

## Easter

I want all to understand I am not trying to find fault in any way nor make an issue out of something trivial. I am furnishing information that I think everyone should have access to. Everyone that reads this information then has the right to decide for themselves what choice to make. It is easy to find many more writings concerning the topic of Easter. I thank God for his word, and history that we have access to. This makes it possible that all can make an informed decision about pagan holidays. God bless all from Pastor Daniel!

Where did "Easter" get its name? Where did the Easter egg and bunny originate?

The name "Easter" is highly pagan in origin. On this, all scholars agree. This name is never used in the original Scriptures, nor is it ever associated biblically with the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. For these reasons, we prefer to use the term "Resurrection Sunday" rather than "Easter" when referring to the annual Christian remembrance of Christ's resurrection.

### Pagan origin

Most reference books say that the name "Easter" derived from the Eastre, the Teutonic goddess of Spring. Although this relationship exists, in reality, the origin of the name and the goddess are far more ancient - going all the way back to the Tower of Babel. The origin begins not long after the biblical flood.

The Flood was a divine judgment sent on mankind after evil had become all pervasive and all people everywhere were totally unresponsive to God. The Bible says that "the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually" (Gen 6:5 KJV) And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. It is not difficult to imagine that life must have been almost unbearable at this time in history. God gave humankind a second chance by preserving the righteous man Noah and his family (a total of 8 people).

After the Flood, Noah had a talented, but evil, grandson named Nimrod who rebelled greatly against God.

REFERENCE: (Gen 10:6 KJV) And the sons of Ham; Cush, and Mizraim, and Phut, and Canaan. (Gen 10:7 KJV) And the sons of Cush; Seba, and Havilah, and Sabtah, and Raamah, and Sabtechah: and the sons of Raamah; Sheba, and Dedan. (Gen 10:8 KJV) And Cush begat Nimrod: he began to be a mighty one in the earth. (Gen 10:9 KJV) He was a mighty hunter before the LORD: wherefore it is said, Even as Nimrod the mighty hunter before the LORD. (Gen 10:10 KJV) And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel, and Erech, and Accad, and Calneh, in the land of Shinar.

The Bible says that he was "a mighty one. Jewish tradition indicates that Nimrod was a tyrant "who made all of the people rebellious against God.

REFERENCE: The Jewish Encyclopedia, Vol. 9, p. 309, as cited by Ralph Woodrow, Babylon Mystery Religion (Riverside, California: Ralph Woodrow Evangelistic Assn., 1966).

It is evident from history that Nimrod was not only a political leader, but also the lead priest of a form of Satanic worship.

REFERENCE: Ralph Woodrow, Babylon Mystery Religion (Riverside, California: Ralph Woodrow Evangelistic Assn., 1966), p. 9; and Alexander Hislop, The Two Babylons (New York: Loizeaux Brothers).

King Nimrod, Queen Semiramis (Easter), and Tammuz (the "reincarnated" Nimrod)

Nimrod built and organized major cities. The Bible notes that these included BABEL, Asshur, Nineveh and Calah (Genesis 10:10-12). If you know anything about ancient history, the mention of these places may send shivers up your spine. For these were cities of great, almost unimaginable practices and perversion.

When Nimrod eventually died, the Babylonian mystery religion in which he figured prominently continued on. His wife Queen Semiramis saw to that. Once he was dead, she deified him as the Sun-god. In various cultures he later became known as Baal, the Great Life Giver, the god of fire, Baalim, Bel, Molech, etc.

"Later, when this adulterous and idolatrous woman gave birth to an illegitimate son, she claimed that this son, Tammuz by name, was Nimrod reborn.

REFERENCE: Woodrow, *Ibid.*, p. 9.; In his reincarnated form (Nimrod/Tammuz), has been known as Horus (Egypt), Attis (Italy), Crishna or Iswara (India), Deoius (Asia Minor), Janus (Rome), etc.

Semiramis "claimed that her son was supernaturally conceived [no human father] and that he was the promised seed, the 'savior'" - promised by God in Genesis 3:15. "However, not only was the child worshipped, but the woman, the MOTHER, was also worshipped as much (or more) than the son!

REFERENCE: 5. Woodrow, *Ibid.*, p. 9.

Nimrod deified as the god of the sun and father of creation. Semiramis became the goddess of the moon, fertility, etc.

"In the old fables of the Mystery cults, their 'savior' Tammuz, was worshipped with various rites at the Spring season. According to the legends, after he was slain [killed by a wild boar], he went into the underworld. But through the weeping of his mother... he mystically revived in the springing forth of the vegetation - in Spring! Each year a spring festival dramatically represented this supposed 'resurrection' from the underworld.

REFERENCE: The resurrection of Tammuz [Nimrod] through Ishtar's grief [Semiramis] was dramatically represented annually in order to insure the success of the crops and the fertility of the people... Each year men and women had to grieve with Ishtar over the death of Tammuz and celebrate the god's return, in order to win anew her favor and her benefits! [Homer W. Smith, *Man and His Gods*, p. 86, as cited by Woodrow, p. 157.]

Thus, a terrible false religion developed with its sun and moon worship, priests, astrology, demonic worship, worship of stars associated with their gods, idolatry, mysterious rites, human sacrifice, and more. Frankly, the practices which went on were so horrible that it is not fitting for me to speak of them here.

It was at Nimrod's city of Babel that a towering structure was first built in defiance of God as part of their Satanic religion. Archaeological evidence indicates that this was a spectacular pyramid-shaped structure (ziggurat).

The Bible tells us that at this time there was only one language in the world and that most of the world's population centered in this area and participated in this religion. It was evident to God that all mankind would soon degenerate into a level of evil that would parallel that of the pre-Flood world. For humanity's

sake, something had to be done to slow and frustrate this organization of an evil one world, tyrannical government.

God confused their language, so that they could not understand each other (Genesis 11:7). (This is the ultimate source of the world's many languages.) As a result, many people moved away from the area in groups according to their particular new language. Most, if not all, of these people carried their evil Sun-God-based religion with them. They continued to worship the stars and practice all the other pagan rituals of their religion. Some also continued to build pyramids reminiscent of the Tower of Babel as part of this mystery religion. Today, we can still find remnants of these throughout the world (e.g., Iraq, South America, Central America, Egypt, Burma).

Babel was the origin of an idolatrous system that swept the world. The Bible says of her, "Babylon... the nations drank her wine; Therefore the nations are deranged" (Jeremiah 51:7). The Bible often speaks of the Satanic religions which came from her. The ancient Greek historian Herodotus "witnessed the Mystery religion and its rites in numerous countries and mentions how Babylon was the primeval source from which ALL systems of idolatry flowed.

Reference: Ibid., p. 10; Herodotus' History, Book 2, p. 109, as cited by Woodrow.

Austen Layard said "that we have the united testimony of sacred and profane history that idolatry originated in the area of Babylonia - the most ancient of religious systems.

REFERENCE: Woodrow, Ibid., p. 11; Austen Henry Layard, Nineveh and Its Remains.

Basically, almost every vile, profane and idolatrous practice you can think of originated at Babel with Queen Semiramis, the Mother Goddess and Nimrod. As the people scattered from Babel with their different languages, they, of course, used different names for Nimrod (Tammuz) and Semiramis. Some called the Mother Goddess "ISHTAR" (originally pronounced "EASTER").

REFERENCE: Woodrow Ibid., p. 152.

In other lands, she was called Eostre, Astarte, Ostera, and Eastre. Other names for Semiramis, the Mother Goddess include: Wife of Baal, Ashtaroth or Ashtoreth, and Queen of Heaven.

REFERENCE: The names Ashtaroth or Ashtoreth, and Queen of Heaven were used for Semiramis by the Israelites and the pagan peoples around them, see Judges 2:13, Jeremiah 44:17-19, etc. Other names for Semiramis include Astarte (Cyprus), Diana (Ephesus and throughout Asia Minor), Cybele (Asia Minor), Isis (Egypt), Aphrodite, Ceres (Greece), Venus or Fortuna (Romans), Shingmoo (China), Disa (Scandinavia), Nutria (Etruscans), Virgo-Paritura (Druids), Isi or Indrani or Devaki (India).

The Mother goddess was frequently worshipped as the goddess of fertility - and as a sort of Mother Nature and goddess of Spring and sexual love and birth. She was also worshipped as a mediator between god and man. Sexual orgies and temple prostitutes were often used in her worship and in attempting to gain her favor.

The Easter Egg

"The egg was a sacred symbol among the Babylonians! They believed an old fable about an egg of wondrous size which was supposed to have fallen from heaven into the Euphrates River. From this marvelous egg - according to the ancient story - the Goddess Astarte (Easter) [Semiramis], was hatched. And so the egg came to symbolize the Goddess Easter.

REFERENCE: Woodrow, Ibid., pp. 152-153.

The idea of a mystic egg spread from Babylon to many parts of the world.

REFERENCE: James G. Frazer, *The Golden Bough*, Vol. 12, 3rd Edition (1907-15, reissued 1935-36 and 1955); Maria Leach, editor, *Funk and Wagnall's Standard Dictionary of Folklore, Mythology and Legend*, Vol. 1 (1949).

In Rome, the mystic egg preceded processions in honor of the Mother Goddess Roman. The egg was part of the sacred ceremonies of the Mysteries of Bacchus. The pagan Druids used the egg as their sacred emblem. In Northern Europe, China and Japan the eggs were colored for their sacred festivals.

REFERENCE: Ibid., p. 155.

The egg was also a symbol of fertility; Semiramis (Easter) was the goddess of Fertility. The Easter egg is a symbol of the pagan Mother Goddess, and it even bears one of her pagan names.

The Easter Rabbit or Hare

The rabbit is well known as a sexual symbol of fertility. In various parts of the world, religions which developed from Babel also associate the rabbit with periodicity, both human and lunar (Egypt, China, etc.). As you may remember, the Mother Goddess Semiramis (Easter) is associated with the moon. In other words, the Easter bunny symbolizes the pagan Mother Goddess. Annual Spring-time fertility rituals are associated worship of the pagan Mother Goddess and Tammuz, the reincarnation of her husband Nimrod.

Conclusion

"Easter" is simply one of the names of the ultimate pagan goddess - a woman who mightily deceived the world and whose religion has caused untold suffering and misery.

REFERENCE: This mystery religion of Babylon is well-known to still be alive in the world today in various forms. Many of its elements are even present in the New Age movement (reincarnation, astrology, channeling, claims of mysterious powers, and more).

"Easter" is clearly an enemy of Christianity, and her son Tammuz was an anti-Christ, a false messiah that ultimately deceived millions.

If you are Christian, it is not difficult to discern the bizarre deception and confusion that Satan has successfully orchestrated. For example, notice the embarrassing irony in these probably well-meant traditions:

On the day commemorating Christ's resurrection, Americans roll decorated eggs on the White House lawn and pretend the Easter rabbit hid them. The same ritual is practiced at some Christian churches.

"In Lancashire [England] on Easter eve boys and men have been in the habit of touring the towns and villages as 'Pace-egggers' begging for eggs before performing the 'Pace-Egging' or Pasch (i.e., Easter) play.

REFERENCE: Edwin Oliver James, *Encyclopedia Britannica*, Vol. 7 (Chicago: Encyclopedia Britannica, 1967), p. 867.]

"In Greece each person in a group bangs his red EASTER EGG against the eggs of all the others present in turn, saying 'Christ is risen,' and receives the reply 'He is risen indeed.'

REFERENCE: James, Ibid.

For centuries Satan watched with twisted delight, as he seduced millions into worshipping people and other created things, instead of the true Creator. Through the millennia, humankind has been easily seduced into participating in every type of perversion. The seductive symbols of the pagan mystery religion that Satan inspired were incorporated into people's everyday lives, even to this day - continuing to obscure the truth of God on this spiritually dark planet. Often this happens because we willingly let it happen. Selfishly and foolishly "all we like sheep have gone astray" (Isaiah 53:6).

Would it not be a better witness to the world if Christians had never attempted to "Christianize" pagan celebrations - adopting the pagan name "Easter" (Ishtar/Semiramis) in remembrance of Christ? At the very least, Jesus has been obscured by painted eggs and bunnies. Attention is shifted away from spiritual truth and toward materialism (symbolic products, clothing, symbolic candies, and food). Stores merchandise the name of Easter (not "Resurrection Sunday") and sell goods that have nothing to do with Christ's death and resurrection. We naively use symbols and practices that unknowingly perpetuate ancient anti-Christ traditions - symbolic customs followed by the same religious cults that inspired the destruction of great numbers of Christians and Jews. And the Devil laughs at us.

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