

# The plain Truth about Christmas!



Where did we get Christmas?...From the Bible, or paganism? Here are the astonishing FACTS which may shock you! Do you know the origin of the Christmas tree, of “Santa Claus,” of the mistletoe, holly-wreath, custom of exchanging gifts?

Does Christmas really celebrate the birthday of Yahshua? Was He born on December 25<sup>th</sup>? Did Paul, the apostles, and the early Church of the New Testament celebrate Christmas? Do you know what the BIBLE says about the Christmas tree? Stop and think! Very few know WHY we do the things we do, or WHERE our customs came from! We were born into a world filled with customs. We grew up practicing them, taking them for granted, but NEVER QUESTIONING WHY!

## A PAGAN, Not a Christian Festival

We have supposed CHRISTMAS to be the chief of the Christian holidays. Without asking questions, we have blindly assumed its observance must be one of the principle teachings and commands of the New Testament. We have supposed Yahshua was born December 25<sup>th</sup>, and that the New Testament set this day aside as the chief Christian festival. We have supposed we exchange gifts because the wise men presented gifts to Yahshua as a child.

But lets quit supposing, and look into history and the Bible for the FACTS! The world “Christmas” means “Mass of Christ” or, as it later became shortened, “Christ-Mass.” It came to us as a Roman Catholic mass. And where did they get it? From the HEATHEN celebration of December 25<sup>th</sup>, as the birthday of Sol the SUN-GOD! It is, actually, an ancient rite of BAALISM, which the Bible condemns as the most abominable of all idolatrous worship!

It is not so much as MENTIONED anywhere in the New Testament. It was never observed by Paul, the apostles, the early true Congregation! The idea that Yahshua was born December 25<sup>th</sup>, is one of the FABLES the Apostle Paul prophesied (2 Tim 4:4) would deceive the world in these latter days. The plain truth is, Christmas is NOT Messiah’s birthday at all! And this festival, important as it seems to so many, is not of Christian, but of pagan Babylonian origin! But does that make any difference? Isn’t it all right to go ahead and observe it anyway? Isn’t the “Christmas SPIRIT” a good and splendid thing, regardless of how it got started? WE SHALL SEE!

## Yahshua NOT Born December 25<sup>th</sup>

Now let’s look to the interesting PROOF! When was Yahshua born? Yahshua was not even born in the winter season! When Yahshua was born there were in the same country shepherds *abiding* in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night (Luke 2:8). This never could have occurred in Israel in the month of December. The shepherds always brought their flocks from the mountain sides and fields and corralled them not later than October 15, to protect them from the cold rainy season that followed that date. Notice that the Bible itself proves in the Song of Solomon 2:11, and Ezra 10:9, and 13, that winter was a rainy season not permitting shepherds to abide in open fields at night. It was an ancient custom among Jews of those days to send out their sheep to the fields and deserts around the Passover (early-spring), and bring them home at commencement of the first rain, says the Adam Clarke Commentary, Vol. 5, page 386.

Continuing, this authority states: “during the time they were out, the shepherds watched them night and day. As...*the first rain* began early in the moth of Marchesvan, which answers to part of our October and November [begins *mid October*], we find that the sheep were kept out in the open country during the whole *summer*. And, as these shepherds had not yet brought home their flocks, it is a presumptive argument that October had not yet commenced, and that, consequently, our Master was not born on the 25<sup>th</sup> of December, when no flocks were out in the fields; nor could He have been born later than *September*, as the flocks were still in the fields by *night*. On this very ground, the *nativity in December* should be given up. The feeding of the flocks by night in the fields is a *chronological fact*...See the quotations from the *Talmudists in Lightfoot*.”

Any encyclopedia, or any other authority, will tell you that Messiah was not born on December 25<sup>th</sup>. The Catholic Encyclopedia frankly states this fact. The exact date of Yahshua’s birth is entirely UNKNOWN, as all authorities acknowledge, though if I had space in this booklet I could show you scriptures which at least strongly indicate that it was in the early fall, probably September, approximately six months after Passover.

If Yahweh had wished us to observe and celebrate Messiah’s birthday, He would not have so completely hidden the exact date.

## What Encyclopedias Say

There is not one word in the New Testament, or anywhere in the Bible, telling us to observe Christmas. The believers of the first century, under the inspired teachings of Peter and Paul and the other apostles, never observed it. There is NO BIBLE AUTHORITY for its observance, strange as it may seem. Then where did we *get* “Christmas?” Since it has come to us through the Roman Catholic Church,

and has not authority but that of the Roman Catholic Church, let us examine the Catholic Encyclopedia, published by that Church. Under the caption “Christmas,” you will find: “Christmas was *not* among the earliest festivals of the Church...The first evidence of the feast *is from Egypt*.” “*Pagan customs* centering around the January calends gravitated to Christmas.” And further, we find this truth acknowledged: “...in the Scripture, *sinners alone*, not saints, celebrate their birthday.”

Encyclopedia Britannica has this: “Christmas (i.e., the Mass of Christ). Christmas was not among the earliest festivals of the church...” “It was not instituted by the Messiah or the apostles, or by Bible authority, it was picked up afterward from paganism.”

The Encyclopedia Americana says: “CHRISMAS. It was, according to many authorities, not celebrated in the first centuries of the Christian church, as the Christian usage in general was to celebrate the death of remarkable persons rather than their birth...” (The “Communion” which is instituted by New Testament Bible authority, is a memorial of the DEATH of Christ.) “...a feast was established in memory of this event [Messiah’s birth] *in the fourth century*. In the fifth century the Western Church ordered it to be celebrated forever *on the day of the old Roman feast of the birth of Sol*, as no certain knowledge of the day of Christ’s birth existed.”

## How This Pagan Custom Got Into The Church

Now notice! These recognized historic authorities show Christmas was NOT observed by believers for the first two or three hundred years, a period longer than the entire history of the United States as a nation! It got into the Western, or Roman Catholic Church, by the FOURTH century A.D. It was not until the FIFTH century that the Roman Catholic Church ordered it to be celebrated as an official “Christian” festival!

Then HOW did this heathen custom CREEP INTO so-called Christianity? The Schaff-Herzog Encyclopedia explains it clearly, in its article on “CHRISTMAS:” “How much the date of the festival depended upon the Pagan Brumalia (Dec 25) following the Saturnalia (Dec 17-24), and celebrating the shortest day of the year and the “new sun”...cannot be accurately determined. The pagan Saturnalia and Brumalia were too deeply entrenched in popular custom to be set aside by Christian influence... The pagan festival with its riot and merrymaking was so popular that Christians were glad of an excuse to continue its celebration with little change in spirit and in manner. Christian preachers of the West and the near East protested against the unseemly frivolity with which Christ’ birthday was celebrated, while Christians of Mesopotamia *accused their Western brethren of idolatry and sun-worship for adopting as Christian this pagan festival*.”

Remember, the Roman world had been PAGAN. Prior to the fourth century, believers were few in number, though increasing, and were persecuted by the government and by pagans. But, with the advent of Constantine as emperor, who made his profession of Christianity, in the fourth century, placing Christianity on an equal footing with paganism, people of the Roman world began to accept this now popular Christianity by the hundreds of thousands.

But remember, these people had grown up in PAGAN customs, chief of which was this idolatrous festival of December 25<sup>th</sup>. It was a festival of merrymaking, with its special SPIRIT. They ENJOYED it! They didn’t want to give it up! Now this same article in Schaff-Herzog Encyclopedia explains how the recognition by Constantine, of Sunday, which had been the day of pagan SUN-worship, and how the influence of the pagan Manichaeism, which identified the SON of Yahweh with the physical SUN, gave these pagans of the fourth century, now turning over wholesale to “Christianity”, their EXCUSE for calling their pagan-festival date of December 25<sup>th</sup> (birthday of the SUN-god), the birthday of the SON of Yahweh.

And *that* is how “Christmas” got into so-called Christianity! We may call it by another NAME, but it’s the same old pagan sun-worshipping festival still! The only

CHANGE is in what we CALL IT! You can call a rabbit a “LION,” but it’s a RABBIT, just the same.

Again from the Britannica: “Certain Latins, as early as 354, may have transferred the birthday from January 6<sup>th</sup> to *December 25, which was then a Mithraic feast...or birthday of the unconquered SUN...* The Syrians and Armenians, who clung to January 6<sup>th</sup>, accused the Romans of SUN WORSHIP and IDOLATRY, contending that the feast of December 25<sup>th</sup>, have been invented by disciples of Cerinthus...”

### The Real Origin of Christmas

But if we got Christmas from the Roman Catholics, and they got it from paganism, where did the pagans get it? Where, when, and what was its real origin?

It is the chief custom of the corrupt system denounced all through Bible prophecies and teachings under the name of BABYLON. And it started and originated in the original Babylon of ancient Nimrod! Yes, it stems from roots whose beginning was shortly this side of the Flood! Nimrod, grandson of Ham, son of Noah, was the real founder of the Babylonish system that has gripped the world ever since, the system of organized competition, of man-ruled governments and empires, based upon the competitive and profit making economic system. Nimrod built the tower of Babel, the original Babylon, ancient Nineveh, and many other cities. He organized this world’s first *kingdom*. The name Nimrod, in Hebrew, is derived from “marad,” meaning, “he rebelled.” (Gen 10:6, 8-12)

From many ancient writings, considerable is learned of this man, who started the great-organized worldly apostasy from Yahweh that has dominated this world until now. Nimrod was so evil, it is said he married his own mother, whose name was Semiramis. After Nimrod’s untimely death, his so-called mother-wife, Semiramis, propagated the evil doctrine of the survival of Nimrod as a spirit being. She claimed a full-grown evergreen tree sprang over night from a dead tree stump, which symbolized the springing forth unto new life of the dead Nimrod. On each anniversary of his birth, she claimed, Nimrod would visit the evergreen tree and leave gifts upon it. December 25<sup>th</sup> was the birthday of Nimrod. This is the real origin of the Christmas tree.

Through her scheming and designing, Semiramis became the Babylonian “Queen of Heaven,” and Nimrod, under various names, became the “divine son of heaven.” Through the generations, in this idolatrous worship, Nimrod also became the false Messiah, son of Baal the Sun-god. In this false *Babylonish* system, the “Mother and Child”, (Semiramis and Nimrod reborn); became chief object of worship. This worship of “Mother and Child” spread over the world. The names varied in different countries and languages. In Egypt it was Iris and Osiris. In Asia, Cybele and Deouius. In Pagan Rome, Fortuna and Jupiter. Even in Greece, China, Japan, Tibet are to be found the counterpart of the Madonna, *long before the birth of the Messiah!*

Thus, during the fourth and fifth centuries, when the pagans of the Roman world were “accepting” the new popular “Christianity” by the hundreds of thousands, carrying their old pagan customs and beliefs along with them, merely cloaking them with Christian-sounding NAMES, the Madonna and “Mother and Child” idea also became popularized, especially at Christmas time. Every Christmas season you’ll hear sung and chanted dozens of times the hymn “Silent Night, Holy Night,” with its familiar “Mother and Child” theme. We, who have been born in such a Babylonish world, reared and steeped in these things all our lives, have been taught to revere these things as holy, and sacred. WE NEVER QUESTIONED TO SEE WHERE THEY CAME FROM, WHETHER THEY CAME FROM THE BIBLE, OR FROM PAGAN IDOLATRY!

We are SHOCKED to learn the TRUTH, some unfortunately, take offense at the PLAIN TRUTH! But Yahweh commands His faithful ministers, “CRY ALOUD, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and SHOW MY PEOPLE THEIR

TRANSGRESSIONS!” Shocking as these facts are, they are the plain facts of history and the Bible!

The real origin of Christmas goes back to the ancient Babylon. It is bound up in the organized apostasy with which Satan has gripped a deceived world these many centuries! In Egypt, it was always believed that the son of Iris (Egyptian name for “Queen of Heaven”) was born December 25<sup>th</sup>. Paganism celebrated this famous birthday over most of the known world for centuries before the birth of the Messiah. December 25<sup>th</sup>, is NOT the birthday of Yahshua the true Messiah! The apostles and early true Congregation never celebrated Messiah’s birthday at *any* time. There is no command or instruction to celebrate it in the Bible. Nowhere does the Bible tell us to worship “Mother and Child.” The apostles and early true believers never did it! The Scriptures show a cherub saying to Mary, Peace to you full of grace! Our Master is with you”.

She was highly blessed by Yahweh, and this has been acknowledged by all generations from that time, but this does not mean she is to be deified, worshiped or made a divine being, when she was merely human. The wide-spread worship of Mary, as “the Mother of Jesus,” the doctrine of the Immaculate Conception, which refers to her a counterfeit mediatrix between man and Yahweh, is a continuation of this ancient Babylonian idolatry, begun by the clever deceptions of Semiramis, wife of Nimrod! It is inextricably bound up with the “Christmas” idea!

Thus the ancient idolatrous “Chaldean Mysteries”, founded by the wife of Nimrod, have been handed down through the pagan religions into the Catholic Church under new Christian-sounding names, and from there into the Protestant denominations and on to all of us today!

### Origin of Holly Wreath, Mistletoe, Yule Log

Now where did we get this MISTLEOTE custom? Among the ancient pagans the mistletoe was used at this festival of the winter solstice because it was considered sacred to the SUN, because of its supposed miraculous healing power. The pagan custom of kissing under the mistletoe was an early step in the night of revelry and drunken debauchery, celebrating the death of the “old sun” and the birth of the new at the winter solstice. Mistletoe, sacred in pagan festivals, is a PARASITE! Holly berries were also considered sacred to the sun god. The yule log is in reality the “sun log”. “Yule” means “wheel,” a pagan symbol of the sun. Yet today professing Christians speak of the “sacred YULETIDE season!”

Even the lighting of fires and candles as a Christian ceremony is merely a continuation of the pagan custom, encouraging the waning sun god as he reached the lowest place in the southern skies!

The Americana says: “The holly, mistletoe, the Yule log...are relics of pre-Christian times.” “PAGANISM!” The book, *Answers to Questions*, compiled by Frederick J. Haskins, found in public libraries, says: “The use of Christmas wreaths is believed by authorities to be *traceable to the pagan customs* of decorating buildings and places of worship at the feast which took place at the same time as Christmas.

*The Christmas tree is from Egypt*, and its origin dates from a period long anterior to the Christmas Era.”

### Yes, and Even SANTA CLAUS!

But surely dear old Santa Claus is not a creature of pagan birth? But he IS, and his real character is not so benevolent and holy as many suppose!

The name “Santa Claus” is a corruption of the name “St. Nicholas,” a Roman Catholic bishop who lived in the 5<sup>th</sup> century. Look in the Encyclopedia Britannica, Vol. 19, pages 648-9, 11<sup>th</sup> edition, where you’ll read: “St. Nicholas, bishop of Myra...a saint honored by the Greeks and Latins on the sixth of December...A legend of his surreptitious bestowal of dowries on the three daughters of an impoverished citizen...is said to have originated the old custom of giving presents in secret on the eve of St. Nicholas [Dec. 6]. SUBSEQUENTLY TRANSFERRED TO CHRISTMAS DAY. Hence the association of Christmas with Santa Claus...”

Through the year, parents punish their children for telling falsehoods. Then, at Christmas time, they themselves tell their little children this “Santa Claus” lie! Is it any wonder many of them, when they grow up and learn the truth, begin to believe Yahweh is a myth, too?

One little fellow, sadly disillusioned about “Santa Claus,” said to a playmate, “Yes, and I’m going to look into this ‘Jesus Christ business,’ too!” Is it being honest to teach children myths and falsehoods? Yahweh says, “You shall not bear false WITNESS!” It may *seem* right, and be justified by human reason, but Yahweh says, “There is a way that seems RIGHT to a man, but the end thereof are the ways of DEATH!” “Old Nick” also is a term for the devil! Is there a connection? Satan appears as an “angel of LIGHT,” to deceive!

And so when we examine the facts, we are astonished to learn that the practice of observing Christmas is not, after all, a practice of true believers, but a pagan custom, one of the ways of BABYLON our people have fallen into!

### What the Bible Says About the Christmas Tree!

But if the Bible is silent about telling us to observe CHRISTMAS, or recording any such observance by the apostles or early true Congregation, it *does* have something to say about the Christmas tree! This will come as a real surprise to many. But here it is:

Jeremiah 10:1-6 “Hear the Word which YAHWEH speaks to you, O house of Israel. So says YAHWEH, *Do not learn the way of the nations...For the customs of the people are vanity*. For one cuts a TREE out of the forest with the axe, the work of the hands of the craftsman. They adorn it with silver and with gold; they fasten it with nails and hammers, so that it will not wobble.”

There is a perfect description of the Christmas tree, termed by the Eternal as “the way of the nations”, the custom of the people. We are commanded NOT to learn that way or follow it! It is also viewed in this passage as idolatry. The fifth verse shows that these trees cannot speak, cannot walk, must be carried. “Do not be afraid of them, for *they* (the trees) cannot do evil, neither is it in them to do good.” Some people *mis*-read this to make it say there is no harm in having a Christmas tree, but that is not what it says.

### We’re IN BABYLON, and Haven’t KNOWN IT!

Christmas has become a COMMERCIAL season. It’s sponsored, kept alive, by the heaviest retail advertising campaign of the year. You see a masqueraded “Santa Claus” in many stores. Ads keep us deluded and deceived about the “beautiful Christmas SPIRIT.” The newspapers, which sell the ads, print flowery editorials exalting and eulogizing the pagan season, and its “spirit”. A gullible people has become so inoculated, many take offense when told the TRUTH! But the “Christmas SPIRIT” is created each year, not to honor Messiah, but to SELL MERCHANDISE! Like all Satan’s delusions, it appears as an “angel of LIGHT,” is made to appear GOOD. BILLIONS OF DOLLARS are spent in this merchandising spree every year, while the CAUSE OF MESSIAH must SUFFER! It’s part of the economic system of BABYLON!

We are Yahweh’s people ISRAEL! Yes, we’re IN BABYLON, as Bible prophecy foretold, and we don’t know it! “Leave the land of her, My people, that you may not share in her SINS, and that you may not receive of HER PLAGUES,” now soon to fall is the warning of Revelation 18:4.

**For more information on pagan traditions we have inherited please read our book “The Great Falling Away” and visit our website at [www.coyhwh.com](http://www.coyhwh.com) or write to:**

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