WHY DO WE CELEBRATE THE FEASTS INSTEAD OF CHRISTMAS?

By Apostle Jacquelyn Fedor

I guess the very best answer would be, because God said to! On the other hand, the reason we do not celebrate Christmas is simply that there is nowhere in the Bible that we are instructed to do so, not even to honor Jesus' birthday. In other words it's not scriptural. In fact, while we are discussing holidays that are not scriptural, the Bible does not mention easter eggs and rabbits either. The same goes for witches' costumes and jack 'o lanterns. But, the word of God does say in Leviticus 23:2

2 "Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: 'The feasts of the LORD, which you shall proclaim to be holy convocations, these are My feasts.

He actually goes on to <u>list</u> the feasts by name, and even sets the time He wants us to celebrate and experience them. Hanukkah and Purim are also feasts we celebrate in honor of victories God miraculously gave Israel in the Maccabean era and in the time of Esther. Relating stories of how God intervened on behalf of Israel to bring about these victories helps new ones to trust and have faith in Him, while the feasts themselves foreshadow future events that are still to happen. Both of these feasts are mentioned in the Bible by the way, and we even find Jesus attending Hanukkah or the Feast of

Dedication in John 10:22-23. The Father would love to have us gather as a worldwide family, all at one time, to keep these appointments with Him. Instead, much of the church is gathered around a pagan phallic symbol (the Christmas tree) while their children pray they have been good enough for a jolly elf from the North Pole to bring them gifts as a reward for good behavior. At least that is how most of America celebrates. There are different traditions in each country. The feasts draw us closer to God however, as they are completely about Him and His relationship with us. But, think about it, holidays conjured up by man with the help of the enemy, can be enjoyed by people that do not even know God.

BUT I THOUGHT THE FEASTS ARE FOR THE HEBREWS

This is very true, but have you read Galatians 3:26 through 29 lately?

Galatians 3:26-29

- 26 For you are <u>all sons of God</u> through <u>faith</u> in Christ <u>Jesus</u>.
- 27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.
- 28 There is neither <u>Jew</u> nor <u>Greek</u>, there is neither <u>slave</u> nor <u>free</u>, there is neither <u>male</u> nor <u>female</u>; for <u>you are all one</u> in Christ Jesus.
- 29 And <u>if</u> you are <u>Christ's</u>, then <u>you are Abraham's seed</u>, and <u>heirs</u> <u>according to the promise</u>.

Abraham was a Hebrew. Therefore, if you are one that has been baptized into Christ, then perhaps it may be a good idea to learn about the feasts. Satan has done everything in his power to eradicate the feasts of God out of the church and replace them with his holidays. Why? Because Abraham's seed is untainted through their new birth. He no longer has a hold on them as they are separate from the people of Adam and their customs. Satan hates losing this control and the influence to corrupt.

Remember I Corinthians 15:53-54.

- 53 For <u>this corruptible</u> must <u>put on incorruption</u>, and <u>this mortal</u> must put on <u>immortality</u>.
- 54 So <u>when</u> this <u>corruptible</u> <u>has</u> put on <u>incorruption</u>, and <u>this mortal</u> <u>has</u> put on <u>immortality</u>, <u>then</u> shall be brought to pass the saying that is written:

 "Death is swallowed up in victory."

Fulfillment of this scripture is the very last thing Satan wants us to experience. It would mean all he did in the garden to gain control of this planet and the people God put on it was for nothing. It would mean God won. This is why the trumpets blast with a new message every Monday. We want to do our part in removing the corruption already planted in the church. So ...

LET US LOOK CLOSER AT CHRISTMAS

First of all let me say, no matter how Godly people who celebrate Christmas mean to be, they are allowing themselves to be a part of a totally pagan religion. God came against His people many times for this very thing, mixing worship of Him with the worship of pagan gods. Since December 25th specifically coincides with the birth of the sun god named Phyrgia – hello! This is mixing! In Rome, December 25th was also the time of saturnalia. In the 4th century this pagan ritual was adopted into the Roman church, mixed with the birth of Christ and called the feast of the Nativity. Do we see it? Good and evil. God says "don't eat, don't touch", yet man continues traditions that are pagan to the core.

JESUS, THE FIRST-BORN OF THE NEW CREATURES

The second chapter of Luke gives us a beautiful account of <u>how</u> Jesus was born, <u>why</u> He was born, <u>where</u> He was born and to <u>whom</u>, but the gospels do <u>not</u> indicate <u>a day</u> or even <u>the month</u> of <u>Jesus' birth</u>. Did God forget to include this information? I don't think so. In fact, the real truth is, He knew He was going to be "born again" through baptism. So, why would He even want His birth into the cursed race that He had come to save from sin, to be celebrated? His <u>death and resurrection</u> is what made the rebirth and covenants possible for us and that is exactly what we are to remember especially at **Passover**.

In **Luke 22:15-19** Jesus says:

15 Then He said to them, "With fervent desire I have desired to eat this **Passover** with you before I suffer;

In verse 19

19 And <u>He took bread</u>, gave thanks and <u>broke</u> it, and gave it to them, <u>saying</u>, "<u>This is My body which is given for you</u>; <u>do this in remembrance of Me</u>."

I challenge you to find anywhere in the Bible where Jesus gave a command such as this to celebrate His birth. Let's face it church, the Christmas holiday is not Godly! Even the nativity scene with the three kings bringing gifts to baby Jesus in the manger is a hoax. According to scripture He was a child in a house by the time the entourage arrived there and nowhere does it tell us to re-enact the scenario.

Matthew 2:11

11 And when they had come into <u>the house</u>, they saw <u>the young Child</u> with Mary His mother, and fell down and worshiped Him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to Him: <u>gold</u>, <u>frankincense</u>, and <u>myrrh</u>.

I'm not saying all customs are bad, but God does not approve of those that are of pagan origin or certainly those that are against Biblical teachings. You cannot mix a lie with truth and make it alright with God. All lies originate with Satan. The fact that a Christian church mixes Santa and elves with manger scenes and angels, and colored eggs and rabbits after sunrise services at easter, should be a real warning to her people. This is especially so if their leadership, after hearing truth, chooses to continue in these pagan customs, because they admittedly enjoy them.

John 8:44 says of this kind,

44 You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.

There is no lie in God. If what we are doing involves little white, seemingly harmless lies, we are not acting as His children. We become the deceived and no different than the original pair.

IN CLOSING

If studying and experiencing the Feasts of Leviticus 23 matures us to God's

image, then it's pretty easy to see that the study of Satan's holidays, finding they are pagan, yet choosing to experience them anyway, would shape us into his image. As a prophet once said, "in the end times heaven and hell will meet face to face through the human race". The Feasts that nourish us with Truth will produce the body of Christ, while Satan's counterfeit feasts are feeding lies and shaping a people for the body of the one that is against truth, the father of the lie.

II Thessalonians 2:9-12

9 The <u>coming of the lawless one</u> is <u>according</u> to the <u>working of Satan</u>, with all power, signs, and lying wonders,

10 and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved.

11 And <u>for this reason</u> <u>God</u> will <u>send them strong delusion</u>, that <u>they</u> should <u>believe the lie</u>,

12 that they <u>all may be condemned</u> who <u>did not believe the truth</u> but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

Since Jesus is the Way, Truth and Life, these become anti-Christ, the body of Satan.

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