

Does Valentine's Day come from pagan origins? Is it really connected to the half goat/half man god named Pan and Satan himself? Has there been a major coverup by the Roman Catholic Church about this holiday that would explain why people everywhere celebrate it, and does God even care? This short documentary tells all and reveals all. Find out the truth about Valentine's Day and where it really came from. If you are a believer in Christ, you must watch this. If you care about what God thinks and not just what you think, you must watch this. This short video exposes the lies of the enemy and will leave you shocked at what you were never told. I'm Jim Staley with Passion for Truth Ministries and I'll see you there.



So, what do you think of when you think of Valentine's Day? Do you think of love, cupid, chocolates, candies, and red roses? On February 14<sup>th</sup>, sweethearts of all ages will engage in what appears to be a harmless holiday that is rooted in innocent love, but is this modern-day holiday really rooted in "innocent" love, or does it have a much darker pagan origin that was later covered up by the Roman Church of its day? Is St. Valentine's Day a holiday that is really Christian and something that Christ would support today, or is this an imposter

holiday, designed by the enemy to be just one more distraction from the holidays on God's calendar, the holy days that really matter?

Hello everyone, I'm Jim Staley from Passion for Truth Ministries and today we are going to dive into the topic of Valentine's Day. I know, I know, some people will demonize me and tar and feather me for even suggesting that there might be something wrong with a holiday that, supposedly, is all about love. If you're a bit skeptical, I understand. Just hold on and watch this video till the end. Every bit of evidence will make a difference in coming to your own conclusions. Prophetically, the Spirit is beginning to refine His Bride around the globe. He is slowly but firmly moving His people away from the religious traditions of the early Roman Church and bringing His sheep back into His pasture, into His true biblical calendar that brings true life.

So, this begs the questions, "Should modern day believers celebrate a Catholic initiated holiday, especially if it originated and has grown from a very dark root? Before you hear any evidence, tell me in the comments what you think, up-front. Put "from God" if you think Valentine's Day comes from God or write "not from God" if you think the enemy has his hand in it. By the way, if you would like the free article that contains everything in this video, be sure to text "Valentine" to 844-763-9543 (844-7-NewLif).

Ok, let's begin. First of all, as a believer in Messiah, anytime I see the entire world celebrating something, it always throws up a red flag. Christ said that wide is the road that leads to destruction, and many take it. The world normally wants nothing to do with the roads that Christ

paved, so it always makes me nervous when the entire world is on the same road, especially if it's a road that was paved by the Roman Catholic Church. After all, their history of taking very pagan festivals and adopting them into the Church, throwing a little holy water on them and calling them "Christian" is very well documented. For instance, if you haven't' seen my documentary called <u>'December 25<sup>th</sup> on Trial'</u>, I encourage you to watch it as well. It shows in great detail how December 25<sup>th</sup> was, in fact, an already existing pagan holiday to the Roman sun god and how the Roman Church assimilated it into the Church calendar, against the very clear instructions of Scripture.

So, I needed to know for myself, was Valentine's Day the same or was it different? The first question I wanted answered was, 'Where did the name St. Valentines come from?' Was it a real person, a saint? At the end of my study, the answer was, 'kind of'. But before we go there, let's go all the way back in time, to the most likely real beginnings of this popular holiday of "love", and that means we must go all the way back - 600 years before the birth of Christ, to the founding festival-celebration of Rome, called Lupercalia.

Lupercalia was a pagan Roman festival that was celebrated from February 13th to the 15th. According to history.com, it "...was a bloody, violent and sexually charged celebration, awash with animal sacrifice, random matchmaking and coupling in the hopes of warding off evil spirits and infertility." This cultic fertility celebration was dedicated to *Lupercus*, the Roman god associated with shepherds and fertility, as well as the legendary founders of Rome, Romulus and

Remus, who were alleged to have been nurtured by a she-wolf in the cave of Lupercus. Although you may not be familiar with the god Lupercus, you will likely be familiar with what the Greeks called him: *Pan*, the half man-half goat god that was the god of shepherds and is often affiliated with sex and fear, thus where we get the word 'panic' from. Interestingly enough, the Bible often characterizes His people as sheep and links Satan to a goat.



Furthermore, it is even more intriguing to learn that during the highest holy day of the biblical year, Yom Kippur, the high priest of Israel would bring two sacrificial goats before God. One would be actually sacrificed, while the high priest would confess all the sins of Israel over the other and then place his hands on the goat's head and transfer the sins to the goat. From there, he was led into the wilderness and pushed off a cliff. This symbolic act was a way for the people to know that the God of Israel knew that the origin of all sin initially came from that serpent in the Garden, which was now being symbolized as a goat. So, this entire founding-festival of Rome is dedicated to none other than Satan himself.

Let's find out what this *Lupercalia festival* was all about. It begins, of course, by sacrificial rituals performed by a group of priests, known as *Luperci*, who gathered at the sacred cave of Lupercal on the Palatine Hill where Rome was born. This was the very same cave that Romulus and Remus were said to have been suckled by a she-wolf to stay alive. Ironically, the Latin word for wolf is *'Lupus'* and the Latin for she-wolf was slang for *'prostitute'*. Hmmm. February was thought to be the month where spring began and was said to be the time of cleansing and purification before the gods. It was in the cave of Lupercal that the priests, called Luperci, would sacrifice two goats and a dog, symbolizing purification and fertility. The sacrificial blood was then smeared on the foreheads of two naked young men, signifying a rite of passage and

ensuring fertility. Then the blood would be wiped off, using wool soaked in milk, while the priests laughed.

I believe Satan is creatively mocking, here, the goats of the Yom Kippur sacrifice and the blood of the lamb that was placed on the door posts, which caused God's people to be "passed over" during the fateful night in Egypt, at the exodus. Hebrews 9:14 says that the blood of Christ will cleanse our consciences. The priests, laughing at the wiping off the blood, I believe, is Satan's way of saying that he is going to do his best to wipe the blood of Christ off our conscience and remind us of our sin. During Lupercalia, once the sacrifices were made, the blood would then be placed on these strips of goat skins, called thongs, or "februa", which were the tools of purification. After a feast of much eating and drinking, the newly initiated and now drunk Luperci priests would run through the streets naked, striking as many women as possible with the blood-soaked leather goat strips. Young women would willingly bare their skin, welcoming being struck by the blood dipped goat strips, believing the blood would cause them to be more fertile.

Many sources report that this drunken and sexually violent festival also had an element that included a matchmaking lottery in which young men drew the names of women from a jar. The two would then be coupled up for the duration of the festival. Although Lupercalia sacrifices were eventually banned in 341 AD, the festival continued to be popular throughout Rome, until it was said to have been outlawed by Pope Gelasius at the end of the 5<sup>th</sup> century. Coincidentally, in the same year that he banned Lupercalia, he instituted Valentine's Day. While Lupercalia was celebrated from February 13th to the 15th, Pope Gelasius chose a saint that just so happened to be allegedly beheaded right in the middle of Lupercalia, February 14<sup>th</sup>. It seems like a perfect replacement to distract the carnal Christians of Rome, who were easily entangled by the popular holiday that had been at the foundation of Rome's holiday calendar for over 1000 years. But who is this supposed saint?

Before we find out who St. Valentine was, let's talk about another sketchy character: **Cupid**, the chubby, little, naked angel boy that supposedly shoots people with one of his arrows and they immediately are struck with lust, passion, and love for one another. While Cupid is the name the Romans gave him, his original Greek name was **Eros**, where we get the name 'erotic' from. Contrary to what people believe, Cupid does not mean 'love', but 'desire', 'lustful desire'. Originally, he was depicted as a handsome and naked young man. Over time, the image turned to a naked child, who not only did the bidding of his mother, Venus, but paintings suggest an incestual relationship between the two.



His mother Venus, called *Aphrodite* in Greek, was the goddess of sexual intercourse and desire. Interestingly enough, one of her main symbols was the *rose*. It seems the red rose has a root that goes back all the way back to the goddess of desire. Cupid's father is said to be Mars, the god of war. This explains why he is the god of sexual desire but also carries a weapon, the bow. Originally, his arrows were designed,

not for love, but were used in a devious way, to have the wrong people burn with desire toward one another that would lead to chaos and destruction. Sound familiar? That is exactly what Satan is doing today with our young people. Create a system of dating from a young age so that the

children are 'coupled', filled with desire toward one another, almost always ending in chaos and broken hearts.

While in the feast of Lupercalia, the priests would put blood of the sacrifice on the foreheads of young, naked boys that would then run through town and strike young women with their whips to induce fertility. Cupid is now the young, naked boy that shoots people with his arrows to cause them to fall in love. The similarities are striking. In my opinion, the spirit behind the mask of Cupid is none other than the demon of lust and pornography, trying to get young children to find boyfriends and girlfriends as early as possible, convincing them that they need to try out as many people as possible, and in the process leaving faith and God out of the picture, almost altogether.

When believers find a spouse in the same way the world does, should it surprise us that we have the same divorce rate? To this end, it seems his poison-tipped goal is to create as many broken hearts as possible, as he trains people in the art of selfishness and divorce, all the while he masquerades as a cute little chubby angel on the front of Hallmark cards. A fallen angel, no doubt. So, as a believer in Christ, here was the first question I had to face. If Valentine's Day is a Christian holiday as we are let to believe, then why on earth is the main mascot for this holiday a real Roman god that is, for sure, the invention of hell itself? You might have an answer for that, but I didn't. So, at this point, if you think Cupid is an imposter that is mocking what real love is supposed to look like, hit the thumbs up button right below this video and put 'imposter' in the comments.

In the beginning of my research, I'm not going to lie, I told myself, 'Well, that's not what it means to me. I don't celebrate it like the pagans did', which was exactly what I said about Christmas and Easter as well when I found out the origins of those, but then He reminded me that it didn't matter what it meant to me, because I wasn't the one being worshipped; it only matters what it means to Him. No matter how excited I would be to get my wife a brand-new bow for hunting, if she didn't want it, then I would be making it all about me and I'm pretty sure God is about fed up with His kids making it all about what we want to do and how we want to worship Him. After all, Deuteronomy 12:32 says "Whatever I command you, be careful to observe it; you shall not add to it nor take away from it." But you might be thinking, 'I'm not worshipping God during Valentine's Day'. If you are, hold that thought, we will talk about that in just a few minutes. For now, let's find out who St. Valentine is and where he comes from.

Now that we've nailed down the history of Lupercalia and Cupid, let's move on to the last piece to this puzzle. Who is St. Valentine? According to the Smithsonian, there were multiple Valentini that supposedly fit the description and died on February 14th, in the third century. Apparently, we know this because there was an order of Belgian monks who were tasked, over three centuries, of collecting evidence for the lives of saints for the Church. It's from these Bollandist monks that we know all we are to know about these supposed Valentine saints and that's the problem. We don't know very much at all. The only thing we know about the first Valentinus is that he died in Africa with 24 soldiers, that's it. And the other two, well, are not much better.

According to late medieval legend, there was a Roman priest named Valentinus, who was arrested during the reign of Emperor Claudius II in the third century. He was put into the custody of an aristocrat named Asterius. The legend says that Asterius told the priest that he would

convert if he could cure his foster-daughter of blindness. Valentinus proceeded to put his hands over the young girls' eyes and healed her. From there, Asterius and his whole family were baptized and converted, but when the Emperor heard about it, he was furious and had Valentinus beheaded on February 14th. The third candidate for St. Valentine is a very similar story, where he ends up being beheaded as well, by the orders of the same Emperor. According to the notes of the Bollandist monks, they challenge the authenticity and historical accuracy of these stories and, according to the Smithsonian, they were likely the same person with two different versions of what happened.

There are also legends of St. Valentine performing Christian marriages while he was in prison and passing notes between Christian lovers that were jailed by Emperor Claudius. If true, the similarity of connecting lovers, and the fertility ritual and matchmaking of Lupercalia, could be the reason why Pope Gelasius chose this saint as the alternative holiday for the feast that he just banned. After all, with St. Valentine being killed during the pagan feast of Lupercal, this intimately connects the two at the hip, in the most convenient way. So, what do you think? Is it convenience or coincidence? Put "convenience" or "coincidence" in the comments to tell me what you think so far.

Even though some of the histories of the Valentines are sketchy at best, what we do know for sure, is that virtually all scholars believe the reinvention of all this love and romance, that we see in the modern-day holiday of today, was kicked into overdrive in the 14th century with the famous English author, Geoffrey Chaucer. Pulling from some of the existing legends, he equated the feast of St. Valentinus to the mating of birds. He wrote this in his "Parelement of Foules": "For this was on seynt Volantynys day. Whan every bryd comyth there to chese his make."

Apparently, in Chaucer's day, English birds paired off to produce eggs in February. Soon after that, European nobility began sending love notes during bird-mating season. The English audience completely embraced the idea of mating in February, with Shakespeare's lovestruck Ophelia speaking of herself as Hamlet's valentine. Then, of course, came along Hershey's, Cadbury and every other chocolate manufacturer, to make sweets for everyone's valentine. From there, the entire holiday became commercialized, evolving into what it is today.

So, while I personally believe that the Roman Church did exactly with Valentine's Day what they did with the date of Christmas, A.K.A., hijacked a pagan day that was infiltrating the Church and replaced it with their own, the true motives of Pope Gelasius cannot be known for sure. All we do know is that the motive to replace a popular pagan holiday with something that was Church-approved was certainly there. *Number one*, Christians were celebrating this pagan feast and he wanted it stopped. *Number two*, he outlaws Lupercalia and just so happened to institute St. Valentine's Day at the same time. *Number three*, he chooses a saint that just so happens to, allegedly, been killed on February 14th, which is right smack in the middle of Lupercalia. And *Number four*, the Church had already made such a switch in the previous century, by moving the birthday of Christ from the biblical feast of Tabernacles to the winter solstice of December 25th, when the Romans were celebrating the birth of their sun god. All of this seems like it points to an evidentiary conclusion that Valentines Day's origins are in fact pagan and Pan, A.K.A., Satan, that goat-god who is bent on making people look like him, half in the image of God and half in the image of a stubborn and rebellious goat, is at the head of it all.

If you agree, hit the thumbs up button right now and put the word 'pagan' in the comments. If you don't think there's enough evidence to say it comes from pagan origins, then state your case in the comments as well.

So, should Christians celebrate Valentine's Day? Ultimately, that's for each person to decide, based on where they are at, spiritually. For me, there are two components that helped me make up my mind. First of all, the scriptures are clear that if there is any holiday that, originally, was setup for the worship of a foreign god, we cannot take that holiday and sprinkle some holy water on it and use it to worship the true God. God says in Deuteronomy 12, that we cannot look into the ways that the pagans worshipped their gods and borrow some of their ideas, and then worship Him in the same way. Second, for those that have ears to hear and eyes to see, it's very clear what the Spirit is doing in the earth right now. He is calling His true Bride out of Egypt again and separating them from the traditions and doctrines of men that have prevented them from seeing the full truth and experiencing His true power. After all, sometimes the greatest curse is the blessing that you don't even know you've missed. By constantly introducing these imposter holidays, the Roman Church completely abandoned the real holy days of God, the feast days of the LORD, that He gave to anyone that would choose to follow Him; the ones that foretell the first and second coming of Christ, which, by the way, is a major motivation of Satan to create these fake holy days: so that God's people would miss the blessings that are built into them and never even know what they have missed.

It is not a coincidence that Jesus, or 'Yeshua' in the Hebrew, dies on **Passover**, is put in the grave during the **Feast of Unleavened Bread**, raises on **First Fruits** and the Holy Spirit comes down on the **Feast of Shavuot**, better known as Pentecost. Those all represent His first coming. It should not be surprising then, to learn that He is prophesied to come back on the **Feast of Trumpets**, when the original kings of Israel were crowned as kings, and why the dead in Christ rise first, at the sound of the trumpet. Then, Judgment Day will be on **Yom Kippur**, and the marriage supper of the Lamb is during the Feast of Tabernacles If you have never looked into the feast-days of the Lord, I encourage you to watch my introductory video on the **Feasts** as soon as possible. The prophetic significance of these feasts will leave you speechless.

As we bring this to a close, like I said earlier, you might be saying to yourself that you're not worshipping God with Valentine's Day, you're just taking your wife out to dinner and buying a few red roses. Fair enough, you could make an argument for that, but as believers, aren't we supposed to be worshipping our heavenly Father in everything that we do? And if our lives are really supposed to be revolving around Him, doesn't it feel a bit 'icky' to be celebrating a holiday that has so many roots that can be traced back to Satan himself? And doesn't it seem just like Lucifer to invent a holiday that is all about sex and desire and magic cultic rituals, and then water it down and send it into the Church? *It's what he does*. It's what he's always done. In my opinion we are playing right into his hands. We are sending our children to school, and they are getting little candy valentines, as they learn, from the age of 5, that they need to find a valentine and 'couple-up', just like they did over 2000 years ago in the feast of Lupercal.

We can say it's cute, but Satan is just playing Peter Pan as he takes our children off to nevernever land and teaches them how to fly, his way, and Valentine's Day is just one more arrow in his quiver that poisons their hearts into the sexual direction he wants them to go, and another distraction to keep them from the real holy days of God. And for those who really want to know, Peter Pan's name did come from the half goat-half god Pan, who was also an orphan. Yes, my friends, the rabbit-hole is deep. Personally, I think this holiday is a mockery of what real love is supposed to look like: not a love that is seeded in lust, passion, and desire, but a love that first starts at the cross; a sacrificial love that gives; a love that exemplifies to the world what His love looked like for us.

Now, I'm certainly not saying that every holiday and tradition is pagan. Traditions can be powerful instruments that can bind families together and create intimate connections with both your fellow man and with God himself. But I am saying that we should be very careful about engaging in the ones that come directly from the worship of pagan deities and be very wary of anything that remotely has the appearance of evil, or has contributed to the replacement of God's Holy Days.

In the end, the only question to leave you with is this - now that you know the truth, what are you going to do about it? You can ignore it and believe that God doesn't care about where this holiday came from, and the one who's behind it, or you can join the millions of people from around the world that are shedding the roots of the Roman church and coming back to the real roots of the Christian faith, and just doing Bible things in Bible ways. As for me and my house, we're going to continue to do our best to serve the Lord in spirit and truth and to celebrate the prophetic holidays on God's calendar, and that means all imposters and all compromise have to go.

In the meantime, thank you for taking the time to watch this short documentary. We encourage you to share this with as many people as you can. If you're new to Passion For Truth Ministries, I encourage you to hit 'subscribe' below and turn on your notifications, so you don't miss out on any of the videos that we put out here, every Saturday at 11am, Central Standard Time. If you're looking to learn more about the Christian roots of your faith, more about the feast days of the Lord, or how to grow in deeper covenant with the Father and strengthen the connections within your own family, then you've come to the right place; *that's our heart*.

Feel free to check out our website at <u>Passion For Truth</u> where you'll find hundreds of videos and articles on a myriad of topics. And thanks again for watching.

I'm Jim Staley with Passion For Truth Ministries, and I'll see you in the next video.

~ Jim Staley ~ Passion For Truth