

## Truth or Tradition

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[Video clip from *It's a Good Life*] (Boy voice) Look daddy! Teacher said every time a bell rings an angel gets his wings.

Jingle Bells song

(Family) Merry Christmas!

(Jim Staley) Hi and welcome to Passion for Truth Ministries. I am Jim Staley. We all have fun memories of yester years sitting around the Christmas table during the Christmas season celebrating the birth of our Lord with our loved ones, and our friends, and our family. And then also His resurrection in the spring around Easter time.

Well, I want to share with you in this video some of the results and conclusions that I have discovered on my journey as the Father began to many years ago put a void inside of me, a yearning for something more, something deeper, something that has substance that came from Him. And each and every year as I began to celebrate Christmas, something just didn't feel right. Something felt like I was missing something. It just wasn't the same as when I was growing up, and maybe some of you can relate to those feelings deep inside of you.

As I begin to go through some of this information, I will let you know right up front, some of the information is going to be shocking. Some of it is going to even be disturbing to you because your emotions and your memories are attached to some of the very fibers that make up who you are. So I want to encourage you to not be afraid of the truth as it comes out, because in the end the truth, according to the Scriptures, can only do one thing, and that is set you free. So as a reminder up front from parent to a parent. I have young ones at home. Some of the images and information we are going to be sharing today are quiet sensitive, and you may want to keep that in mind as we move forward here.

So as we get started, the very first thing we are going to talk about is really auditing our lives, and the information, and the things that we believe. We are going to start off with a quote from Barna group. Barna Group

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is the nation's largest Christian polling and review organization. They look into all the different things in Christianity, from our doctrines, our beliefs, and where the trends are going in Christianity. And in a recent end of year review, this was their conclusion:

THE PROBLEM FACING THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH IS NOT THAT PEOPLE LACK A COMPLETE SET OF BELIEFS; THE PROBLEM IS THAT THEY HAVE A FULL SLATE OF BELIEFS IN MIND, WHICH THEY THINK ARE CONSISTENT WITH BIBLICAL TEACHINGS, AND THEY ARE NEITHER OPEN TO BEING PROVEN WRONG NOR TO LEARNING NEW INSIGHTS. IT MAY WELL BE THAT SPIRITUAL EVALUATION IS SO UNCOMMON BECAUSE PEOPLE FEAR THAT THE RESULTS MIGHT SUGGEST THE NEED FOR DIFFERENT GROWTH STRATEGIES OR FOR MORE AGGRESSIVE ENGAGEMENT IN THE GROWTH PROCESS. NO MATTER WHAT THE UNDERLYING REASON IS, THE BOTTOM LINE AMONG BOTH THE CLERGY AND LAITY WAS INDIFFERENCE TOWARD THEIR ACKNOWLEDGED LACK OF EVALUATION

In a nutshell, ladies and gentleman, what that is saying is we as believers have come to a place where we really don't care about what the truth is. We don't really care from Yahweh's perspective, from God's perspective, what He desires for us. We are afraid of even looking into these things because we know that it will draw a line in the sand, and we don't want to make these decisions because at the end of the day, we want what we want. We are comfortable with the way we live our lives. We are comfortable with our religious activities and our traditions that are man made in every way. And so at the end of the day, I don't know about you, but I want to please Him. We are only put on this earth for really a couple of reasons: to banner His name in the earth and to make sure that we love Him with all of our heart, mind, soul, and strength. And we want to do so His way.

Some of you when you begin to look at some of the information in this video, you are immediately going to have pop in your head...there is going to be a thought pop in your head that says, "Well, that's not what it means to me." I had that very same thought cross my mind many years ago, and the Holy Spirit really, in a gentle way, began to say, "Jim, it doesn't matter what it means to you. You're not the one being worshiped. I am the one being worshiped. It only matters what I think." So please keep that in mind as we go through the information

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in this video. That at the end of the day, our job is to adjust our lives to the truth, no matter how difficult, no matter how emotional or traumatic it may be, because in the end, when you cross the desert, there is a promise land waiting. There are blessings for doing Bible things in Bible ways.

So let's begin with this quote by John Calvin. It says this: "Is it faith to understand nothing, and merely submit your convictions implicitly to the church?"

We want to understand why we do the things that we do, why we believe the things that we believe. If we continue to just blindly worship Him thinking that because our hearts are pure and sincere that He is going to just accept whatever we put at the altar. It's like the ancient Israelites taking a pig and sacrificing an unclean animal on the altar. It's like Cain sacrificing his vegetable garden when YHWHY asked and required an animal sacrifice. It does not matter what it means to us. It doesn't matter how sincere our hearts are. As a matter of fact, the Bible says that our hearts are wicked. So He doesn't look into our hearts, ladies and gentleman, until we are obedient. The heart doesn't matter. If the heart is the only thing that matters, then we might as well let everybody into heaven at the end of the day because is it not true that in every religion known to man, they are sincere, and their heart is to worship their god with all of their heart, mind, soul, and strength?

So folks, lets just get theology right out front on the table. It doesn't matter how sincere we are. We can be sincerely wrong. We want to make sure that our sincerity and our obedience lines up with the Scriptures, because doesn't the scripture say that obedience is better than sacrifice? So we can sacrifice all the things that we want, but if we are not doing and sacrificing the way that He required, it doesn't mean a thing.

Abraham Lincoln said it this way: "The best way to destroy your enemy is to make him your friend."

At the end of the day, ladies and gentlemen, the enemy only comes to do three things: Steal, kill, and destroy the truth. That's what he is trying to do. He did it in the garden by telling Adam and Eve that the instructions that God gave Adam and Eve (which "instructions" in Hebrew is "Torah." The word "Torah" does not mean law, it means instructions)... so as God gave them some Torah, some instructions, in the garden, the enemy came alone and said: "God didn't REALLY mean that you would die if you broke His instructions." So

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the enemy's job is to remove us from our inheritance, to remove us from the garden. And the way we are always removed from the garden is by breaking His instructions and choosing to do things our own way.

This is what the Israelites did their entire time as they began to walk through the time line in history. They constantly broke the covenant, and were constantly being pulled apart from God, and then repentance and teshuva, returning, they came back into covenant, and God would bless them only when they obeyed. He would curse them when they didn't obey.

And folks, I have learned in my own life that sometimes the greatest curse can be missing a blessing, and so, let's continue. One of my favorite quotes is by John F. Kennedy. It says:

"The great enemy of the truth is very often not the lie, deliberate, contrived and dishonest, but the myth, persistent, persuasive, and unrealistic." Even Hitler said it this way: He said, "If you tell a lie loud enough, and long enough, eventually, people will believe it to be the truth."

Satan again has no other plan, but to steal, kill, and destroy. He wants to just remove words from the scriptures; he wants us to believe that we can do things our way. Ultimately isn't that his spirit? The spirit of rebellion says that we can do things our way, we can worship God our way, and at the end of the day, that is where we fall short, and we begin to miss the glory of God. When we begin to do Bible things in Bible ways, that's when we begin to inherit the Father's blessing that He set apart from the beginning of time.

Well, here we go. That was all introduction. Let's begin with this thought: What are the four most influential events that you can think of on the Bible time line, on the man's history timeline? Well, I will tell you the four most influential events that I can think of. Albeit, this is Jim Staley's opinion of what the four most important events are, but the four most important events according to Jim Staley are the following:

- 1) The giving of the commandments in the garden
- 2) The giving of the commandments at Mount Sinai (the "Blessings and the curses")
- 3) The birth of the Messiah
- 4) And the death, burial, and resurrection of the Messiah.

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There are a lot of different events that happen in human history, but these, in my opinion, are some of the most important events that ever happened. We are going to focus on the last 2 events. The birth of the Messiah, and the death, burial, and resurrection of the Messiah, as those two drastically affected the future of mankind.

So now let's travel back in time four thousand years, and begin to discover where the history of some of these traditions came from. We are going to find ourselves all the way back in the time of Noah. Matter of fact, let's begin in the old fashion way:

"Once upon a time... A long time ago, there lived a man named Nimrod. Nimrod was the great-grandson of Noah. He was the most popular man on the earth at the time. As a matter fact, he was the king of the then known world. He was responsible for building the cities of Babel, the tower of Babel, and the city of Nineveh, amongst others. Well all that being aside, Nimrod, no doubt, had tremendous influence among the people that he was with. And what happened was that he had this uncanny reputation of strength. He created great armies, and he was the ruler of the then known world right after the flood. He was full of idolatry, covetousness, drunkenness, and rebelliousness toward God. And he had a phenomenal ability to deceive. Matter fact, I suppose he was much like ah... I guess an early politician, four thousand years ago. But Nimrod married a woman named Semiramis. Now, Semiramis and Nimrod became basically king and queen of the then known world. At some point, Nimrod dies, and he became deified. He was the very first person that was ever deified on planet earth. And they made him the sun god, which ended up being Baal. The word Baal in your Scriptures can be traced back to Nimrod. So it's an interesting reality of history when you see Baal and Ashtoreth, and they are coming all the way back to the story of Nimrod and Semiramis.

And so Baal is now ruling the universe as the sun god, and some how luck has it in the Babylonian legend that Semiramis gets pregnant by the rays of the sun of her deceased husband, Nimrod. And she gives birth to a young baby boy, named Tammuz. Now further down in the story, as Tammuz grows and becomes a man, Tammuz actually marries his mother, and they have a very sexual relationship. And that baby Tammuz and his mother Semiramis is where you get the story of cupid. Cupid, during Valentines Day, is how the story of Valentine's Day developed. It was from Tammuz who married, in a very unbiblical relationship, his mother. OK, back to the story

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of Tammuz. Tammuz for forty years was a tremendous hunter, and he took the place of his father ruling the world and had tremendous power. But more than anything, he was an incredible hunter. But unfortunately his gift and his skill of hunting caught up with him one day because he was killed during his fortieth year by a wild boar.

And so what would happen is Semiramis, at some point after that, she died, and she was sent up into heaven, but apparently her deceased husband, Baal, was not ready for her. So he sent her back down to earth in a giant egg, and it exploded in the Euphrates River. And the very first thing that she did when she came out of the egg was she turned a bird into an egg laying rabbit. That's right, as crazy as it sounds, that's where we get our egg laying rabbit from. That's where we get the Easter bunny from. Now before we go any further, you think an egg? This sounds like a fairy tale. Well, it's a Babylonian legend, but you have to understand that in the eastern culture back then eggs were a tremendous symbol of fertility among many of the gods. They even believed that the earth was born out of a giant egg. So it's not surprising among the scholars that this legend would be that Semiramis would come back down in the form of an egg. That would immediately tell the people of the earth that this is a god. So in a goddess situation, it is deity because there is an egg of fertility that is involved.

And so what happens is you are going to see similarities now in the holiday of Easter and the traditions that we celebrate during Easter and all of these traditions that date back two, three, and four thousand years ago. So right off the bat we discovered that the Easter bunny come from that one act that Semiramis did when she broke out of the egg. Let's see if we can find some other traditions as we move along here.

Now every spring the first Sunday after the vernal equinox, spring equinox, they have what was called Ishtar's Sunday, and they would have a sunrise service. Now this part of the legend is difficult to confirm because there are so many different versions so you can make up your own mind on whether or not this particular part of the legend will be accredited to you, but it is quiet interesting how one particular part of the legend lines up so eerily with the dyeing of the Easter egg. Because what they used to do in this part of the legend was that at the sunrise service, the priest of Ishtar would impregnate young virgins on the altar, and during that same service, they would take the babies that were now three months old from the previous year, and sacrifice those children on the altar to Ishtar. And they would take the eggs of Ishtar, and they would dip those eggs in the blood of those

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young infants. And that is where we get sunrise services and that is potentially where we get the dyeing of the Easter eggs. And it is also interesting to note that worldwide, the universal color of Easter eggs is red. Even at the White House, the official color of the White House Easter egg is ruby red.

Now back to Tammuz. Tammuz gets killed by a wild boar. So every year in commemoration of celebrating the death and the deification of Tammuz, which became the son of god, the son of his father, they would set aside forty days prior to Easter, and they would fast, and they would pray, and they would have a giant feast on Easter Sunday where they would celebrate the death and the resurrection of Tammuz. And guess what they would have for dinner on that Sunday evening? You got it! Easter ham. They would kill a boar in commemoration to Tammuz, who was killed by a wild boar. And yes, the forty days prior to Easter, we call it lent, the Catholics call it lent, that forty days did not come from, my friends, the forty days of Jesus in the wilderness. That forty days was already in place for thousands of years before Jesus even showed up. It comes from the forty days of fasting and praying for Tammuz before they celebrated Easter. The forty days of the fasting and praying of Jesus, and I like to call Him by His Hebrew name, Yeshua, which means salvation, Yeshua's fasting and praying in the wilderness for 40 days is just a coincidence. Why? Because The Father knows the truth, and the enemy used to be the right hand man of The Father, and he knows the prophecies. He knew exactly how everything was going to be laid out so he developed all of these traditions of man and all of these legends, whether they be true or not true, but he developed them to skew our foresight and our ability to understand so that when the truth would actually come, that we would not recognize it. He created a fraud, and we've swallowed it hook, line, and sinker.

And so we begin to see some of these traditions. We discovered where lent came from. We discovered where Easter ham came from. We've discovered where the sunrise service came from. We've even discovered why we chose the first Sunday after the spring equinox. We didn't choose it. It's always been there on the celebration of Easter.

Now, what's interesting about Easter and Baal, or Semiramis and Baal, is the names. We find these names all over Egyptians' hieroglyphics, all these different, ah, the Finland hieroglyphics, all these different artifacts from all over the world, so I am going to give you some of the names and what they are most commonly

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remembered for in these different cultures, and some of you will recognize them immediately. First of all, in Egypt, there were known as Isis and Osiris. In Phoenicia they were recognized as Ashtoreth and Baal, the very same Ashtoreth and Baal that we see in the Scriptures. In Greece, they were Aphrodite and Adonis, or Erodes, where we get the word Erotic from. And in Rome, they were called Venus and Cupid. That's right, that's where we get Valentine's Day from, and Cupid.

Even in the Far East, listen to this. This is amazing! Cupid as known as Zoroaster. Zoroaster is made up of two words. Zoro, which means "seed of," and Ashtoreth, which is "Easter." And so what Cupid actually means in the Far East is the "seed of Easter," or the seed of his mother. Ok, and that is from the Aletheia Archives: The Bookshelf - February 1994 Vol. 2, No. 2.

We discovered Easter, Easter egg, Easter ham, lent, Cupid, and Valentine's Day, when Easter Sunday is, the sunrise services, and the like. Now, we want to move into the Scriptures and show you some connections of these names. Because you've read some of these Scriptures, and it's uncanny how YHVH, God, always tries to speak to the Israelites and warn them to stay away from Ashtoreth and Baal.

Let's read the scriptures. Judges 2:13 says this: "And they forsook the LORD, and served Baal and Ashtoreth." 1 Samuel 7:4 says, "Then the children of Israel did put away Baalim and Ashtoreth, and served the LORD only." And last but not least, Romans 11:4 says: "But what saith the answer of God unto him? I have reserved to myself seven thousand men, who have not bowed the knee to the image of Baal."

Now what's really interesting is we are going to discover what that image of Baal is a little bit later in this program. Right about this time, you are probably having that thought that I warned you about hit your brain saying, "That's not what it means to me. I celebrate the birth of Jesus, and I put all the focus on Jesus, and I celebrate His resurrection, and I want to focus on Him." Well, your heart may be to want to focus on Him, and you absolutely may do that. But the truth of the matter is that it doesn't matter how much we focus, how sincere we are, and how pure are hearts are. It only matters is are we worshiping Him the way that He asked us to worship Him, and is anything that we are doing offending Him? Later on in the program, we are going to go through the Scriptures and see if there are any Scriptures talking about Christmas and Easter and any particular instructions

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allowing us to worship Him in whatever way that we want. But in the mean time, please keep an open mind as we move thru the rest of this history and some of these symbols, which are very shocking, that you are going to find out how they moved thru time and ended up in our Christian churches today.

We are going to start off with a myriad of symbols that we have discovered in archeology and history that are very related to Christianity, and Christmas and Easter, sun god worship, and pagan worship today.

So we are going to start off with the most obvious one, and the most important one, and that is Tammuz and his mother Semiramis. If you look on your screen, you are going to see Isis and Osiris, or Ishtar and Tammuz. Now some of you may be asking, “Well, wait a minute. I celebrate Easter. You are talking about Ishtar.” Easter is actually the Anglicization of the word “Ishtar.” In other words, if you say “Ishtar” in English, it is pronounced “Easter.” That’s how the etymology of that word evolved over time.

What I want you to see is I want you to see what’s on her head is a crescent moon, and in the center of that crescent moon is the actual sun itself. So the symbol of power of Isis, or Ishtar, was the crescent moon holding the sun itself, her deceased husband, Baal, the sun god. And you can see the baby there that is nursing from her breast. Ishtar was known as the goddess of the east, the bare breasted fertility god of the east, or the sunrise, which is why they had the service at sunrise on Easter morning. Her husband, on the other hand, was the god of the west, the setting sun. And so you had the goddess, the wife, Ishtar, of the sunrise, and then you had her husband, which was the god of the west, or the sunset, covering all day long that the pagan sun gods would rule the earth.

Now we are going to move into all the rest of the symbols as we move thru these symbols today. Here on your screen you see a pagan carving of the solar deity Baal-Hadad depicted as a disk in a crescent. Ok, you can see the half moon disk there in the center of your screen with the sun that is cradled inside of it. That is the sun god as well as the crescent moon that surrounds it. Now as you see that the main symbol for the sun god was the crescent moon with the sun on the top of it, or centered and cradled inside that crescent moon, we now move to something that is a bit controversial but very true historically. The Catholic Eucharist is actually the sun that is inside of that crescent moon. I am going to show you some pictures of the actual Eucharist, in different positions, and you are going to see that it is not only similar, it’s identical. This is where they got the symbols from. You

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can see here, this is a particular object that holds the Eucharist, and I found this online. And this is what the quote said... I left out the particular church for obvious reasons, but this was their advertisement for particular Friday... It says: Eucharistic Adoration is held on the first Friday of every month for the purpose of honoring and praying to the Blessed Sacrament.

Now, I don't know about you, but my Bible says to pray to The Father, our Father. Yeshua, Jesus, said to pray to The Father. He did not say to pray to inanimate objects, whether they represent Him or not. Now look very carefully on the right hand side. You can see the moon, the crescent moon, shaped holding that sun or that wafer of bread. Here is a close up of it right here. The crescent moon cradle with the sun shaped monstrance of the Roman Catholic Church, and you will see that it's actually the rays of the sun going all the way around this. They didn't hide it at all. Why did they not hide it? Because this is thousands of years old. This comes right out of paganism and sun god worship where it was the symbol of Baal and His wife, Ishtar.

And right here you can see the pinecone staff is another symbol found in paganism that is connected with the sun god, coming out of Egypt, Osiris. It's kind of in a form of a pitchfork, you can see, where the pinecone is in the center. Now why did they choose the pinecone? Because the pinecone represents fertility. It comes from the pine tree, which stays green all year round. So as everything begins to die in the winter, the pine tree became a symbol of new hope, and life and fertility. And you can see that even in Mexico, they found a Mexican god that is holding pinecones on one hand and the pinecone tree on the other. Now what's interesting is that the largest pinecone structure in the world can be found in the "Court of the Pine" at the Vatican itself.

Let me ask a question, why is a pinecone being found in the "Court of the Pine" at the Vatican? Why did they choose a pinecone? Why is it that the pinecone can be found on the staff of the Pope, himself? Because this staff goes all the way back to ancient sun god worship where it represented power and authority of the gods, you see. And this is a close up of that staff, right here, where the pinecone is embedded right in the staff, itself.

Let's move on to another symbol. This is the symbol of the trident. The trident is the devil's pitchfork. It really is a symbol of Satan, of the horns of Satan. It's an ancient satanic and pagan hand gesture called the trident. We find this in archeology all over the place. Whenever you get into any kind of society of sun god worship, you

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find the trident everywhere. You see it in ancient Babylon, was placed in the hands of all the pagan sun gods, and all the pagan gods and pharaohs had some sort of trident staff that they would be connected to power and authority of the gods. The most famous one of course, is Neptune's trident. We call it the devil's pitchfork, and that's where it comes from. It's not just a drawing that someone made up. This has history built into it of where these things come from.

Now, if you move forward in time, or during the same time period, excuse me, you are going to find another symbol that is even more important. Matter of fact, you are going to see two symbols in this picture. This is a pagan statue of Jupiter that has been renamed "Saint Peter," and he is holding up, guess what? The trident symbol. That symbol is a satanic symbol recognizing the power of the gods of the sun. And you'll also see another symbol in this picture, and that is the halo. Look real carefully. It's not a halo. It's a sunburst. What they put behind the head of the gods, or the saints, if you will, it's not a halo. It is a sunburst representing the power of the sun god. And they call this "Saint Peter" in the Vatican, but in reality, history tells us this is the god, Jupiter. You also see what is baby Jesus, supposed to be baby Jesus, is none other than baby Tammuz. And how do we know it's not baby Jesus? Because you see tridents all over the place. And how do we know it's not Jesus is you see tridents all over the place. You see the trident symbol in the hand of the infant Jesus, along with the tridents coming out of the statue's head. You see three tridents, two coming off the sides of the head and one coming off the top of the head. This is not baby Jesus, ladies and Gentleman, this is a pagan sun god, Tammuz, from the story of Baal, Nimrod, and Semiramis and ended up being cupid in today's Valentine's Day.

To move to a completely different symbol, here we see a winged serpent guarding King Tut's throne. This winged serpent, you are going to see, is really a dragon, and throughout folklore and history, we see dragons written in ancient Egyptian hieroglyphics. And all over the world you have these winged dragons. And that's a whole other study in itself, but in reality, the serpent in the Scriptures has always been connected to Satan himself, Lucifer, the fallen morning angel of light, who in the garden of Eden was talked about as a serpent that was sly and deceitful. And always breathing the fire of death, if you will, out of his mouth always looking to seek, and devour, and destroy God's people.

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So I want you to see how this serpent, which in Scripture is always connected to a demonic activity or to Satan himself, how it shows up in religious terminology and religious artifacts. Here in the Mayan serpent sun god, Quetzalcoatl, is depicted coming from the mouth of a winged dragon, ok, and so the Mayan sun god is coming from the mouth of a winged dragon. Here we have a winged serpent carrying departed souls to heaven, and if you look at that very carefully, you can see that the departed souls are on the back of this winged serpent. And it's been interpreted that this winged serpent is heading towards heaven, and it's taking its people with him. I am going to suggest that its not heaven that he's going to. Here you see a winged serpent, the very same winged serpent that we see for thousands of years in paganism, on the door handle of Saint Mary's Cathedral in San Francisco, CA. Let me ask a question. What on earth is a serpent, a winged serpent, doing on any kind of religious artifact or building that is supposed to be connected to serving the Lord Jesus Christ, Yeshua HaMashiach, our Lord and Savior?

Here is a winged dragon on a large papal crest in the Vatican Museum. Why is there a winged dragon on the papal crest in the Vatican Museum? The same winged dragon that we see throughout paganism. Now the winged dragon gets connected, and it gets evolved into what's called a crosier, or the serpent crosier. Look carefully here at king Tut's crosier augur, or the serpent crosier, that's in his hand. It was designed to protect the gods or protect the leadership. The pharaohs of ancient Egypt believed that this winged serpent would protect them, and so they made a crosier out of this winged serpent, and they would even be buried with this winged serpent because it was told that it would protect them in the after life. It would give them powers. You see here the Greek goddess Athena is depicted here holding the serpent crosier in her right hand, which is the symbol of power and authority. Here is a Mesopotamian king with the crooked divining staff that represents the serpent crosier. Here on the Roman Catholic serpent crosier of the bishops, as well as church officials, so you can see very carefully, if you look carefully you can see there is an actual winged serpent that's embedded into that curve of the handle of all the bishops as well as high church Catholic officials. And again, my question is why is there a winged serpent, the same exact picture that we find in two, three, and four thousand years old pagan sun god worship, same thing that we find all the way back in the Egyptian culture of that winged serpent, which we know

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is hasatan, or Satan. Here is another picture of a Roman Catholic serpent crosier of the bishop as well as High-Church officials. Again, another rendition of the crosier that ends up being really, a serpent's head. Here is a Roman Catholic serpent crosier again, over in Italy, and you can see that is again, it is a dragon. It is a staff that is really the head of a dragon. Here is another picture of one in a museum of a Catholic bishop, a priest, and you can see that the crosier is in his hand. Here we see one of the most incredible pictures of the crosier, the serpent crosier staff here on your right hand side. And if you look carefully, it's actually a king. And out of the king's head is the serpent's neck, the serpents head, and it wraps around until you see the actual head of the serpent, and what's coming out of the serpents mouth is the fire of the serpent. And so I don't know about you, ladies and gentleman, but out of the King's crown of my King, it's certainly not the demonic serpent that had deceived Adam and Eve of old. But we see that here on virtually every single Roman Catholic crosier as well as Egyptian crosier and all the way down the line.

Now moving to another symbol that we see all throughout paganism, the sunburst or the solar wheels. The sunburst that we saw around the halos, which we will get to in just a moment, we see depicted as a solar wheel throughout archeology. And right here is the ancient Babylonian altar for the sun god Baal, and its main symbol is the 8-pointed star, which can be depicted as 2 4-point stars built inside of one another, as the solar wheel. We see the same solar wheel/sun burst over a Buddhist temple in Thailand. Here is a monastery, St. Ignatius, where the solar wheel/sun burst is depicted in the floor tiles. Now you can see that it starts off very small, and that eight-sided solar wheel continues to get larger, and larger, and larger across that floor, and its nothing other... well, you may say, "That's just a beautiful picture." No, it's not. The reason why they chose that solar wheel, or that particular pattern, is because it is connected to the pagan sun god worship, and that is what was found in every tiled floor in every single pagan temple to the sun god. And we see that even today.

Here is the face of a child, which is of course Tammuz, within the fertility symbol of the sun's rays on a Roman Catholic altar. The same exact symbol is shown in the face of a Babylonian sun god on a pulpit on a Roman Catholic Church in Scandinavia. OK, all the same symbol comes right out of paganism as I have shown.

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OK, this is one of the probably most fascinating pictures that I have. I zoomed in to the Vatican, using Google earth, and stopped several miles above, and look what we discovered. This is the largest solar wheel on earth. This is the court of St. Peter at the Vatican in Rome itself. And folks, just so you know that I am not making this up, there is eight quadrants here, exactly the number of quadrants that are found in ancient paganism solar wheels. And you can see the hub here. We are going to zoom in the hub, and I am going to show you what is in the hub as well, but let me ask a question? Why are these lines painted if it's not to be a solar wheel? These artifacts, this building, were constructed to be an ancient solar wheel. And today in modernism we know that this is connected to the ancient sun god worship. The sun god, excuse me, the sun disk behind the head of this Roman Catholic statue in Westminster Cathedral in London, where did they get the idea of sun discs behind these saints? It's because this is what was found behind the head of Jupiter and all the sun gods was the actual monstrosity of the Roman Catholic Church. That halo is not a halo. That is a sun disc, and they borrowed it from paganism. We see here behind Krishna another sun disc behind his head, and this is just to show that it doesn't just happen in Catholicism, that the sun disc pre-dates Catholicism by hundreds even thousands of years. It was borrowed. We see it in stained glass windows behind all of the Roman Catholic saints. Even Mary, and if you look carefully, you see the sacred heart. That sacred heart, even though I don't have time to go into this, even that sacred heart comes right out of paganism, that exact same symbol with the sun disc behind the sacred heart has to do with Baal and Tammuz, the sun gods. And you can see it all over the Roman Catholic Church and even other pagan religions across the world.

And where do we find this 8-pointed star, this solar wheel, this sun disc today? None other than on top of our Christmas trees. Now I know that all of us have been taught that the star on top of the Christmas tree represents the star of Bethlehem that the kings came in to find baby Jesus, but unfortunately, the star of the ancient pagan sun gods predates the star of the Christmas tree, the star of Bethlehem, by over a thousand years. They were taking the sunburst, and connecting it to, what you will learn in just a few minutes, is the tree of Nimrod, and that is where we get our Christmas tree from and the star that we put on top. If you look carefully, you can see that there is a tremendous significance and a similarity between the sunburst and the star that we put up there today. Here

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is the sun disc proudly displayed on top of Christmas trees in a mall. As a matter of fact, this one doesn't even hide the fact that it's not a star. It's the sun that you are looking at. Even the 8-pointed star on top of the White House Christmas tree for everyone to see is the same 8-pointed star that we find in archeology thousands of years ago connected to pagan sun god worship.

This is an incredible quote that I found in my research when trying to make a connection between Ishtar and the 8-pointed star. In Uruk, an ancient Sumerian city in Southern Iraq, 3000 years old tablets were discovered where it said that the celestial identity of Ishtar was none other than the eight-pointed star. You can look up the resource for that on your own.

It is amazing to me, ladies and gentleman, how we have taken all of our traditions, that we think we that we made up just recently, every single one of them can be traced back to something that someone else did that didn't like our God, that hated our God. The enemy created a faux god, and man has stolen all of those traditions, and now we are worshipping the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the same way that the ancients worshiped their pagan gods, and the million dollar question that we have to answer by the end of this teaching is: Can we worship God in the same way that the ancient pagans did? We will answer that question. I promise you.

OK, "The word "obelisk" literally means "Baal's shaft" or "Baal's organ of reproduction." "It is almost always placed in the center of a circle," the solar wheel, "which represents the female genitalia and the physical sexual act."

And so this is why the solar wheel and the obelisk work together in tandem. This is why you see the solar wheel in the Vatican Square, St. Peter's Square, and you see the obelisk that runs right dead center thru the hub of that wheel. It's the consummation of that sexual act between the sun god and his wife Semiramis or Ishtar, or as we pronounce it in English, Easter. You can see how the two work in tandem together.

Before we go any further and talk about the obelisk, I want to share a story about in Egypt where they say the obelisk came from. It goes back to the ancient Egyptian god Osiris and his wife Isis. You see Ra, the sun god, had five children. And we are going to talk about 3 of them in just a few moments. Three of them being Osiris, Isis, and his brother Set. Osiris ends up marrying his sister Isis. And Set is his jealous brother. Why? Because

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Osiris takes over the throne in Egypt and becomes the god of the pharaoh in Egypt. And Set is a very jealous brother and so he wants to kill his brother Osiris, and so he develops an incredible plan by throwing a huge party, and he makes this beautiful box, and he makes this box in the exact dimension of his brother Osiris. He somehow finds the dimensions of the shoulders and head and the length and width of Osiris, and everyone looked at this beautiful box and they desired this box. So he came up with a very crafty plan and decides to give away the box to anyone who could lie down inside of it, and it would fit them. Well, as you can imagine, Osiris lays down in the box, and it fits perfectly, and at that moment he had his servant throw the top on there, nail it down, and they threw him into one of the rivers in Egypt. And he died. Well, this did not set well with his wife Isis who took the throne and so she went on a quest to find where her deceased husband was in the Nile River. And as she found him to give him a proper burial, Set found out about it, and Set interrupted her journey back to Egypt and took the body without her knowing it, deceived her again, and took the body and cut it into fourteen different pieces and spread it throughout all the different cities in Egypt except for one...the male organ. The reproductive organ of Osiris he threw into the Nile River, which was then, according to the legend, eaten by the fish, and that was the only organ that she could not find. She found all the different parts of his body but that was the one part of his body. Now why is that so important? Because in ancient culture as you know even from the stories in Corinth, we know that they had a thousand male and female prostitutes in Corinth alone, and fornication, homosexuality, and the like were very prevalent in ancient cultures. Fertility was off the charts most important to them. Sexual promiscuity was far worse than it is even today, if you can imagine that. So this was really important that she find this reproductive organ of her husband, which represented power, strength, fertility, passing of the gene, and royalty to the next generation. So because she could not find the male organ of her deceased husband, she decided to make a commemorative pillar in Egypt that would stand as a remembrance of his power in the form of a concrete, or a stone obelisk, and that obelisk we know from sources is where they believed that the ancient sun god spirit lived. As we see from the source on your screen there that they believed that the Egyptian obelisk was worshiped as well as the dwelling place of the sun god. And they began to put this obelisk all over the world as

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she began to do this in commemoration of her deceased husband so that everyone would know that his presence was in that city, and you began to see them pop-up over the place, all over the ancient world.

We can see in the Bible in Hebrew the word for pillar or idol is kham-mawn. And kham-mawn literally means "sun-idol" or "sun-pillar." You can see it in Isaiah 27:9. It's used this way: "By this therefore shall the iniquity of Jacob be purged; and this is all the fruit to take away his sin; when he maketh all the stones of the altar as chalkstones that are beaten in sunder, the groves and images shall not stand up." That word images there is kham-mawn'. And that kham-mawn' is talking about an obelisk...the images or the pillars that they put up in their groves. Here is another word in Hebrew: matstsebah. Matstsebah mean pillar, or monument, or idol. It is the erected obelisk is what they are talking about. Exodus 34:13: "But ye shall destroy their altars, break their images, and cut down their groves." Leviticus 26:1 says: "You shall make no idols nor graven image, neither rear you up a standing image, neither shall ye set up any image of stone in your land" (Talking about the obelisk) "to bow down unto it: for I am the YHVH your Elohim." Deuteronomy 7:5 says: "but thus shall ye deal with them; ye shall destroy their altars, and break down their images, and cut down their groves, and burn their graven images with fire." And you can see that there is quiet a few more scriptures throughout the Bible that talk about the pillars and the obelisk that they set out throughout their land. The great God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, Yahweh, he was constantly fighting, not against the small gods, he was constantly fighting against their prime god, which was Baal, the sun god. He was always mentioning Baal, and Ashtoreth, and the sun god of the east, and the sun god of the west.

Here are some pictures we are going to roll thru the entire world here. We are going to circle the globe and show you pictures of the entire world of these obelisks and in their raw format. And some of these, as the one that you can see here in Turkey, you can see that the ancient hieroglyphics and their language and pictures are actually still on these obelisks. Here is Cleopatra's needle. A Cleopatra's Needle is not just a neat, little emblem. This was erected in commemoration to the sun god there in London. This is the oldest obelisk in Scotland. This is the oldest obelisk in Switzerland you can see. In Germany... in Paris, France. This one is covered with Egyptian hieroglyphics all talking about sun god worship. How about Mecca? It would scare me to death, ladies and

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gentlemen, to find out that in Islam one of their big idols is an obelisk right there dead center downtown Mecca. And here these obelisks we find all over United States here. How about Luxor, Egypt near the Nile River there is an Egyptian obelisk. This is one of the most famous obelisks in the entire world, in Buenos Aires, Argentina. It's dedicated to the sun god Rah who is said to live inside of it. Everyone in that town in that city that it's been there knows the history behind that obelisk, knows that and understands that.

Here is one in Amsterdam. Here is one in Ethiopia. Mongolia. And, ladies and gentleman, we are going to focus on this here for just a moment, and I am going to show you something that is really, you only could see this from Google earth, and it overwhelmed me, so I wanted to share this with you as well. The largest obelisk in the world, I believe, which is hidden, is what you are seeing right here. If you look carefully, what we are seeing here is we are seeing the male genitalia of Rah, the sun god or Baal, built into the actual architecture of St. Peter's Square and the entire Vatican building there. You can see the testicles at the bottom and then the shaft of that male organ moving up. Now what's interesting is if we turn it side ways we are going to see that this architectural obelisk, if you will, is pointing directly due west down to the zero degree. And my question is why is it facing west? ...is because this is the sun god. He is the god of the sunset of the west. And you see in virtually every pagan society sun god worship the altars always face the west because that is where they did their service. And I believe that the enemy had a huge part to play in the architectural of this particular Roman Catholic structure. It's actually a depiction of the male organ of the sun god. That is not a place for an Egyptian obelisk which represents the male organ of the sun god coming into the genitalia of the solar wheel, should not be in anything that is connected to Jesus our Lord what so ever, but unfortunately it is, in this modern day. The mixture of paganism in Christianity has crept in to such a degree that we don't recognize it because we don't know our history. We don't read the front of the book.

Ok now, this is an interesting slide because this particular picture is of an obelisk in the court of St. John's Church over there in Rome. It's actually the Pope's church. It's the cathedral of the Pope. And so I am just going to read the description of where this particular obelisk came from because its going to be shocking for you to realize that this is not just an obelisk that was just created from concrete in modern day times. Here is this obelisk

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where it came from. The Egyptian obelisk that stands in the square of St. John Lateral is the largest in existence. Originally carved during the pharaoh Mosey the third, it stood in the temple of Amman, in Thives, sun god, but it was removed to Rome by Emperor Coinstantaneous AD 317 to 361 and placed in the circus Maximus. In 1587, Pope Sixtus the fifth honored the fallen broken and long forgotten obelisk, and had it repaired and placed in the Piazza S. Giovanni in Laterano. Interestingly enough, it is possible that Moses saw this very obelisk when he was in Egypt. Now this obelisk, meant to honor the sun gods, stands besides what Catholic call the “supreme mother of all churches,” the official cathedral of the bishop of Rome, the Pope. And so we have literally a three to four thousand year old obelisk, built for the sun gods of Egypt, now stands at St. Mary’s cathedral.

How about the Washington monument? Is it a monument? It certainly is a monument. But it’s not a monument to our God. It is a monument to the sun god. It cannot be a monument to anything other than that. It’s not just a piece or architecture, ladies and gentleman, this is the same exact structure that they built in ancient Egypt for the sun gods, as we demonstrated thoroughly.

Let me ask you a question: where do we find this main symbol of the sun god today? Where do we find this main symbol of the obelisk? Would it shock you to discover that we find it in our churches? That’s right. That’s where the sun god obelisk ended up. It ends up in our churches all around the world. We call them steeples. They are called obelisks in ancient Egypt. If a pharaoh or an ancient Egyptian was alive today, they would walk down the street, and they would feel comfortable coming into most of the churches that we have today because they would say: Wow, that is my religion. That is something I can connect to. That is sun god worship. And we see [them] throughout all around the world. Here is one that has two pillars that is built to this particular church. Ladies and gentleman the obelisk, the sun god worship... there shouldn’t be one single symbol anywhere of ancient paganism, or Egyptian sun god worship, that is found inside of our religious society today in Christianity. We see it doesn’t matter what denomination, whether is Lutheran, whether its Baptist, whether it’s non-denominational. No matter what denomination, you are going to find this obelisk all over the place.

And now we come to same slide that says, “But that’s not what that means to me, Jim.” I know that many of you are thinking that. And the reality is that it doesn’t matter what it means to us. That is so difficult for us to

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comprehend and to get through our hearts and our minds that it only matter what it means to Him. Certainly most of us would not wear a necklace that is a satanic symbol, but yet, we will build churches with symbols that we don't even know are satanic. We have holidays that surround themselves with Satan symbols, and because we don't know them, we think it's ok. But the reality is that the great God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, He knows what those symbols mean, and so from His perspective, He see those symbols, and it reminds Him of when they passed their children through the fire of Molek. It reminds him of all the infants that were killed and sacrificed on the altars of Ishtar. It reminds Him of all the sun-god worship, of all His people that turned their side against Yahweh and served other gods. It's a reminding symbol for Him, and for that reason alone, we should put those symbols behind us and get rid of them and burn them like Nehemiah and of Jeremiah and the great prophets of old that tore down those high places, and they destroyed those pillars. And here they spent their blood, and pouring out their blood, and their strength and their children to tear down those high places, and here we are building those high places right back up. It doesn't matter what it means to us. It matters what it means to Him. And so we need to find out exactly what it means to Him, and we are going to do that at the end of this program as we go thru some scriptures that many of you have never read before that are dictating exactly the holidays that we are celebrating today, and we are going to discover whether or not we can actually continue to do these things from our perspective and turn a blind eye to His heart.

Now when do you think the birthday of Nimrod and Tammuz was? On the first day of the year when the sun is reborn. And what day do you think that the sun is reborn? In the middle of the winter at the winter solstice on December 25th. That's right, that's where we get December 25th on Christmas day when we say Jesus was born. Why did we choose Jesus being born on December 25th? Where did that date come from? Very simple. Jesus was the Son of God; Tammuz was the son of the gods. He was the son of his father, Baal. And so the pagans, which earlier Christianity came right out of paganism in Rome, they were already worshiping the sun god on Sunday in Rome, which is where we get worshiping on Sunday from. It used to be that all the Christians worshiped on Saturday, but it was changed to Sunday because all of the pagans worshiped the sun god on his day, Sunday. And they worshiped him on his birthday on December 25th. And so naturally, when Jesus came in to the picture,

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and Constantine supposedly got saved in the 300's, they compromised to make it easier for people to convert to Christianity by making Jesus' birthday on the same birthday of the sun god that they were already used to celebrating, and that's where we get December 25th from.

One of the largest cultic and pagan celebrations took place during the winter solstice. Why? Because this is when the sun is reborn as that is the time that the days of the year begin to get longer. Thus the sun god's birthday coincided on that day, the 25<sup>th</sup> and originally was the 21st, and because of the change of the Julian calendar, it got moved to the 25th.

We can see here, this is an ancient picture of Nimrod. And all sun gods from every region might have had different names, but they can all be traced back to the original sun-god-Baal aka... Nimrod. Look at this picture of him with a long beard, and you can begin to see where I am going to go next as we begin to discover the December 25th holiday and how it gets connected to Santa Claus himself. Some of the different names that Baal had was this: In Persia, it was Mithras, and you can do a study yourself on this, this is incredibly fascinating, if you study the pagan cultic worship of Mithras, you are going to see tremendous amount of connection to things we do in Christianity. This is 500 years before the birth of Jesus, before Yeshua, it was called the birth of the unconquerable sun, it was Mithras.

Osiris, and Horus, and Rah in Egypt, and he was called Attis of Rome. And to celebrate their birthdays, the Romans had a great feast called the Feast of Saturnalia. Guess how long it was? 12 days. That's right, which is where we get the twelve days of Christmas from. It's right from the Feast of Saturnalia, which is over the feast of the winter solstice, or during the time of the winter solstice. And guess what the Chaldeans called this day? Today we call it Christmas, but back then the Chaldeans called it "Yule Day." Do you know what the word Yule literally means? It means the "day of the infant." And they were certainly not talking about Jesus; they were taking about Tammuz, who was the "son of god" "who would one day come back and save them from the world. You see, Satan can't do anything else but to take the truth, twist it, and get people to believe a lie. And that's what he did with the story of the birth and the death of our LORD, is he replicated that in paganism, and so at some point his plan was take the paganism and mix it into Christianity, and whenever you mix Holy with the profane, the

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Scriptures call that unholy. Yahweh does not accept anything that's unholy. It must be clean; it must be set apart and holy, "kadosh" in Hebrew.

So does this sound familiar? Let's move to this character called Odin. Because this is where we are going to get into a little bit more detail of our holidays where some of these symbols come from. Along with the celebration of the sun gods, the Scandinavians also worshiped this god called Odin. He was the god of intoxicating drink, ecstasy, as well as the god of death. And because of the feast of Saturnalia dealing with all of those things, he naturally became the most popular god of the feast of Saturnalia, which was a sun god which we can trace all the way back to Baal himself. Guess who this character became? Look at him very carefully. What does he look like? The colors are wrong, but this guy became Santa Claus. That's right. Odin or Wodan was the god of wisdom, magic, and occult knowledge, runes, poetry and war. His name meant "the inspired one".

And you are going to begin to see as we move thru these slides, you are going to see that Santa Claus, or Odin, is awfully familiar to Jesus, or Yeshua, which means salvation. We are going to see a god, Odin, who saves, and we are going to see another one called Yeshua, who saves. Now I want you to pay attention to some of the characteristics as we go thru Odin, because it's shocking to see the similarities and how Satan is trying to masquerade as an "angel of light" as we know from the Scriptures. He was a tall, old man that had a long white beard and carried a spear, or crosier. Remember how we went thru the crosier, the serpent crosier? Whoever holds a serpent crosier is connected to the power behind that serpent crosier, which is the serpent himself. Let's continue. He traveled around the world on a white horse that had eight legs, which was an ancient tradition, the number of the transportation. This is where the eight reindeer came from. Now you may say, "Jim, there is nine." Originally there were eight. Rudolph was added in modern times. It was eight reindeer, and it comes from that white horse that Odin traveled around on that had the eight legs. You can look up all of this stuff. It's very common knowledge on the Internet or encyclopedias. You can see Odin and all of the reference material that goes with it.

And in virtually every version of Klaus, he carried along behind him a dark helper, and these became the elves. Every single version of Klaus, there was a dark helper. If you look carefully in that picture, you can see that kind of little demon guy with a long, red tongue that comes out of him. These were called krampuses. The

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krampus, or the dark helpers, followed along, and if the children weren't good, they would beat the children, ok. And so you had the good guy, St. Nicholas, or who eventually became St. Nicholas, the Odin, who would come and he would give you gifts if you were good, and if you weren't, then the Black Jacks, or the dark helpers, they would be the ones that institute the discipline to the children, and we are going to see that. And so these krampuses, which ended up being Santa's help, excuse me, the Santa's elves according to legend. Krampus accompanies St. Nicholas during the Christmas season warning and punishing the bad children in contrast to St Nicholas, who gives gifts to good children. That comes from Wikipedia. Here is another picture of krampus and Santa's elves. You can see the picture on your right that you have... it's almost like a witches broom, where the children, the naughty children, are being carried away by a krampus which is a combination of a human and a goat, ok. And you see this all throughout history is a human that is mixed with a goat, and I have a teaching on the Nephilim, or *The Sons of God*, where I kind of go thru this, but in a nutshell on the holiday called Yom Kippur in the Bible, where once a year the high priest went into the Holy of Holies to make a sacrifice, there were two goats that were offered. One was called the La Adonai goat, and that goat was offered to Yahweh, to Adonai, and the other goat was called the La Azazel goat, and that goat was taken off into the wilderness, and it was pushed over a cliff, And the La Azazel goat was where they took the hands of the high priest, and they would incorporate all of the sins of Israel onto the head of this goat and then send it off to the wilderness to Azazel. Now Azazel was a man/goat god, ok, in ancient mythology. And so it was said that it was Azazel who caused man to sin and so all of the sins of mankind for that year of the Israelite would be placed on the head of the Azazel goat. And this is what we see transferred all the way down into another form of Santa's helper, is actually Azazel, if you will, or the krampus is what they call it today. And on the picture on the left, you can see it's actually a modern day picture of the festival, a Christmas festival, in Germany where they continue to use this celebration, and they bring out krampus or Santa's helpers. This is a modern day picture, as crazy as this is for us American Christians to believe that this still goes on today. This is a picture of St. Nicholas and his demons, his krampus, are still celebrated in Austria, Hungary, Germany, Italy, and all over the world. And so what we are going to show you right now is an actual clip, or a short movie, of a montage of different videos that we've discovered of where they still make this

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celebration, still celebrate this all around the world, where they literally glorify the demonic part of Christmas and St. Nicholas and these dark helpers.

(Video - Music - up to 1:09:06)

I know, I apologize, it just keeps getting worst doesn't it? And if that wasn't enough, there are some scholars that believe that the actual song, *Jingle Bells*, came from the krampus bells that were in existence for a long time before that song was ever written. Every time you saw St. Nicholas, he was accompanied by the bells of Christmas, if you will, from his elves. They used to have bells that would hang from their neck, and as you heard in the video, you would hear the bells, as they announced themselves into the next town that they were going into. And some believe that's actually where the term the "Christmas bells," or the "bells of Christmas," or *Jingle Bells* came from.

Now we are going to move into discovering exactly where Santa Claus came from. So Odin...how did Odin become Santa Claus? Here is the rendition or the evolution of Odin becoming Santa Claus.

By the 1500's in Holland, there he became Sinterklaas. So St. Nicholas turned into Sinterklaas, a kind and wise old man with a white beard, white dress, red cloak, a crosier and he rode the skies and roofs of the houses on his white horse, accompanied by his black jacks, which is the krampus that we just saw, leaving gifts for people under his sacred tree, the fir tree. He would visit you on his birthday, December 25th of course, and give you gifts if you have good, or if you've been bad, his black jacks would beat you.

And it's amazing to me that these stories find themselves in modern Christmas traditions even today. Two and three thousand year old pagan traditions find themselves, and now we smile about these traditions. The most famous phrase that Santa Claus ever says is what: Ho ho ho. Do we ever stop for just a moment to think: Where did that come from? Well, if you go back in history, you begin to find where that phrase actually originated from, and here is where it originated from:

In the history of *Hobgoblin*, the author Allen W. Wright, reveals, "Robin, itself, was a medieval nickname for the devil," and Robin's trademark laugh is "Ho ho ho." Back in the 1600, Robin Goodfellow played the devil in many, many plays, which plays obviously back then were incredibly important. They didn't have theaters or

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movies today so the theater and plays were an integral part of society back then. And so before the devil would ever come on stage, he would announce himself by saying, "Ho ho ho." And that's, ladies and gentleman, where the "ho ho ho" comes from with the Santa Claus.

By the year 1700, a Dutchman immigrated to North America, brought his Sinterklaas with him. The English dialect was then changed to Santa Claus. In 1930, a designer for the Coca-Cola Company was trying to get people in the wintertime to buy their drink. SO they took their colors of red and white, borrowed the Sinterklaas story, changed a few things, and out came the modern Santa Claus complete with reindeer and elves. So that 1930 designer borrowed a picture from I think it was the 1800's and modernized it, added the colors, and out comes the Coca-Cola Santa Claus that we see today, complete with a long white beard, and chubby cheeks, and the red and white suit.

Look here, the Worldbook Encyclopedia says this: "The belief that Santa enters the house through the chimney developed from an old Norse legend. The Norse believed that the goddess Hertha appeared in the fireplace and brought good luck to the home." That's actually where the word "hearths" come from. It comes from Hertha, which was the goddess of the Norse. And so we see that right out of the Worldbook Encyclopedia that Santa comes down the chimney has nothing to do with anything that is good. It has everything to do with a god that came through fire. Ladies and gentleman, I only know one god that goes thru fire, and that is Satan, himself. He will be eventually thrown into the lake of fire.

Here we continue: "Druid homeowners would leave a treat consisting of milk and pastries to appease this god that came down into their chimney into their fireplace." So there is where we get the idea of milk and cookies for Santa Claus. We think we made that up. We think that's cute, but this goes back a long time, ladies and gentleman, back to the druids when they would put milk and cookies for their god that came through the fireplace on December 25th, on his birthday.

So let's ask the question, who is who? Who's who in this world? Is it Santa Claus or is it Jesus, Yeshua the Messiah that we are serving? Which is the god, if you will, that we are putting forth to our children during this time of year. Let's discover some characteristics that are eerily familiar to our Savior and see if we should be

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connecting them. First of all, Santa Claus is said to have no beginning or end. Jesus has no beginning or end. Santa Claus has his own eternal spirit, called the spirit of Christmas. Jesus has his own eternal spirit, called the Spirit of the Living God. Santa Claus is all knowing. Jesus is all knowing. He writes their names in a book, checks it twice. So does Yeshua. He writes our names in the book of life. Santa Claus, his hair is white as snow. Revelation tells us that Jesus' hair is white as snow. Santa Claus travels during the night. Now you see a little bit of a difference. Jesus travels during the daytime. Everything that Jesus does is in the light. Everything that Santa does is in the dark. You see the difference? It's a subtle difference. How Satan takes the truth, and he just twists it, just a little bit. Let's continue. Santa wants to give you everything your flesh desires. Jesus wants to give you everything that you need. Santa enters your house thru fire. Certainly our LORD does not enter our house thru fire. And he has a mystical tree, and he loves children. Did you know that Santa has a mystical tree? Where did he get that idea from? Because there is in the Bible that Yahweh has a mystical tree, called the Tree of Life. It was the tree that separated good and evil, and when you took part of the Tree of Life, you lived forever. And that Tree of Life eventually took a form in the holy place that lit the entire holy place of the temple, and it was called the menorah, the menorah was the 7-branch candlestick that the Israelites put in the temple, and it was called the Tree of Life.

Let's go to the Oxford English Dictionary. It says: for the definition of "devil": This is incredible, the definition of devil: is called Satan, Lucifer, Beelzebub... and in popular rustic speech, devil is called... Old Nick. That's right. Old Nick, the very old Nick that we talked about, that we let our children sit on his lap on the department store, that we watch movies revolving around old Nick. Well, Old Nick, in the old days, this is what Old Nick used to look like. This is the Old Nick that Hasatan, Satan, is used to. That's what the devil is called is Old Nick.

Again, it's not what it means to me, and I hope that you understand by now that it's not what it means to me. It doesn't matter what it means to me. It only matters what it means to Him. These things are difficult to swallow. There is no question about it. When I first learned about these things they shocked me to my core. How do I deal with this? How do I apply this to my walk in my spiritual life? We will talk about that in a few minutes,

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but the truth is, please, humble yourself to the facts that are being presented to you today, and ask the Father, what you should do with your own family with these facts. And remember, that it's not what it means to us; this is only what it matters to Him.

Back to Odin... The main symbol of this mystical being that had god-like powers was the eternal fir tree. This is the main symbol, now you can look on your left hand side. The main symbol of the true God Yahweh in the garden in Genesis to the New Jerusalem in Revelation is the Tree of Life. It was the menorah, the 7-branch candlestick that stood in the holy place.

The Christmas tree... Trees have been worshiped by virtually every pagan culture in the world, and it was again, a major symbol of sun god worship and fertility. It took the place inside the pagan home of the obelisk. The fir tree took the place of that obelisk as a picture or a symbol of the sun god. That's why they put the sun burst, or the eight pointed star, on top of it. Fir tree was said to be a magical tree because it remained green all year long. It was decorated in some cultures with fruit to symbolize new life, and in other cultures it was decorated with twelve candles to honor their sun god. Because the feast of Saturnalia was twelve days, that's where you get the twelve days of Christmas from. Today we even sing songs to it just like they did in the pagan worship rituals.

Jeremiah 10:2 and following says: "Thus says the LORD (or Yahweh): "DO not learn the way of the Gentiles; Do not be dismayed at the signs of heaven, for the gentiles are dismayed at them. For the customs of the peoples are futile. For one cuts a tree down from the forest, the work of the hands of the workman, with the ax. They decorate it with silver and gold; they fasten it with nails and hammers so that it will not topple. They are upright, like a palm tree, and they cannot speak; they must be carried, because they cannot go by themselves. Do not be afraid of them, for they cannot do evil, nor can they do any good."

Now, what I wanted to point out with this Scripture is that the whole decorating with silver and gold balls, which actually, believe it or not, are represented in ancient cultures as the testicles of the sun god that went on the shaft of Baal with the symbol of the pagan fertility right of the sun burst on top of it. That's where they got the silver and gold from, it was the idea that they decorated their idols with silver and gold. That's what I wanted to

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pull from the Scriptures, not necessarily that they were cutting down Christmas trees. That tradition did not come until later, but this is where they got the idea from because idols were decorated with silver and gold.

We see again very closely if you look closely at this Mexican sun god idol that we showed you before; you will see the fir tree. This fir tree ends up becoming, as we know today, what we call the Christmas tree.

Boughs of Holly...where did this come from? Where did these traditions come from? They would also use the clipping of the evergreen shrubs to decorate their home at this time as an offering and symbol of the fertility god, the god of the spring. This would be Ishtar.

The mistletoe...where did the mistletoe come from? The Celtic and Teutonic peoples had long considered the mistletoe to have magic powers. It was said to have the ability to heal wounds and increase fertility. The Celts offered it to their gods in prayer and hung mistletoe in their homes in order to ward off evil spirits. OK? And I also learned in my research that during the feast of Saturnalia with the Romans, they would hang this mistletoe up all over the place and then they would have drunken orgies underneath the mistletoe, and it was said to increase fertility. This, ladies and gentleman, is why we kiss under the mistletoe. It goes all the way back to the pagan fornication that they did in Rome during the feast of Saturnalia.

The "Yule Log" was a log that they burned in the hearth for twelve days, as that was the length of their celebration. It was originally dedicated in Scandinavia to their fertility goddess (Ishtar) for bringing forth their savior, Tammuz. They would sacrifice animals and slaves into the fire each night. This was said to keep evil spirits away.

Now let's move to the Encyclopedia Americana, and its definition of Christmas. It says this: It was according to many authorities not celebrated in the first centuries of the Christian church as the Christians usage in general was to celebrate the death of remarkable persons rather than their birth. A feast was established in memory of the birth of the Savior 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, or the sun.

SO can you see the evolution? Even the encyclopedia Americana is telling us that Christmas was never celebrated by our disciples, by the apostles, by our predecessors, even the church fathers, this goes all the way

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back, it wasn't until the fifth century that this feast was incorporated and mandated into Christianity to be celebrated, and look what it says, it is to be celebrated forever, on the same day as the Roman feast of the birth of the sun.

Look at this: This is from the records of General Court, Massachusetts Bay Colony May 11, 1659 says this: "... To the great dishonor of God and offense of others: It is therefore ordered by this court and the authority thereof that whosoever shall be found observing any such day as Christmas or the like, either by forbearing of labor, feasting, or any other way, upon any such account as aforesaid, every such person so offending shall pay for every such offense five shilling as fine to the country."

As a matter of fact, the very first state to celebrate Christmas was Alabama in 1836 and Louisiana and Arkansas in 1838. It took all the way to the mid 1800's before Christmas was even allowed to be celebrated in the United States. Why would our founders, who were founded in the God of the Bible, make it illegal to celebrate Christmas? Because they were not as far removed as we are from the truth. They understood that these things came out of paganism. They understood that the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, Yahweh, did not want us to mix things that people used to worship to other gods that He hates in worship to Him.

Let me ask a question that you may be thinking: But can't we just take something that Satan meant for evil and turn it around for good? He knows my heart, right?

Leviticus 18:30 says this: "Keep my requirements and do not follow any of the detestable customs that were practiced before you came and do not defile yourselves with them. I am the LORD your God." Mark 7: 7,8 says this: "And in vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandment of men. For laying aside the commandment of God, you hold the tradition of men."

The question is we are supposed to worship the Lord twenty-four hours a day, and we are supposed to put God on a pedestal where we worship Him. Don't you think that we should worship Him in the ways that He is asking us to worship Him and not in the traditions of men? Certainly not the traditions of men that are connected to pagan fertility rites and the worship of the sun god.

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Let's move into Deuteronomy chapter 12. This is really the king of scriptures, if you will, that give us a good, clear indication of whether or not we can do things just because we are sincere about it. Deuteronomy chapter 12 says this: And you shall destroy their altars, break their sacred pillars (their obelisk), and burn their wooden images with fire; you shall cut down the carved images of their gods and destroy their names from that place.

You shall not worship the LORD your God with such things.

Now when I started my journey, and I began to discover all of these things, the very first thing I thought to myself, after I thought, "Well, that's not what it means to me," well I can actually take some of these things and Christianize them and the LORD will certainly be pleased that I am stealing something from the enemy and giving it to Him.

Well, here we have the Israelites crossing over the Jordan River, they are taking over these Canaanites communities, and instead of destroying everything exactly the way the Father told them to destroy it, they would take certain things, like the altars, which were very difficult to build, and they said: well, let's not destroy everything. Let's take this altar, we will scratch off the name of their god, and we will put the name of our God. He said: Don't you dare do that! Don't you dare take anything that used to be used toward the sun god, Christianize it, put a little bit of holy water on it, and offer it to Me. "I won't accept it," He said. Do not worship the LORD your God in that way. He said, "You shall not at all do as we are doing here today, every man doing whatever is right in our own eyes. When the Lord your God cuts off from before you the nations which you will go to dispossess," still on chapter 12 of Deuteronomy here, "and you displace them and dwell in their land," listen carefully, in versus 30 it says, "take heed to yourself that you are not ensnared to follow them, after they are destroyed from before you, and that you do not inquire after their gods, saying 'How did these nations serve their gods? I also will do likewise!'"

So what was happening is they were coming into these communities, and they were creative Israelite. They wanted to take some of these creative things that the pagans used to serve their gods and borrow those ideas to serve their God, Yahweh. And Yahweh has this to say about it, he says in verse 31, "You shall not worship

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Yahweh your God, the LORD your God, in that way; for every abomination to the LORD which He hates they have done to their gods; for they burn even their sons and daughters in the fire to their gods. Whatever I command you be careful to observe it; you shall not add nor take away from it.” Period. (Verse 32 of Deuteronomy chapter 12)

So we are seeing very clear instructions that we have no biblical right as believers to take anything that was used, and constituted, and dedicated for the worship of other gods and literally just Christianize those things and use those things in the worship of our God. We just flat out can't do it.

Why? It's very similar to this story: It would be very similar to you husbands out there that you buy your wife an anniversary present every single year. Well, let's pretend your wife's birthday present...let's pretend that your wife's birthday is April 22nd. In April 22nd every year you buy her a gift for her birthday, like we should. But let's pretend that you had an old girlfriend, and her birthday was March 22nd. And so you dated this girl for ten years, and it was just much easier for you to remember March 22nd rather than April 22nd. So imagine going to your wife and saying, “Honey, I tell you what. It's so hard for me to remember your birthday every year, would you mind if we switched your birthday from April 22nd to March 22nd?” I don't think she is going to be real thrilled about moving her birthday to the same birthday of her enemy, your former girlfriend. That's just not the way it works. Even in human terms we are offended in moving something that is precious to us to something that is not precious to us. How much more does our God have difficulty with the fact that we are celebrating His Son's birthday, that we have moved it from its proper time, during the fall, during the Feast of Tabernacles when he was born, the Feast of Sukkot, to the time of the ancient of the fertility gods, the sun gods of both the east and the west?

Deuteronomy 4:2 says: Do not add to what I command you to do and do not subtract from it, but keep the commands of the LORD your God that I give you. And of course we read in Deuteronomy 12:32 it says: See that you do all I command you; DO NOT ADD to it or take away from it. Proverbs 30:6 says: DO NOT ADD to His words, or He will rebuke you and prove you a liar.

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Remember, he (Satan) cannot change the truth. His only goal is to keep you from it. And how does he do it? By adding just a little bit of poison. And you don't have to have too much poison, ladies and gentleman, to ruin the entire thing. You may say, "Well, you know what, maybe it does matter what it means to Him, and it doesn't really matter what it means to me. But Jim, is it really that bad? I mean, it feels so good to celebrate Christmas and Easter, do things the way that we've always done them." Folks, we don't live off of the way that we feel, we live off the way that He feels, and the truth is how much of this information that I am presenting has to be true before it poisons everything? If I had a pure glass of water, and I just put one little grain of poison in it, would you drink it? Of course not! Even though you couldn't see it, even though it appeared to be pure, even if it tasted pure, you certainly wouldn't take it! In the same way, I don't know about you, but the way that I read my Bible is that He gave us His pure Word. And He never intended for us to add anything to it, or take anything away from it. We are to do Bible things in Bible ways because His system always produces fruit of life. It produces the Tree of Life on the inside of us when we do things His way. When we don't do things His way, when we mix together the truth with the lie, what happens is we grow inside of us the Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. And that never brings life, my friends. It brings bondage and death.

Now let's talk when Jesus, Yeshua, was really born. Can we discover exactly when he was born? We absolutely can. We can just follow the Bible as it tells us hints of when our savior was actually born. It starts off with John the Baptist. We know that John the Baptist father's name was Zachariah. Zachariah was a priest of the line of the Levites. And in the Old Testament it tells us that he was the eighth course of the Levitical priesthood. What does that mean? That means that he was the eighth person to serve a one-week service at the temple. They had twenty-four courses of priests that served for one week. And then week two the second course would serve. Week three the third course would serve and so on and so forth until they went through all twenty-four courses and then it would start all over again. We know from the Scriptures exactly when the course of Zachariah was. And that's when the angel came to Zachariah and said you're going to have a baby boy. And go figure, that's when he rushed home, His wife became pregnant, and nine months later puts it right on Passover so because we know that John the Baptist was born on Passover, we just simply take the gospels that say that Yeshua was born

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six months after Passover, and that puts us right in the middle of the Feast of Tabernacles, or in Hebrew, it's called Sukkot. So that's how we know that Jesus was born during the Feast of the Tabernacle, which is in the middle of September or October on our calendar, in our, what we call, in our season, fall. It even says that the shepherds were still in the field. Well, we know that the shepherds in Israel are always brought in right around or right after the Feast of Sukkot, in the fall, because in the wintertime, it would be too cold to have the cattle out in the field. And that's another indication, another proof that our Savior would not have, could not have been born at the end of December.

Well, I am going to quickly go thru all seven feasts so you can kind of get an idea and a taste for God's calendar and the things that He's called His people to do. First of all, there's seven...one for each day of the week, if you will...one for each millennium. There are seven millenniums, everything is in seven, which is why seven is the number of perfection, and it starts off in the spring in the months of March or April with Passover. Passover is the day that Jesus, Yeshua died on. He became the Passover lamb. He was buried during the seven day, 8-day festival of the unleavened bread, where they would remove sin, or leaven from their house. He rose three days later exactly on the Feast of First Fruits when the priest would wave the sheaf offering, the first of the barley, before the Father the Messiah was risen from the dead same asking for a great harvest on the fall, from His father, just like the priest was, at exact the same time. And then fifty days later, is the feast of what we call in Greek "Pentecost," in Hebrew is Shavuot. And that's when the Holy Spirit came down, and it is twelve hundred years to the day earlier than the commandments were given on Mount Sinai on the day of Pentecost. There is so much here, ladies and gentleman, if you've never studied the feasts, I encourage you to get that series called the prophetic calendar, *God's prophetic Calendar*, that we have, where we go through and I detail in tremendous detail all of the things that are built into these feasts days and the prophecies that are built into these of His first coming and His second coming. Then we move...that was called the spring feast days, those have been fulfilled, and those are all connected to His first coming. He died on the Passover, was put in the grave during the Feast of Unleavened Bread, he rose on First Fruits, and the Holy Spirit came down on the Feast of Shavuot, or Pentecost.

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The last three feast days are called the fall feast days; those have not been fulfilled yet. Those are reserved for His second coming. The first one is the most interesting in my opinion. It is called the Feast of Trumpets, Yom Teruah, the blowing of the trumpets. And you should make some connections, if you are a Bible student out there that the dead in Christ will rise first at what? At the sound of the trumpet. This is what it's talking about. Then we come ten days after the Feast of Yom Teruah, the Feast of the Trumpets, to Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, where the high priest once a year put the blood of the goat on the Ark of the Covenant satisfying the Torah and making up for all the sins of Israel for the entire year. And the very last feast day, the most exciting feast day of all, is the eight-day festival of Sukkot, which is connected to the marriage supper of the Lamb. It is the greatest celebration in all of Israel, of all year long where God's people celebrate and party for eight days straight, and it is the recognition that that is when the Millennium is going to start. Even in Judaism, they say that the Messiah is going to come back in the Feast of Trumpets and the celebration will begin where the big wedding feast happens during the feast of Sukkot.

So you can see the biblical connections throughout what we call the New Testament all the way thru this prophetic calendar. Can you imagine if we would of understood this calendar from the very beginning and raised our kids in doing Bible things in Bible ways and calling Bible things by Bible names? How different and how much stronger our families would be because we would have something to hold onto that is real. And so I would encourage each one of you to look into these things and discover for yourself the truth, the deeper truth, that are right here for all of us, the curriculum, if you will, for our families to follow the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob the exact same way that our forefathers did.

We've gone through all of the feast days and explained how they are prophetic in nature... from the spring feast days being about the first coming to the fall feast days being about the second coming, and how much curriculum God built into the Word to teach our children and to teach us the deeper things that are inside of Him to bring out inside of us today.

Well, a lot of people ask me, "Well, Jim, if I come to the place where I am not comfortable doing Christmas, what can I do to replace it? What about Hanukkah? Well, Hanukah is not a prescribed holiday of the

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Bible. It's not a commandment feast day. It's what's called a minor feast day. So I am going to give you just a little history behind Hanukkah because Hanukkah is one of the most exciting holidays of the year for my personal family. My children look forward to Hanukkah every single year. So let me give you a little quick, 60-second background of where Hanukkah came from because most of you may not be familiar with this particular holiday because it is a Jewish holiday from our perspective.

Well, if you go back in time to about 170 years before Jesus showed up on the scene, about 168 BC, about 100 years after Alexander the Great was ruling the then known world, another king came up. And that king was name was Anias Epifanus the 4th. And he was a bad king. He was a Greek. And they came into Jerusalem, took over Jerusalem, and they set up a status of Zeus in the temple. And so they would not allow the Jewish people of that time, all the Israelites, to sacrifice to Yahweh. They would not allow them to practice their religion. They were very harsh on them and hard on them. Until one day they have had enough, and the Jewish people decided to take back the temple of their God into their own custody, and that man that lead that charge was the name Judah Maccabee, and his followers, and his family. Well, they did so, and they took back the temple, and they held an incredible celebration for eight days after that. That began to be known as the Festival of Lights. And they celebrated those eight days most likely because they did not have a chance to celebrate the eight days of Sukkot, the Feast of Tabernacles, while they were in bondage with the Greeks. And so every year after that, all the way up to the time of Jesus himself, Jesus was said in the gospel to go celebrate the Feast of Dedication. And the Feast of Dedication in Hebrew is Hanukkah. And so we see in the gospel itself that Jesus himself celebrated the Festival of Lights. It's actually the time period where he would have been conceived. Go figure, our Messiah, the "Light of the World" is conceived during the Festival of Lights.

This has been an amazing holiday for each and every one of us that have replaced the tradition and doctrine of man of Christmas with a biblical holiday called Hanukkah. Now Hanukkah can be found in the gospels where Jesus went to Jerusalem, and he celebrated what's called the Feast of Dedication. And the word dedication there in Hebrew in the original language is Hanukkah. Hanukkah means dedication. It's the time where the temple was rededicated, as I just explained. So how this relates to us as believers in Yeshua today is that we are the temple

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of the Holy Spirit, and the enemy has tried to take over our temples and rule us and reign, put unclean things in our body, and he's made us slaves. Well, Jesus was sent, as you know, to free us from the bondage of sin and death. And so in an incredible way, our lives are nothing but Hanukkah...dedication. We are constantly re-dedicating our temples, and this is a phenomenal holiday to remember that we are to re-dedicate our temples, our lives, back to our Messiah, and clean our temple that the enemy has put things in that is unclean. And so this is done through nine candles. It's an eight night celebration and the center candle sticks up a little bit higher than the rest of the candles as you can see, and that's called the Shamash candle, the servant candle, which represents Yeshua. And the servant candle is the one that lights every other candle, one each night. And as I go thru it with my children each night, we start off with the light of creation and then every candle has a different meaning of light in the Scriptures, from the light of the commandments, to the light of Israel, to the light of Jesus, the light of the disciples, and us, and all the way into the millennium. So my children are learning scripture. They are learning something that's deeper. They're learning something that exciting. It's not a materialistic holiday. They get one present a year during Hanukah, and they absolutely love it. Why? Because we have people over every night. It's like Thanksgiving every night as we go to different people's houses, and they come to our house. And it's a celebration that we love, and we enjoy it every single year, and we can find it in the scriptures. So I encourage you to look deeper into this holiday and consider it as an alternative to Christmas. It will bless you like no other as it has blessed my family for sure.

At the end of the day, even some of the most influential Christian leaders in American history were looking for alternatives and refused to celebrate Christmas and Easter because of their pagan backgrounds.

Charles Spurgeon said this on December 24th, Christmas Eve 1871. Look at this quote: "We have no superstitious regard for times and seasons. Certainly we do not believe in the present ecclesiastical arrangement called Christmas: first, because we do not believe in the mass at all, but abhor it, whether it be said or sung in Latin or English." He went on to say, "and secondly, because we find no scriptural warrant whatsoever for observing any day as the birthday of the Savior; and consequently, its observance is a superstition, because it's not of divine authority." Ladies and gentleman, this is one of the most spiritually held up pastors of all time is

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Charles Spurgeon, and he himself says Christmas has no divine origin. It has no divine authority, and we absolutely should not celebrate it. Why? Because he knew that its origins were in paganism and cultic philosophy.

Here is the history behind where it comes from. Constantine, 325 AD says this: "It appears that the churches of Syria and Mesopotamia," which is the eastern churches, "continued to follow the customs of the Jews," Why? Because it was the right thing to do. They were doing what the Bible tells us to do concerning the holidays. "...and *they* celebrated Easter on the fourteenth day of the moon whether falling on Sunday or not. All the other churches observed the solemnity on Sunday only" And the reason why this is so important is because the Bible says that we celebrate Passover, or the Pesach, on the 14th day of Nisan, ok, which is the fourteenth day of the first month on the Hebrew calendar. So all of the churches in 325 AD, he says that it appears that the churches on the east, which are closer to Jerusalem, which are closer to the apostles, the disciples and the truth, they did not get away with the Roman and move it into the Roman compromise of the sun-god worship. They continued to celebrate the resurrection of their Lord on the time that was prescribed by the disciples and Jesus himself, which was the fourteenth of Nisan, Passover. Whereas the Roman churches begin to keep it on the first Sunday after the vernal equinox, which is connected to Ishtar's Sunday

And it goes on to say, "This subject having been discussed, it was decreed to celebrate Easter on the same day...(Sunday)...which was the practice of Rome." And listen to this. It says, "...We should perpetuate this to all future ages the celebration of this rite." Folks, we've done this. We have literally...we are celebrating perpetually what Constantine the Roman emperor told that we would be doing. He mandated it for all Christians to do, and that's exactly what we are doing. We are celebrating not a rite of the Bible. We are celebrating a rite of ancient Rome.

So today you can see that Satan's plan is to keep us from celebrating the holidays that God told us to keep. He took those truths, mixed it with pagan idolatry, and voila! A new written law, a new written tradition. And as we get close to finish and concluding this teaching, I want to show you a quote from Mark Twain. He says this: "The Christian's Bible is a drugstore. Its contents remain the same, but the medical practice changes." Unfortunately, our changes have brought incredible changes to our society. It is a shame that over 70% of college

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students that claim to be Christians before they go into college, by the end of their 1st year in college, they denounce Christianity and become either atheist or agnostics. Folks, that shouldn't be. The God of the Bible, what He wrote is true, and it's always true, and it works. If we do Bible things in Bible ways, we get tremendous results because the Tree of Life comes from within inside of us. It changes us from the inside out, and it puts roots deep into His word. I want to submit to you that our roots, most of the roots that we have here in Christianity, run very shallow into man made traditions and doctrines. It is time to begin to audit the things that we believe. If we are not getting the results that the Bible says happens when we'd follow Him the way that He prescribes for us to follow Him, then we need to look at what we are doing and change what we are doing regardless of how we feel about it. It is only the truth of the Bible that changes us. And when we submit in that truth, you will begin to see miracles, relationships healed, and phenomenal things happen. Matter of fact, let's just say that Acts chapter 2 will reveal itself in our lives all over again if we just do what the Bible says to do and stop putting in front of us what man says is biblical.

Like Jesus said in Mathew chapter 7. He says, "You put aside the commandment of God for the tradition of men and you continually do many things like this." Let us not find ourselves like the Pharisees of old that put aside the commandments of God so that we can do what we want and feel good about worshiping God the way that we desire to worship Him.

And we will end with this quote that we had earlier on the program from John F. Kennedy. I thought the quote is so good that we would end with one of the quotes that we began with. It says this again: "The great enemy of the truth is very often not the lie, deliberate, contrived, and dishonest, but the myth, persistent, persuasive, and unrealistic." It is the unrealistic and persistent lies and fabrications of ancient Babylonian legends and paganism, and worshiping of sun gods that has crept into Christianity, and has stolen our inheritances. It has stolen the power of the birth of our Savior, and it has stolen the power of His death, burial and resurrection, that can be found in the feasts days of Passover, Unleavened Bread, First Fruits, and Pentecost. Our children don't even learn the holidays of the Bible because we have feed them man made tradition. Should we marvel when they walk away from God? There is no root that is found there.

## Truth or Tradition

We need to get back to the Bible, ladies and gentleman, back to the things that we can find in the scripture and move out of our houses the idols from His perspective. Because there are only two perspectives in the universe. There is our perspective, and there is His. From our perspective, it's much like the golden calf 3000 years ago when the commandments were given. They created a golden calf because they lost their mediator between God and between men so they created a golden calf, and they begin to worship Yahweh through the golden calf. It says it right in the Scripture. Aaron says, "Tomorrow is a feast day unto Yahweh." They, from their perspective, thought they were worshiping God. They were just replacing Moses. But the truth is from Yahweh's perspective he says, "Moses, you need to back down there for these people are serving another god." You see there are two perspectives. And we may be very well sincere in our hearts thinking that we are worshiping the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, but the truth of the matter is from His perspective we very well might not be. Because the only thing that matters in this universe, my friends, is doing things His way.

I encourage you to take time to review this message again. Review this program. Go through all the sources. You decide for yourself how much of the truth can be compromised before it's not true anymore. I can tell you for my family that as I began to practice these things which took a long time for me to understand and get the emotion out and separate it from the truth, and get my flesh out of the way, and just surrender my life to do Bible things in Bible ways...but when I began to do that, my life began to change. My children began to be more Godly; my marriage began to be more spiritual and more connected. Everything around me changed...the revelation, the Bible came alive, a new journey started. So I want to encourage you that as you begin to continue through your spiritual journey, ask the Father is there anything in your life right now that needs to change. Some of you, maybe you don't even know the Messiah. I encourage you to surrender your life to the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and His Son, Jesus the Christ, Yeshua HaMashiach in Hebrew.

Thank you for taking the time to review this material. I pray that God will bless you and keep you. May His face shine upon you as you seek the truth. And remember this one thing: The truth can only do one thing, and that's set you free.

Thank you. I am Jim Staley with Passion for Truth Ministries. Shalom.