

WORD OF THE WEEK

The Subject: Christmas Tree

Jeremiah 10:2-5 – Learn not the way of the heathen – for the customs of the people are vain: for one cutteth a tree out of the forest, the work of the hands of the workman, with the axe. – They deck it with silver and with gold; they fasten it with nails and with hammers that it move not. – They are upright as a palm tree --

upright – Hebrew: Miqshah – rounded work; curls and stresses (as seen on a Christmas tree) molded by hammering

1 Kings 16:33 – And Ahab made a grove; and Ahab did more to provoke the Lord God of Israel to anger than all the kings of Israel that were before him.

grove – Hebrew: asherah – Astarte; Phoenician (Sidonian) goddess; upright or straight; a tree

The "Christmas Tree" finds its beginning at Babylon as the Ashtaroth (the female moon deity represented as a tree). Upon the expulsion of this sun and moon (Baal and the Groves) worship from Babylon, the "Seat of Satan" relocated at Pergamos (Rev. 2:13). The king of Pergamos (Attalus III) died and left his Chaldean system of magic and superstition to Rome by will and testament. Upon organizing the Romanist Church, Constantine not only implemented the Chaldean system of Sun and Moon worship into his church, he adapted their annual 7 day festival of drunken revelry and riotous immorality. This festival, called The Saturnalia, was given the name of Christmass within the church. The Astarte (grove - Ashtaroth - Venus) or "Christmas Tree" was an integral part of this festival. From *The Two Babylons* by Alexander Hislop:

The Christmas tree now so common among-us, was equally common in pagan Rome and pagan Egypt. In Egypt, that tree was the Palm Tree; in Rome it was the "fir". The mother of Adonis, the sun god and great mediatorial divinity, was mystically said to have been changed into a tree, and when in that state to have brought forth her divine son. If the mother was the tree, the son must have been recognized as "Man the Branch" (a corruption of Zechariah's prophecy concerning Christ, the Branch of God (Zech. 6:12). This accounts for the putting of the yule-log into the fire on Christmas Eve and the appearance of the Christmas tree the next morning. As Zero-Ashta, "The seed of woman," which name also signified "born of the fire" (the fire god), he has to enter the fire on "Mother night" (December 24th in the ancient world), that he may be born the next day (December 25th) out of it, as the "Branch of God", or the Tree that brings all divine gifts to men.

Thus, we see on Christmas morning the gifts under and around the tree as his gifts to his worshipers. December 25th was known far and wide throughout the pagan world as the exact birthday of Adonis the tree god (Allah) of Babylon. This Venus-Tree worship along with her consort Baal (the sun) corrupted Israel invoking the wrath of God for their idolatry. This goddess of the groves was imported from Babylon (Iraq) into Israel upon the marriage of Ahab, King of Northern Israel, to Jezebel, the daughter of Ethbaal, a priest of the Ashtoreth of Babylon (1 Kings 16:31). God's judgment for such wickedness has been to purge Israel for 2600 years with sword, famine, pestilence and the beast (Jer. 29:17-19). Jesus was born of a virgin. He was God in the flesh. He died and shed his blood as an atonement for sin that all who believe in him will have eternal life. However, Christmas (the Saturnalia) and The Christmas Tree (Venus - the groves) have nothing to do with his birth. We have corrupted ourselves.

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