

THE TRUTH

Easter exposed

THE PASSOVER PROMOTED

This is a study of the origins of Easter, Baal, Ashtoreth, and Tammuz worship.

What God are we to worship?

I have been studying the Word of God for over 40 years now and I specialize in eschatology. I believe we are in the period of the restoration of all things. In Acts 3:21 it says Jesus is being held in heaven “until” the restoration of all things. To restore something you must bring it back to its original condition. I believe we can see clearly through historical facts that God is and has been working this process of restoration. As we simply look at historical facts we know the temple of God was destroyed by the Romans in 70 A.D., there was not one stone left on another, just as Jesus said. Israel was not a nation again until 1948. We never had a bible in the English language until approximately 1500 when the King James Bible was printed. Many take for granted there was always a bible in the English language and people could always study the Word of God as we do today. Honestly in the history of mankind there has never been a people who could and do have the ability to study the Word of God like we do. We have more available knowledge, research tools, and access to our smart phones and the internet than any other group of people. Research is available and knowledge has increased. I believe we are in the initial stages of the Words in Daniel 12:4 where he said, “in the last days knowledge will increase”. Just consider in the past 7 years the hidden mysteries that have been revealed to the church. Why? **The process of restoration has begun.**

A mystery is a hidden truth that can only be seen by a divine revelation. The appointed times of the Lord are now. Over 40 years of studying eschatology has led me to this revelation of the truth of Easter exposed. Many people today think Easter came after the messiah and it is a celebration of His resurrection according to scriptures. When in all truth history tells us that Easter worship began at the time of the tower of Babel.

- The English word **Easter**, which parallels the German word Ostern, is of uncertain **origin**. One view, expounded by the Venerable Bede in the 8th century, was that it derived from Eostre, or Eostrae, the Anglo-Saxon goddess of spring and fertility.
- The naming of the celebration as “Easter” seems to go back to the name of a pre-Christian goddess in England, Eostre, who was celebrated at beginning of spring. The only reference to this goddess comes from the writings of the **Venerable Bede**, a British monk who lived in the late **seventh** and early eighth century.
- The term **Easter**, commemorating the Resurrection of Christ, comes from the Old English **ēaster** or **ēastre**, a festival of spring. The Greek and Latin Pascha come from the Hebrew Pesah, “Passover.” The earliest Christians celebrated the Lord’s Passover at the same time as the Jews, during the night ..
- In 325AD the first major church council, the Council of Nicaea, determined that Easter should fall on the Sunday following the first full moon after the spring equinox. But in English-speaking countries, and in Germany, **Easter takes its name from a pagan** goddess from Anglo-Saxon England who was described in a book by the eighth-century English monk Bede.
- "Eostre was a goddess of spring or renewal and that's why her feast is attached to the vernal equinox," Professor Cusack said.
- "In Germany the festival is called Ostern, and the goddess is called Ostara."

Origin of Easter - Its Pagan Roots

The origin of Easter dates back to ancient times, not long after the flood recorded in the Bible. Nimrod, a grandson of Noah, had turned from following his grandfather's God and had become a tyrannical ruler. According to the biblical record, as king, Nimrod created Babel, Nineveh, Asshur, Calla and other cities, all known for lifestyles that promoted unspeakable evil and perversion. When Nimrod died, his wife, Queen Semiramis, deified him as the Sun-god, or Life Giver. Later he would become known as Baal, and those who followed the religion Semiramis created in his name would be called Baal worshippers. They became associated with idolatry, demon worship, human sacrifice and other practices regarded as evil.

The origin of Easter involves the birth of Semiramis' illegitimate son, Tammuz. Somehow, Semiramis convinced the people that Tammuz was actually Nimrod reborn. Since people had been looking for the promised savior since the beginning of mankind they were persuaded by Semiramis to believe that Tammuz was that savior, even that he had been supernaturally conceived. Before long, in addition to worshiping Tammuz (or Nimrod reborn), the people also worshiped Semiramis herself as the goddess of fertility. In other cultures, she has been called Ishtar, Ashtur and yes, Easter.

The origin of Easter goes back to the springtime ritual instituted by Semiramis following the death of Tammuz, who, according to tradition, was killed by a wild boar. Legend has it that through the power of his mother's tears, Tammuz was "resurrected" in the form of the new vegetation that appeared on the earth.

According to the Bible, it was in the city of Babel that the people created a tower in order to defy God. Up until that time, all the people on the earth spoke one language. The building of the tower led God to

confuse their tongues to keep them from being further unified in their false beliefs. As the people moved into other lands, many of them took their pagan practices with them.

Contemporary traditions such as the Easter Bunny and the Easter egg can also be traced back to the practices established by Semiramis. Because of their prolific nature, rabbits have long been associated with fertility and its goddess, Ishtar. Ancient Babylonians believed in a fable about an egg that fell into the Euphrates River from heaven and from which Queen Astarte (another name for Ishtar or Semiramis) was "hatched."

The Sumerian goddess Inanna is known outside of Mesopotamia by her Babylonian name, "Ishtar". In ancient Canaan Ishtar is known as Astarte, and her counterparts in the Greek and Roman pantheons are known as Aphrodite and Venus. In the 4th Century, when Christians identified the exact site in Jerusalem where the empty tomb of Jesus had been located, they selected the spot where a temple of Aphrodite (Astarte/Ishtar/Inanna) stood. The temple was torn down and the so called Church of the Holy Sepulchre was built, the holiest church in the Christian world.

- *Easter* isn't a Christian or directly biblical term, but comes from a form of the name *Astarte*, a Chaldean (Babylonian) goddess known as "the queen of heaven." (She is mentioned by that title in the Bible in Jeremiah 7:18 and Jeremiah 44:17-19; Jeremiah 44:25 and referred to in 1 Kings 11:5; 1 Kings 5:33 and 2 Kings 23:13 by the Hebrew form of her name, *Ashtoreth*. So "Easter" is found in the Bible—as part of the pagan religion God condemns!)

Easter symbols predate Christ

How does *The Catholic Encyclopedia* define Easter? "Easter: The English term, according to the [eighth-century monk] Bede, relates to Eostre, a Teutonic goddess of the rising light of day and spring, which deity, however, is otherwise unknown ..." (1909, Vol. 5, p.

224). *Eostre* is the ancient European name for the same goddess worshipped by the Babylonians as *Astarte* or *Ishtar*, **goddess of fertility**, whose major celebration was in the spring of the year.

- **Many credible sources substantiate the fact that Easter became a substitute for the festival of Passover and feast of unleavened bread**

The subtopic “Easter Eggs” tells us that “the custom [of Easter eggs] may have its origin in paganism, for *a great many pagan customs*, celebrating the return of spring, *gravitated to Easter*” (ibid., p. 227).

The subtopic “Easter Rabbit” states that “the rabbit is a pagan symbol and has always been an emblem of fertility” (ibid.).

What these sources tell us is that human beings replaced the symbolism of the biblical Passover and Feast of Unleavened Bread with Easter eggs and Easter rabbits, pagan symbols of fertility. These symbols demean the truth of Christ’s death and resurrection. Easter, a pagan festival with its pagan fertility symbols, replaced the God-ordained festivals that Jesus Christ, the apostles and the early Church observed. But this didn’t happen immediately. Not until A.D. 325—almost three centuries after Jesus Christ was crucified and resurrected—was the matter settled. Regrettably, it wasn’t settled on the basis of biblical truth, but on the basis of anti-Semitism and raw ecclesiastical and imperial power.

- **Please note that Easter was not implemented into Christianity until after the council of nicea 325 A.D. Therefore, for the first 325 years after the death and resurrection of their Messiah the apostles and His followers never worshipped Easter. The early church honored Passover one of the seven feast days of the LORD. Many of the early church Apostles and their disciples died because they would not deny the Passover and worship Easter.**

As *The Encyclopedia Britannica* further explains: “A final settlement of the dispute [over whether and when to keep Easter or Passover] was one among the other reasons which led [the Roman emperor] Constantine to summon the council of Nicaea in 325. . . The decision of the council was unanimous that Easter was to be kept on Sunday, and on the same Sunday throughout the world, and ‘that none should hereafter follow the **blindness of the Jews’**” (ibid., pp. 828-829).

Those who did choose to “follow the blindness of the Jews”—that is, who continued to keep the biblical festivals kept by Jesus Christ and the apostles rather than the newly “Christianized” pagan Easter festival—were systematically persecuted by the powerful church-state alliance of Constantine ‘s Roman Empire .

- Those who were persecuted were known as quartodecimans. Apostolic followers who honored the fourteenth day of the first month.

In my humble opinion and all of the research I have discovered the celebration of Easter is a pagan celebration and a distraction from the true celebration of Gods feasts days, or Gods festivals. From Genesis 6 the false Easter deity was created. Sun god Baal was created from Nimrod, moon goddess Queen Astarte (another name for Ishtar or Semiramis), and their son Tammuz. History tells us that nimrod was a fierce hunter the ruler of the world at that time who attempted to build the tower of Babel. He was captured and killed. His body parts cut up into 14 portions and spread all over the known world. The wife tried to find them all to put his body back together to be worshipped and found all, but his reproductive organs. So as legend says she was taken to the sky impregnated by the sun god Baal and had a son Tammuz. Tammuz was later killed at the age of 40 by wild pigs. So this is where the Easter tradition emerges from. Every year at the spring equinox they worshipped Baal, Ishtar, and Tammuz by this pagan celebration. For 40 days (lent), prior to the celebration the people would sacrifice and honor their son Tammuz. Each day represents a year that he was alive before his death. During the worship of eastar, the people would have sexual intercourse on the

altar behind these huge pine trees or Ashtoreth groves. The virgins would become pregnant they would wait 9 months for the birth then at the following celebration of easter they would sacrifice these children to this deity. They would take the blood and dip the easter eggs in the blood and hide these eggs for the kids to find during an easter egg hunt to honor the child of the false deity, tammuz. Tammuz was to have come to earth in a chicken egg. I always wondered what a rabbit and chicken eggs had to do with the Passover. Now I know the truth, absolutely nothing. They would also take the ashes of the children who were sacrificed and put the ashes on the foreheads of all those who worshipped this false deity. This is where the Roman's got the tradition of Ash Wednesday. So as stated for at least the first 325 years A.D. the Apostolic Christian church never celebrated this pagan form of idolatry. So why do many today? It is clear at the council of Trent in A.D. 325 they made the intentional decision to replace the "Jewish" feasts. I am also reminded of the apostle Polycarp, who died as a martyr in 135 a. d., and his disciple Polycrate who died also around 185 a. d. Polycarp was discipled first hand by the Apostle John and Polycrate was discipled by Polycarp. Polycarp died as a martyr because he worshipped and honored God on the Passover. Do yourself a favor and research Polycarp and how he died as a Quartodeciman. The process of his martyrdom and how God used him as a witness is truly amazing. Those who were brave enough to stand for what they believed regarding the Passover were called Quartodecimans.

What is a quartodecimans? Quarto represents the number 4, and deciman or decimal represents the number 10. They were men and woman of the early apostolic church who honored the 14th day of the first month, The Passover. They would not celebrate the pagan idols of Easter. Therefore we have the early apostolic people who honored and died for the truth of celebration and observance of the 14 day of the first month. Therefore for at least 325 years after the death, burial, and resurrection of the Messiah Jesus Christ the early apostolic church honored Passover and refused to celebrate Easter.

- **Do we have scriptural support in the Bible where the Old Testament saints or prophets had to deal with this false**

**deity? Surprisingly Baal, Ishtar (Ashtoreth, ostar),
Tammuz are found all through the Old Testament.**

EXODUS 23:24 is an extremely important verse to remember; “you must not bow down to their gods or worship them. Do not imitate their practices. Instead you are to demolish them and smash down their sacred pillars into pieces. **This verse clearly tells us what we must “not” do, as well as what we “must “do.**

1. **The Joshua generation;** Joshua 2:6-15 Joshua died at the age of 110 he stood against this deity, it was the generation after him that went back to worship this idol. Judges 2:11-13 they worshiped **baals** and abandoned the lord, the God of their fathers and went after other gods... v 13 they abandoned Him and worshiped **baals and ashtoreth's**.
2. **Othniel** the first judge also made a stand against this false deity. (judges 2:7) Israel did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, they forgot the Lord their God and worshipped the **Baal's and Asherahs**.
3. **Judges 3:7** the Israelites did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, they forgot the Lord their God and worshiped **baals and ashteroths**. The Lords anger then burned against Israel.
4. **Gideon;** God calls Gideon in judges 6. One of his first instructions is found in judges 6:12-28. Judges 6:25 then tear down the altar of **baal** that belongs to your father and cut down the **asherah poles** beside it. Judges 6:28 They found **baals altars tore down, the asherah poles** also beside it cut down.
5. **JUDGES 6:30** Gideon must die because he made a stand against the worship of this false deity. He must die because he tore down **Baals altar and cut down the Ashtoreth**

poles beside it. Judges 6:31 Baals case.... Judges 7:1-8 Then we see it is immediately after Gideon made his stand against Easter, Baal, Ishtar, and the Ashtoreth's that God selected Gideon's army of 32,000 men. We all have been taught the stories of victories these men fought, but we have missed they stand they had to make against this false deity in order to qualify them for the battle.

6. **Judges 10:6-10**; v. 6 then the Israelites did again what was evil in the sight of the Lord. They worshipped the **Baals and Ashtoreth's**, the gods of Aram, Sidon, and Moab, and the gods of the ammonites, and the Philistines. They abandoned the Lord and did not worship Him.
7. **Judges 10:10** we have sinned against you. We have abandoned our God and worshipped **Baals**.
8. **1 Samuel 7:1-4 v.3** Samuel told them if you are returning to the Lord with your whole heart get rid of all the foreign gods and **the ashteroths** that are among you. V. 4 so the Israelites removed the Baals and the ashteroths and only worshipped the LORD.
9. **1 Samuel 31:1-13 Saul** and his sons were captured and beheaded; they cut off their heads and hung them in the temple of their gods. V10 then they put his armor in the temple of the **ashteroths** and hung his body on the wall of bethshan.
10. **1 Kings 9:25 Three times a year** Solomon would offer burnt offeringsso he completed the Lords temple. We know that Solomon knew the verses in Exodus 23 where it states we are to honor the Lord three times per year (**feast of Passover, Feast of Pentecost, and Feast of Tabernacles**). Also in Exodus 23:24 it clearly states what we are to do with these foreign gods.

11. 1 Kings 11:1-13 Solomon; I always wondered, what was it that made Solomon fall? How a man could be chosen of God to build the second temple and fall away from The Lord? Please read 1 Kings 11:4, when Solomon was old his wives seduced him to follow other gods. His heart was not fully with the Lord God as his father David's heart was. Solomon followed **Ashtoreth**, the goddess of the Sidonians and Milcom the detestable idol of the ammonites.

12. 1Kings 18: 20-40 this is one the most popular bible stories told by the church. Do we know the full truth or just a partial truth of this Battle? We have been told a partial truth. We know that Elijah called the prophets of **baal** and challenged them to place a sacrifice on the wood call out to **baal** and Elijah would call out to his God. We know baal never answered. Jehovah answered and consumed the sacrifice and the water in the trench. The important fact of this story I never saw before was found in 1 Kings 18:19 There were 450 prophets of **baal**, but there were also **400 prophets of Asherah** who eat at Jezebels table.

13. I believe that the story of Hezekiah is one of the most amazing recordings in the bible. Please look at how Hezekiah pleased the Lord, and what he had to make a stand against.

14. 2 Kings 20: 1-6 in those days Hezekiah became terminally ill, Isaiah was sent to tell him to get his affairs in order he was going to **surely die**. In v.2 Hezekiah turned to the wall and wept and said , “ remember how I walked before you faithfully and whole heartedly and have done what is good in your sight” we know in v.6 God changed His mind and extended Hezekiah's life another 15 years . So what was it that Hezekiah did that caused this change?

15. **2Kings 18:3-6 is where we find the answer.** He did what was right in the sight of the Lord just as his ancestor David did. He removed all the high places and shattered the sacred pillars and cut down the **Asherah poles**v.6 he held fast to the Lord and did not turn from following Him.
16. A point that has really shocked me is that the Israelites did not learn from the past, and they kept insisting on worshipping or serving this false deity. Each one of them knew the Torah and what the Lord did to those who worshipped or honored these false deities, but they still insisted on worshipping them.
17. Now let's look at the sons of Hezekiah, surely they would have learned from what their father went through. They knew that the Lord extended their fathers lives because he did not worship, honor or bow to this false deity. How did this affect them?
18. 2Kings 21:1-15 Hezekiah's son Manasseh was 12 and reigned for 55 years. V.2 He did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, imitating the abominations of the nations (gentiles) that the Lord had dispossessed before the Israelites. He rebuilt the high places that this father Hezekiah destroyed and re-established the **altars for baal**. He also **made an asherah**, as king Ahab of Israel had done; he also worshiped the whole entire heavenly host, and served them. v. 6 he made his sons pass through the fire, practice witchcraft and divination, consulted mediums and spirituits; he did a great amount of evil in the sight of the Lord, provoking Him.
19. 2 Kings 21: 7 Manasseh set up carved images of **asherah** in the temple that the Lord had spoken to David and Solomon about. Manasseh caused Israel to stray they did not listen to the Lord because they once again served this false deity. The son of Hezekiah knew what his father had

done and how blessed he was and he turned to worship this false deity.

20. 2 Kings 21:19-25 Amon was the son of Manasseh who was 22 became king and reigned for 2 years. He had to know what had happened to his father and Grandfather. How did it affect him, what did he do? V 18 Amon was 22 years old when he became king and he reigned 2 years. V. 20 he did what was evil in the lord's sight as his father Manasseh had done. He walked in all the ways his father had walked, he served all the idols his father had served, and worshipped them (**baal, Ashtoreth, and tammuz**).

21. 2Kings 22:1 –2 Josiah was his son; he was 8 when he became king. Josiah reigned 31 years in Jerusalem. He did what was right in the Lords sight and did not turn to the left or the right, just as his ancestor David did. The honor or worship of this false deity is what determined the success or failure of these kings. Why would anyone want to honor, worship, or bow down to these idols, these false deities?

22. Passover Observed again? 2 KINGS 23:21- 23 Josiah commanded the Passover to be reinstated. V22 no such Passover had ever been kept from the time of the judges who judged Israel through the entire time of kings of Israel and Judah. But in the 18 year of King Josiah Passover was observed....

23. 2Kings 23:24 In addition he removed the mediums, spiritists, household idols, images and all detestable things
.....

24. 2 Kings 23:31 Jehoahaz was 23 years old when he became king; he reigned 3 months in Jerusalem. V32. He did what was evil in the sight of the LORD just as his ancestors had done (worshipped **Baal and Ashteroth**).

25. 2 Chronicles 30:1- 31:1 Hezekiah reinstates the Passover on the second month for those who missed the first month. 2 Kings 30:27 God heard their voice and their prayers came into HIS Holy dwelling place in Heaven. Look what they immediately did 2 Chronicles 31:1 they went out and destroyed the sacred pillars and broke down the Asherah poles, tore down high places. This is exactly what they were instructed to do in Exodus 23:24. We are never told to forget the Passover, or the feasts of the Lord. Some just immediately say it is Old Testament, like that is the single statement that denies everything the bible clearly teaches regarding idol worship. If someone told you today to go out and build an altar to Buddha would you? This is not an old or New Testament issue, it is an idol issue. The fact is we are never told to forget the Passover. Mathew 26:1, 17, 27:15 all reveals to us that Jesus was destined to fulfill the Passover. Jesus said as often as you partake of the Passover meal, you will do this in remembrance of Me. For hundreds of years before the Messiah came to the earth Jehovah God did not allow this pagan worship of Baal, Ashtoreth, and Tammuz. What makes us now think it is right to honor the same idols? The origins of Easter are historical facts. Please do a you tube search on the origins of Easter, or do a Google search, and let modern day advanced knowledge teach you the truth. It is up to you to decide if God is pleased now with the worship and honor of these heathen idol and practices. We know for sure for the first 325 years of the Apostolic church the Quartodecimans never worshipped Easter and they honored the Lords Passover. Many Christians were tortured, murdered as martyrs for honoring the Passover, and not celebrating Easter.

1 Kings 18:21 Elijah said, how long will you continue to waffle between two opinions? If Yahweh is God follow him.

It was Jesus who said, you shall know the truth, and the truth you know will set you free.

Why is it so hard to follow the Word of God and what HE tells us to do? Why do we listen and take for granted the traditions of men and follows them so blindly?

Come Quickly Lord Jesus!

For further information please you tube search “Pastor Ronald Kosor “

724-875-1837 Pastor.ron122@gmail.com