

DECEMBER 2004

December 25th “Christmas Day or Mithras' Day?”

It's coming around to that time of the year when many throughout the country celebrate Christmas. The question is, is Christmas a Christian holiday? Or, is it a pagan holiday that has been brought into Christianity and accepted as Christian? We will find in our study that Christmas is not a Christian holiday, never has been and never will, regardless of how many people try to make it one.

Many Christians celebrate December 25 as the birthday of Jesus Christ, but was it his birthday, and are we authorized by the Scriptures to observe it? If we were authorized to observe his birthday, and we weren't, then we would find that he was born approximately around September 17-21 in 3 BC to 4BC, and it would have been on the first day of the Israelite New Year. That's when his birthday should be observed, if we were to observe it.

There was, though, someone's birthday, some other person, that did occur on December 25! And his birthday was observed all throughout the world by the pagans, but never by Israel. Who was that person? Mithras, the pagan messiah. From Rome, to Egypt, to ancient Babylon, going back for over 2,000 years before the birth of Christ, the pagan societies observed December 25 as the birthday of Mithras! Are we listening to this? For over 2,000 years the birthday of Mithras, the Satanic counterfeit Messiah's birthday was observed on December 25 all throughout the ancient world by everybody except Israel!

The early Church didn't celebrate Christmas; the Christians living during the 16th to 19th centuries didn't celebrate Christmas, because they knew of its historical roots. The question before you today is, are you a lover of the truth, or a lover of tradition? This study might be a good barometer of where you stand.

Christmas was not celebrated in the early church, and it didn't begin to creep in until the 3rd century, and wasn't widely established until the 4th century. The reason why is that all the Christians living in those days knew where the observance of December 25 came from. They knew that it came from the pagans who observed that day of the year in celebration of the birth of Tammuz, the son of the Babylonian queen of heaven, Semiramis, the wife of Nimrod.

The Church in the 3rd and 4th centuries was being inundated by numbers of pagans who said that they were Christians, but who did not abandon their pagan traditions. (It is questionable that they were truly born again). Instead of changing their lives to fit in with the requirements and teachings of the purity of sound doctrine, as handed down through the Word and the Apostles, they changed their churches around to conform to their beliefs, their desires and their traditions. The end result was that the churches became paganized, instead of retaining their doctrinal purity.

The rejection of doctrine always ends up in a departure from the truth, and opens the door for all types of error to come into a church; something that Pastors and churches must always be on guard for. The pagans kept their traditions, including the celebrating of the birth of Tammuz on December 25, but now called it “Christ's Day”, or Christmas. They regarded Tammuz as the Christ, or the Messiah.

Good, doctrinal men at that time tried to stem the tide of paganism, but in spite of their efforts, it continued on until the church was overcome by it and transformed into something different. There was now the shell of the church, looking like one on the outside, but transformed into something pagan on the inside. The doctrinal believers had to separate themselves from all this to go on in the Word, and the rest is history. This new, pagan, Babylonian church, with all its Babylonian traditions, grew into a great political and religious power that now controls the world.

For a thousand years or more, before the incarnation of Jesus Christ, Mithraism held sway over the entire world, although it was referred to by different names in different places. In the first century BC, 68 BC, the priests of the cults of Mithras, Isis and Apollo were working to combine the conquests of Rome, Egypt and Syria into a single world empire. The issue they were trying to resolve is where would be the capitol of this new empire? It boiled down to two cities, Roma and Alexandria.

It was decided on the battlefield by Mark Anthony of Rome defeating Egypt's Cleopatra. The negotiations were settled by the Magi priests of the cult of Mithras on the Isle of Capri. (It was the same Isle of Capri where the Roman Emperor, Tiberius, the prototype anti-christ, gave the order for Jesus Christ to be crucified).

Tiberius was given the title of Pontifex Maximus by the Magi of the cult of Mithras, (this term is used by the Roman pope and is from Mithraism), and it means the highest priest, or the high priest. Of course, as any Christian knows, Jesus Christ is the High Priest of God, and taking that term and giving it to a man is blasphemy.

For many years Christians were never accepted by the Roman empire, tolerated, but not accepted, with persecutions coming and going for years. But by 312 AD Constantine legalized the Christian church, on the condition that it accept him as Pontifex Maximus, and accept the rituals of Mithraism, including Christmas, into the Church! And so, we have for the first time the celebrating of Christmas in “churches”. (Churches need to beware of accepting legal recognition by governments). Up till this time the churches had never celebrated December 25, or even the real birthday of Christ, for that matter.

Now some will say, what about observing days in Scripture as found in Romans 14:5,6, but in context it would be observing the holy days of Israel; the Sabbath, years of Sabbaths, Jubilee, Passover, First Fruits, Pentecost, Trumpets, Day of Atonement, Tabernacles, etc.. But no where in Scripture would you find God allowing his people to celebrate the sacred days of the pagan mystery religions!

Let's take a look at just some of the Satanic parallels of Mithraism:

Spirit- their concept of a spirit was that it was holy and immortal and one of the four elements. Its effect on individuals was that it elevated him above mortal nature in an ecstatic sense.

Born Again- (anagennao) was used of the devotees in the cults of Mithras and Isis.

Brothers- widely used in the Baal cults; it was commonly used of the initiate in the cult of Mithras.

Mediator- the concept of mediation between God and man, or the divine and mortals was common in all religions in ancient times, foremost in Mithraism which put Mithras as the mediator between God (Mazda) and man. One can readily see that this is an attack on Jesus Christ as the Mediator between God and man.

Rewards- Mithraism also taught that there would be rewards and punishments in the next life.

Mysteries- Mithraism, like the cult of Isis, taught that the initiate would receive: salvation, redemption and deification by sharing in the deity's fortunes through such sacraments such as baptism, cultic feasts and the ceremonies of death and resurrection.

Creator- they claimed that Mithras was the creator of the universe and ordered its functioning.

Logos- that he was the visible manifestation of the word.

Incarnation- they claimed that Mithras saw mankind being afflicted on the earth by Ahriman, the cosmic power of darkness, and so he incarnated as a manifestation.

Birthday- his birthday was December 25 and was witnessed by shepherds.

Last Supper- after many good deeds while he was here on earth, Mithras observed a last supper with his disciples.

Ascension- after a victorious existence here on earth, Mithras returned to heaven.

His Return- at some point in time in the history of mankind, Mithras will return to judge all resurrected mankind after the last great battle.

Immortality- once Mithras had accomplished all of that he will lead his followers through a river of fire to a blessed immortal life

In Mithraism- a man may prepare himself for this event by attaining a degree of communion with him through the sacramental means of initiation, the ceremonial and dramatic representation of his suffering and overcoming death, similar to that which is found in the sacrament of the Catholic Mass.

The early followers of Mithras would tell the Christian, "See, we're talking about the same person, only we call him Mithras, instead of Jesus?" A very close Satanic parallel, close but not the same. Just like a counterfeit dollar is close to a real one. The difference is that a doctrinal believer would not be fooled by it. And if he was, and then later exposed to the truth, he would walk away from it. How about you?

The characteristics of the celebration of Tammuz's birthday on December 25:

Banquets- lavish tables were wet throughout the month of December culminating on the 25th to celebrate his birthday.

Wassail Bowl- of Europe had its origin in the mixing of drinks of Babylon's drunken festival. Christians do it today without the alcohol.

Lighting of Candles- were also very much a part of this especially on Christmas Eve.

The Christmas Tree- is central in this theme. In pagan Rome it was the fig tree; in Egypt it was the palm tree, and in the northern climes it was an evergreen tree.

Exchanging of Gifts- was a central part of the celebration of Tammuz's birthday, which is not the same thing as the giving of gifts in grace.

Mistletoe- was instituted by the Druids of England, who regarded the mistletoe as a divine branch that came from heaven and grew up to be a tree.

Kissing under the Mistletoe- was a sign of forgiveness.

Yule Log- spoke of Nimrod, or Tammuz.

Christmas Goose- in honor of Tammuz had its origin back in ancient Babylon.

Boar's Head Dinner- in honor of Tammuz on Christmas Day from England, ham today.

Yule Cakes- the cookies and cakes of today.

The festival went something like this. The people would go out into the forest to cut a tree and bring it back to their homes. On the night before Christmas, and remember we're talking about the celebrating of the birth of the Babylonian Messiah, Tammuz, a yule log would be thrown on the fire. The family would then sit around watching it until the fire was all gone and only the ashes were left. Then they would all go to bed. But before morning the parents would take the tree that they had cut in the forest and decorate it with glittering decorations and candles, and then place gifts for the family under the tree. When the children woke up in the morning they would now see this beautiful tree with all these wonderful gifts under it.

This festival symbolized the teachings of the mother-goddess cult. The yule log symbolized the child, Tammuz, some cultures it symbolized his father, Nimrod. (The

word yule meant child). By the placing of the yule log in the fire, it spoke of the death of Nimrod, but in the morning he rose from the ashes, (remember the Phoenix rising from the ashes?), and now was this beautiful, living tree! The glittering decorations and candles spoke of his glory. And under the tree, the presents said that he was the one who was giving gifts to all mankind.

The Santa Claus figure, brought over from Europe, also plays very prominently in this because Santa Claus symbolizes Tammuz and Mithras. He is a Teutonic caricature of Mithras, as a giver of gifts to those who are good, a lover of little children, even down to the wearing of the red Phrygian cap, later on trimmed in fur.

Some Christians reject Santa Claus because they say it's a corruption of the real meaning of Christmas, when in truth it symbolizes the very essence of Christmas, for Christmas never was a Christian holiday, but a pagan one celebrating the birth, death and resurrection of Tammuz, or in some places the death of Nimrod and his reincarnation in life in the person of his son, Tammuz!

Most Christians, when confronted with the truth, will say that they don't care; they're going to celebrate it anyway. Well what about the truth? Don't they care what the truth is? Others will say they do it for the children. Do what? Lead your children in the celebration of Satan's messiah? Is that the legacy you want to leave your children? To lie to them, to deceive them and to lead them astray? Others will say that they like the gifts. What lessons are you teaching them about grace giving in all this; the exchanging of presents is not the same thing as giving to someone in grace, which you can do all year long! Others say that they get a warm, fuzzy feeling about all this. And how does that line up with the spiritual dynamic of metabolizing the Word of God by faith under the filling of the Holy Spirit?

Believers can do what they want to do, that is their freedom in their own priesthood before the Lord. But do not come back and call this pagan observance a Christian holiday. It never has been and never will be. In fact, the Christians for two hundred years refused to celebrate it here in America; they knew what it really was about. It was brought into this country by the German and Irish Catholics, and over the years, tragically, the Protestant, Bible believing Christians have adopted it. Even to the place of having singing Christmas trees, of all things. They are identifying themselves as one with the Christmas tree, which actually symbolizes Satan's son, the anti-christ, Tammuz!

The Christmas season is the time of the greatest number of divorces, suicides, fighting, depression and the need for psychological counsellings. Remember this, the celebrating of a pagan Messiah's birthday will never provide the spiritual dynamic that the human spirits of born again believers in Christ need. Emotional phenomenon will never supply the spiritual phenomenon that our souls need. Only the Word of God that we have believed by faith, under the filling of the Holy Spirit in our new natures can do that.

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