

# EASTER

## The godless of fertility

You say, "Praise the name of the Lord Jesus the Christ" and you teach your children to celebrate Easter by hunting eggs. You say "Jesus is Lord but you give worth and value to Easter Bunnies, colored eggs and sunrise services on Resurrection Sunday. You say to yourself, "I love the Lord".

Jesus (the Word who came in the flesh) said, *"If you love me keep my commandments".* The commandments Moses brought down from the mountain say, *"**You shall have no other gods before me.** "You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing love to a thousand of those who love me and keep my commandments.*

The day of worship isn't even right for the people who have deluded themselves into thinking they are worshiping Jesus on Easter Sunday. The command is to keep the Sabbath Holy. The Sabbath isn't Sunday; it is the seventh day (Saturday) and it starts at sundown Friday. Look at these scriptures: Exodus 20:10-11, *but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your manservant or maidservant, nor your animals, nor the alien within your gates. For in six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.* To see the order of God look at Gen 1:5, *God called the light "day," and the darkness he called "night." And there was evening, and there was morning-- the first day.* If the Lord blessed the Sabbath, how many blessings have we missed by not keeping the day holy ourselves?

The word worship is a combination of the words worth and ship. It is not difficult to understand the meaning of these words when they are used independently. Worth is a term indicating that value has been attributed to something and ship indicates some form of delivery has been set into motion. Therefore, worship would mean some form of delivery, giving worth to something, has been employed.

Speaking in glowing terms about Easter Sunday or sending your children out to hunt for colored eggs are forms of worship. The question is, what is being worshipped? Easter is itself a word or name that has been altered by time and social or political influences. In its original form Easter was Eastre - the goddess of fertility. The Saxons celebrated spring with a wild festival commemorating their goddess of fertility and of springtime, Eastre. Second-century Christian missionaries attempted to influence the tribes by merging Christian Holy days with their pagan celebration. This practice, although found in many parts of the world, is nothing more than a prideful arrogant behavior, as men try to control and manipulate other men. They engage in this subtle form of witchcraft thinking they are helping God. The Bible tells us *"no one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the Holy Spirit.* Choosing life over death by making Jesus Lord must come from the inside and not because someone has decided what is best for you.

Although the Orthodox Jew tends to be very legalistic and engage in a relentless array of traditional rituals he or she has also been relentless in adhering to the scriptures. This is particularly true regarding Passover, the Holiest celebration of all the appointed festivals. Make no mistake, the Jews are the example people chosen by God. It is we Christian Gentiles who are grafted into the household through them; not the other way around as much of the Christian church implies through its attitudes and actions toward these people.

Passover had been accomplished by the time Jesus rose prior to Sunday (often called Resurrection day). And, Passover is the commanded Holy celebration, not Easter, nor the Sunday commonly referred to as Resurrection Day. As always, with God, the choice is ours to make. The choice is the pagan holiday of Easter or the sanctified Holy day commanded

by God, (Passover). The choice is the eggs and bunny rabbits symbolizing fertility or life eternal with the Creator God. Will you sanctify and keep holy the beginning day of the week or the last day of the week, as the commandment brought down the mountain by Moses says? Will you go to a church building where you can sit and listen to someone preach for a couple of hours before going to the lake to play or will the entire day be dedicated to family relationship in the Lord God Almighty?

The choice is yours to make so, You Choose.

Deut 30:19

"I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse. So choose life in order that you may live, you and your descendants, (NAS)1