cycle and ovulated when full. She further claims that she came down from the moon in a *giant (moon) egg* that falls into the Euphrates River. The egg breaks open to allow her to emerge, reincarnated as the bare breasted goddess of fertility and sexual desire. Her name? No longer, Semiramis, but now, ISHTAR (the Babylonian title)—the exalted *Queen of Heaven*, Goddess of fertility and Spring—Mother Goddess, Mother of God, Ishtar or Easter! (ISHTAR—originally pronounced, "Easter.") *The giant egg becomes known as "Ishtar's egg."*

Tammuz, Semiramis' son, was noted to be especially *fond of rabbits*, and therefore, they became *sacred in the ancient religion*. So, to proclaim and prove her divinity, Ishtar/Easter *changed a bird into an egg-laying rabbit*. Not to mention that the rabbit was chosen by Ishtar as it is one of the most "fertile" animals, reproducing faster than most all other animals on the earth!

Later, when Ishtar dies, her faithful worshippers continue her satanic inspired concoctions (without going into this too deeply) pronouncing that in her death, she was stripped and humiliated; was killed and hung on a stake; and was resurrected after three days. Sound familiar? Loyal

worshippers of the idolatrous queen even tried to usurp Christ's role in her death. [Jesus was stripped and beaten in humility; He was crucified on a stake and He rose from the tomb on the third day.] Satan has taken the truth about the death, burial and Resurrection of Christ and overlaid it with the worship of Ishtar, bringing it into the church through the traditions of men and presenting it as the celebration of Easter, a *transliteration of the name, Ishtar*.

All In The Family!

A very common practice in the Canaanite religion (Canaan was also one of Ham's sons, brother of Cush) was performed on the first Sunday of the equinox. Canaanite families would face east to await the rising of the sun, which was the chief symbol of the sun god, Baal. Later on during the day, the children of the Canaanite parents would often go and hunt for eggs (symbolic of sex, fertility and new life). They also believed that these eggs came from rabbits (which in the pagan world were symbolic of lust, sexual prowess and reproduction). (The Canaanites, however, were not the only ones who worshiped rabbits as deities. The Egyptians and the Persians (Babylon) also held rabbits in high esteem.)

Another practice of the Canaanites took place on the western slope of the Hinnon valley in Jerusalem. In Canaanite caves specifically designated for the worship of Ishtar/Easter and her son, Tammuz, the priest of Easter, would impregnate virgins on the altar of Easter/Ishtar at the *Easter Sunrise Service*.

One year later the priest would sacrifice those 3-month old infants on the same altar, and dye *Easter* eggs in the blood of those sacrificed babies. (One denomination today only dyes Easter eggs red.)

Sexual orgies and temple prostitutes were often used in the worship of Easter/Ishtar in attempt to gain her favor. All sexual perversion—lesbianism or homosexuality, prostitution, fornication (sex outside of marriage), adultery, incest, bestiality, etc. are all directly connected to Ishtar. As well as the spirit of rebellion, witchcraft, feminism, child abuse of all kinds, abortion and much more. Freemason's and the Eastern's Star all involve Ishtar.

Revisiting the account in Ezekiel 8, the passage gives some additional enlightening information in verses 16-18—*"He then brought me into the inner court of the house of the LORD, and there at the entrance to the temple, between the portico and the altar, were about twenty-five men. With their BACKS TOWARD the temple of the LORD and THEIR FACES TOWARD THE EAST, they were bowing down to the sun in the east."*¹⁷ *He said to me, "Have you seen this, son of man? Is it a trivial matter for the house of Judah to do the detestable things they are doing here? Must they also fill the land with violence and continually provoke me to anger? Look at them putting the branch to their nose!"*¹⁸ *Therefore I will deal with them in anger; I will not look on them with pity or spare them. Although they shout in my ears, I will not listen to them."*

Here you have the first "sun-rise" service. While the women were crying for Tammuz, the men were bowing down and worshipping the sun rise.



Grant Jeffery in his book, *Countdown to the Apocalypse* says this: “Nebuchadnezzar . . . rebuilt and enlarged the old imperial capital of Babylon to become the largest city in the world, with massive new temples and beautiful palaces. He built impressive processional boulevards in honor of his gods Marduk, Assur, and Ishtar. Daniel, Ezekiel, and hundreds of thousands of Jewish captives were marched in chains down the boulevards through the Ishtar Gate. The gate was composed of beautiful blue-glazed clay bricks with magnificent bas-relief sculptures of mythical lionlike creatures and bulls. This historic gate was discovered in the last century and taken to Germany before World War I, where it was rebuilt in the Berlin Pergamon Museum.

Today, a replica of the *Ishtar Gate* has been rebuilt and stands in Babylon or IRAQ!

Easter Has Nothing To Do With The Resurrection of Jesus Christ

While Christians in the United States maintain that Easter is the celebration of the risen Christ, we have seen that in all actuality, Easter has absolutely nothing to do with the Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

“The Roman Catholic Church adopted the Asherah worship and officially named it EASTER around 155 A.D. Even according to the CATHOLIC ENCYCLOPEDIA, they admit that *Easter* was named after a pagan goddess of the Anglo-Saxons named, Eostre, the goddess of the dawn.

A great controversy arose between the Catholic Church (Note: the word *CATHOLIC* means “*universal*” or “*one world*” in thought, concept and practice) and the Greek Orthodox Church in 325 A.D. on whether to celebrate Easter on Sundays or on other week day—the 3rd day following the *Jewish Passover*. Unfortunately, the Greeks lost a lot of followers and the Catholics contended that keeping Easter on Sundays would stimulate the *practices of both the Christian world and the pagan worshippers*—not so much because Jesus rose on Sunday.

The day of Easter was officially settled at the Counsel of Nicea in 325 A.D. with controversy even today. Today in Western Christianity, Easter is always celebrated on the Sunday immediately following the *Paschal Full Moon* date of the year.

Passover, however, is closely associated with the Resurrection of Christ (Nisan 14-16)—as Jesus was the complete fulfillment of and the *Passover Lamb*. Jesus was taken prisoner that same night (Nisan 14th), given an illegal trial, and crucified the next day at 9 A.M. From noon until 3 PM the entire land was shrouded in darkness. At approximately 3 PM on Passover Day, Jesus commanded His spirit to leave His body, and died.

Without question, Jesus Christ was crucified on Passover day, Nisan 14th, for indeed Jesus is our Passover Lamb!

Unfortunately, the Christian Church has laid down any thought of the celebration of Resurrection being connected to Passover and has taken up Easter instead! *Frequently Easter and Passover are even an entire month apart. Why? They represent the worship of 2 different gods!*

Easter is celebrated according to a *pagan sun calendar* developed in Babylon in accordance with the worship of Nimrod [through his son, Tammuz] and Ishtar. Passover is celebrated according to the *observance of the biblical new moon—Paschal full moon— in the Jewish month of Nisan— known as the “New Year for Kings.”*

Jesus kept the Feast of the Passover. All the rehearsals that were embedded in that feast were all fulfilled the year of His resurrection—to every tiny detail of prophecy. On the other hand, Easter is the rehearsal idolatry, child sacrifice and fertility rites of pagan sun god worshippers. When we, as Christians, celebrate Easter, we are essentially sacrificing our children’s hearts and minds to idolatry and demonism—all the while calling it, fun. Fun and light will always get the Church’s cooperation! Isn’t that just like Satan!

Is God Serious About His People Breaking Their Sin of Idolatry?

God has a serious hatred for the sin of idolatry and Nimrod/Tammuz and Ishtar are the roots behind *all* idolatry.

Judges 2:10-15 tells us—*“After that whole generation had been gathered to their fathers, another generation grew up, who knew neither the LORD nor what he had done for Israel. ¹¹Then the Israelites did evil in the eyes of the LORD and served the Baals. ¹²They forsook the LORD, the God of their fathers, who had brought them out of Egypt. They followed and worshiped various gods of the peoples around them. They provoked the LORD to anger ¹³ because they forsook him and served BAAL [NIMROD/TAMMUZ] AND THE ASHTORETHS [ISHTAR]. ¹⁴In his anger against Israel the LORD handed them over to raiders who plundered them. He sold them to their enemies all around, whom they were no longer able to resist. ¹⁵Whenever Israel went out to fight, the hand of the LORD was against them to defeat them, just as he had sworn to them. They were in great distress.” [Emphasis added]*

Besides Ezekiel 8:14-16 that we read earlier, Jeremiah chapters 7 and 44 expound on great disaster being released upon the people because of their worship of other gods—namely, the Queen of Heaven—Easter! A careful study of Jeremiah 7 and 44 will reveal much about God anger in relation to this idol worship.

Jeremiah 7:16-19— *“So do not pray for this people nor offer any plea or petition for them; do not plead with me, for I will not listen to you. ¹⁷ Do you not see what they are doing in the towns of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem? ¹⁸ The children gather wood, the fathers light the fire, and the women knead the dough and make cakes of bread for the Queen of Heaven. They pour out drink offerings to other gods to provoke me to anger. ¹⁹ But am I the one they are provoking? declares the LORD. Are they not rather harming themselves, to their own shame?”*

Jeremiah 44:15-19 presents an incredible response from the people to Jeremiah’s warning: *“Then all the men who knew that their wives were burning incense to other gods, along with all the women who were present—a large assembly—and all the people living in Lower and Upper Egypt, said to Jeremiah, ¹⁶ “We will not listen to the message you have spoken to us in the name of the LORD! ¹⁷ We will certainly do everything we said we would: We will burn incense to the Queen of Heaven and will pour out drink offerings to her just as we and our fathers, our kings and our officials*

did in the towns of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem. At that time we had plenty of food and were well off and suffered no harm.¹⁸ But ever since we stopped burning incense to the Queen of Heaven and pouring out drink offerings to her, we have had nothing and have been perishing by sword and famine."

¹⁹ The women added, "When we burned incense to the Queen of Heaven and poured out drink offerings to her, did not our husbands know that we were making cakes like her image and pouring out drink offerings to her?"

In 1 Kings 16, Ahab becomes king of Israel. His wife—the notorious, *Jezebel*. 1 Kings 16:30-33 says: *"Ahab son of Omri did more evil in the eyes of the LORD than any of those before him.³¹ He not only considered it trivial to commit the sins of Jeroboam son of Nebat, but he also married Jezebel daughter of Ethbaal king of the Sidonians, and began to serve Baal and worship him.³² He set up an altar for Baal in the temple of Baal that he built in Samaria.³³ Ahab also made an ASHERAH [ISHTAR] POLE and did more to provoke the LORD, the God of Israel, to anger than did all the kings of Israel before him."* (Emphasis added)

Ahab apparently did all of this for his wife Jezebel. We see in 1 Kings 18 that Jezebel had four hundred and fifty prophets of Baal and the four hundred prophets of Asherah who ate at her table. Jezebel was a worshipper of Ishtar—aka Asherah.

In the New Covenant, the apostle Paul had to continually deal with the idolatry of Ishtar—now called by the Greek name, *Diana or Artemis*, (Acts 19:24-35) who made silver idols to the goddess and thereby produced a great income.. The Ephesians worshiped the goddess Artemis, or Diana whose temple, one of the seven wonders of the world, made the city famous.

So all through time we can see the great influence of Ishtar/Easter—to even NOW in the Church of Jesus Christ.

If God did not spare judgment upon the people of old, why should He spare judgment on the Church of Christ today? In other words, what exempts us from judgment when we do the very thing He hates?

God hates the sin of idolatry. The first 3 of the 10 Commandments have to do with idolatry. It breaks the greatest commandment: *"Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength"* (Mark 12:30).

The Curse of Idolatry

Ignorance is bliss, right? No, the truth is, ignorance will ultimately release destruction. No more, says the LORD! When the Church celebrates the Resurrection of Jesus Christ and calls it, Easter, and then mixes with all its paganism, we are bringing upon us God's judgment.

As mentioned in the beginning of this article, I firmly believe that we have not walked in the *full power* of the Cross because we have mixed Christianity—the *Pure*—with paganism—the *putrid* in so many, many ways. *So much so that idolatry is virtually unidentifiable in the Church today.*

Idolatry is satanic in every sense and releases demonic rulership. It is antichrist! Leaders in the Church often wonder why they have to fight the same demonic spirits over and over—it is because

the demonic is given *legal entrance*—they don't even have to break in. For example, the Jezebel spirit, the Python (and Leviathan) spirit, the Babylon spirit, the spirit of inferiority and the spirit of insecurity have taken over whole territories in the United States infiltrating the Church—giving Prophets and Intercessors constant warfare. Just when they think they have relief, the demon spirits are back. How? Through idolatry. Through Ishtar! Idolatry is so vast (and also hidden) in the Church that it always has a secure place in which to sit and reign. And, Idolatry works in partnership or conjunction with the Jezebel and Python spirits, just to mention two. Unless Idolatry—Ishtar is dealt with, Jezebel and Python just go through a revolving door—in and out!

Many well-known intelligent Christian teachers can teach deep truths on various subjects in the Bible and then turn around and teach the Resurrection in conjunction with Ishar and print, *“Happy Easter”* on their periodicals! (*“Not many of you should presume to be teachers, my brothers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly,”* James 3:1.) I get the feeling that most the Church today sees idolatry as being things such as money, TV, entertainment, sports, material things, etc. When you mention idolatry in the Church, you get the, “I don't believe in that,” or “there's no such thing” answer. But, idolatry is just as real and prevalent today as it was in Judges and in Ezekiel and Jeremiah's time!

The idolatry or the *spirit of Ishtar* will *not* necessarily even hinder church growth—it loves for the Church to grow and will even help facilitate growth if it will be worshipped along side of God Almighty! So, the Church will be dead, but at least it will be large and dead! It will be powerless—nothing more than a great social club under love, love, love. You're OK, I'm OK, we're all OK—“. . . *Having a form of godliness but denying its power. Have nothing to do with them”* (2 Tim. 3:5). Therefore, Idolatry plucks us out of the will of God.

My question: *Is the celebration of Easter so special and important to us that it's worth giving up being in the center of God's will and all that He has for us? Or, is the celebration of Easter so special to us that we're willing to go under God's judgment for it?*

I have witnessed Christians getting angry and even a little aggressive and passionate when you try to take away their Easter/Ishtar. They don't like it one bit! That should say something right there.

And, as the question was raised earlier, “Is ignorance really bliss?” “. . . *My people are destroyed from lack of knowledge. “Because you have rejected knowledge, I also reject you . . .”* (Hosea 4:6).

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ has nothing to do with Ishtar and her idol trappings: the Easter Bunny, colored eggs, Easter baskets of candy, Easter egg hunts, Easter Sunrise services, hot cross buns, Lent, and the like!

The Resurrection is about THE RISEN SAVIOR and if it going to be connected to anything, it should be connected to Passover.

Now, there are some renegades out there that believe the Church should not even celebrate the Resurrection, because the Bible does not tell us to do so. However, I don't believe that God gets overly upset about His people celebrating or recognizing the death, burial and Resurrection of Jesus Christ and even giving it deliberate concentration and special importance once a year in order to fully remind us and to evangelize.



Some of these same people claim that we should *only* celebrate the Passover because Jesus celebrated the Passover. But, what they fail to realize is that Jesus IS the Passover! Yes, He did celebrate the Passover and while doing so, He turned it to Communion—a remembrance of Him and His work! *Resurrection celebration should include just that—a remembrance and recognition of Christ's death, burial and a celebration of His Resurrection—the seal on the New Covenant.*

No other religion on the face of the earth can claim [has proof of] a risen Savior! That is why Satan has tried so hard to defile Christianity! He is afraid of it!

The Bible tells us to REJOICE! We have expressions of rejoicing and one of those expressions is found in *celebration*. The Resurrection of Jesus Christ is something worth celebrating! It's our LIFE! *"Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad; let them say among the nations, "The LORD reigns!"* (1 Chronicles 16:31)

Freedom From the Spirit of Ishtar

Now that you have been given this information, I recommend that you study the Scriptures for yourself and also other information available. The only danger in that is those who insist that there is nothing wrong with the celebration of Ishtar (Easter). My suggestion is: Don't take my word for it or anyone else's! Follow the leading of the Holy Spirit—the Spirit of Truth, you may find there is indeed something wrong with it. What is the Holy Spirit saying to you? Is He convicting (convincing) you of this practice or worshipping the LORD under Ishtar?

If you are steeped in human traditions, renouncing Ishtar will be difficult, but when you know the truth, you have a responsibility to accept it and live by the truth. Know that God's powerful grace is available to every Christian to enable us "to do the right thing!"

Titus 2:11-14 says, *"For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men. ¹²It teaches us to say "No" to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, ¹³while we wait for the blessed hope—the glorious appearing of our great*

God and Savior, Jesus Christ, ¹⁴who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.”

If you have celebrated the Resurrection of Jesus Christ under the auspices of Easter/Ishtar, you should personally “renounce” any and all association with the idol and break any and all curses associated with this demon spirit off your life and your family.

Ask the LORD for forgiveness of ignorance and ask Him to release the Spirit of Truth into your life and family. There is a tremendous blessing attached to praying this kind of prayer!