

Our worship must not only be of the spirit and from the heart, but also grounded in truth. Thus, if any aspects of Christmas and Easter are not grounded in truth, then obviously we have a problem in the compatibility of what the Father wants from us.



## Jeremiah 17:9


“The heart is deceitful above all things, And desperately wicked; Who can know it?”

We must Draw a Line Between

**Truth** & Tradition

## Romans 8:26

26 At the same time the Spirit also helps us in our weakness, because we don't know how to pray for what we need. But the Spirit intercedes along with our groans that cannot be expressed in words.



Not only do we now know how He does not like to be worshipped in the form of ancient sun god traditions, but now He has told us, through His son **Yeshua**, what He would rather have. According to our *Messiah*, we need to worship in spirit and truth, not in spirit and what is false, BECAUSE...that is what the Father is seeking...and that is what He wants.




So, is that what we want?  
Truth ?

To worship in Truth?

We must Draw a Line Between

**Truth** & Tradition



We then must ask, are sun gods traditions true, or false ways? If we really want a relationship with our Creator, if we really care about the way He feels, if we really care about how much He loves us. Then we should care about Him, let's serve Him and worship Him in spirit and truth-only truth.




## 1 Thessalonians 5:20-21

20 Don't despise what God has revealed. 21 Instead, test everything. Hold on to what is good.

We must Draw a Line Between

**Truth** & Tradition




Then let's test everything, and  
determine if Christmas and  
Easter are good...


We must Draw a Line Between

**Truth** & Tradition






1) We need to determine if Christmas and Easter are rooted in sun god holidays and traditions...if they are, Yahweh, who never changes, says he detests such things, and he pleads with us multiple times for us to not worship him in such ways.




2) We also need to determine if Christmas and Easter are rooted in things that are not truth, but instead what is false, because we are told the Father desires us to only worship in spirit and truth and we need to respect that.



We are not setting out to discover what Christmas and Easter often means to us, or even means to you, but instead, what it means to God...not our way, but His way. What we think doesn't matter...and the reality is this, what you think doesn't matter. The **ONLY THING THAT MATTERS**, is what God thinks.

We must Draw a Line Between

**Truth** & Tradition




In His love, He gives us grace...In our  
love back, He simply asks for  
obedience:

**1 John 5:3**

For this is the love of God, that we  
keep his commandments. And his  
commandments are not burdensome.

We must Draw a Line Between

**Truth** & Tradition



His law, His commandments, His instructions...what He wants for us...that is freedom...true freedom from the world's ways, and freedom in His ways.

We must Draw a Line Between

**Truth** & Tradition



## Psalm 119:44-45

So shall I keep thy law  
continually forever and ever.  
And I will walk at liberty: for I  
seek thy precepts.

We must Draw a Line Between

**Truth** & Tradition




## John 8:32

And you shall know the truth,  
and the truth shall make you  
free.

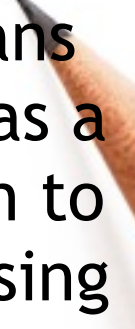
We must Draw a Line Between

**Truth** & Tradition




It is so funny how times change...believe it or not, at one time, in the early U.S. settlements, Christmas was illegal. Christmas was banned in America, not by any representative of the American Civil Liberties Union, but by Christians themselves.





"Christmas was once banned in Boston. The Puritans forbade the celebration of Christmas because it was a 'pagan feast.' Episcopalians were the first in Boston to observe the holiday. They were followed by increasing numbers of young people who raised 18th century eyebrows with 'frolics, a reveling feast and ball.' But it wasn't until 1856 that the legislature--recognizing a losing battle when it saw it--gave in and made Christmas a legal holiday." (The Phoenix Gazette, December 22, 1967)



Were the early U.S. Christians  
right? Or were they simply  
misinformed and misled...and  
then we just went the right  
direction since then?

We must Draw a Line Between

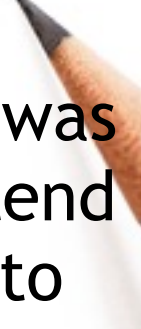
**Truth** & Tradition




"We have no superstitious regard for times and seasons.

Certainly we do not believe in the present ecclesiastical arrangement called Christmas: first, because we do not believe in the mass at all, but abhor it, whether it be said or sung in Latin or in English; and, secondly, because we find no Scriptural warrant whatever for observing any day as the birthday of the Savior; and, consequently, its observance is a superstition, because not of divine authority."


-Charles Spurgeon, Sermon on Dec. 24, 1871



"When it can be proved that the observance of Christmas, Whitsuntide, and other Popish festivals was ever instituted by a divine statute, we also will attend to them, but not till then. It is as much our duty to reject the traditions of men, as to observe the ordinances of the Lord. We ask concerning every rite and rubric, "Is this a law of the God of Jacob?" and if it be not clearly so, it is of no authority with us, who walk in Christian liberty."-Charles Spurgeon's Treasury of David on Psalm 81:4.



Clearly, times have changed...most pastor's would not dare to say the things Spurgeon taught on Christmas, they would lose their whole congregation. Is that a reason not to speak truth? The whole world seems to be all about Christmas and Easter. Many who celebrate these days are not even part of the Christian faith...so what gives?



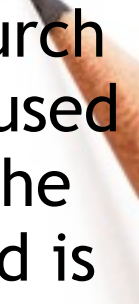
Since when is the world all about  
Godly things?

Since when is the world all about  
Biblical things?


Why does the world get so  
excited about Christmas and  
Easter?

We must Draw a Line Between

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Spurgeon went back as far as the Roman Catholic Church and declared that institution as the vehicle that was used to inject the pagan sun god ways and customs into the Body of the Messiah. And now we know why the world is so interested in those days...because the world is not interested in the things of God. That of course does not speak too well about Christmas and Easter. The world actually loves those days. The world hates things of God, yet loves Christmas and Easter. Have you considered that? Do the math, right? The question is *why*?




What we will find is that Christmas and Easter are most certainly rooted in what is false, in cultic pagan sun god traditions, not rooted in truth like He says He desires in our worship of Him. What we will find is not only does secular academic work prove these things without a shadow of a doubt, that even the most prominent and educated Christians scholar's basically plead "no contest" and have no defense against the origins and nature of Christmas and Easter.





“Gradually a number of prevailing practices of the nations into which Christianity came were assimilated and were combined with the religious ceremonies surrounding Christmas. The assimilation of such practices generally represented efforts by Christians to transform or absorb otherwise pagan practices.



The Feast of Saturnalia in early Rome, for example, was celebrated for 7 days from the 17th to the 24th of December and was marked by a spirit of merriment, gift giving to children and other forms of entertainment. Gradually, early Christians replaced the pagan feast with the celebration of Christmas; but many of the traditions of this observance were assimilated and remain to this day a part of the observance of Christmas. Other NATIONS, the Scandinavians, Germans, French, English and others, have left their mark . . . as well (The Zondervan Pictorial Encyclopedia of the Bible) (pp. 804, 805).



## Jeremiah 10:2

Thus says Yahweh “Do not learn  
the way of the nations”

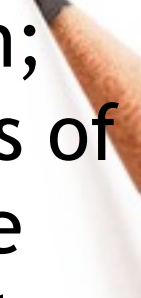
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**Concerning these ancient elements, The Christian Encyclopedia says:**

Various symbolic elements of the pagan celebration, such as the lighting of candles, evergreen decorations, and the giving of gifts, were adapted to Christian signification. Later as Christianity spread into northern Europe, the Celtic, Teutonic, and Slavic winter festivals contributed holly, mistletoe, the Christmas tree, bonfires, and similar items. (The Christian Encyclopedia)




The giving of presents was a Roman custom; while the Yule tree and Yule log are remnants of old Teutonic nature worship. Gradually the festival sank into mere revelry . . . . The custom was forbidden by an act of parliament in 1555; And the reformation brought in a refinement in the celebration of Christmas by emphasizing its Christian elements. (Unger's Bible Dictionary)




So basically, Christmas was illegal because of the sun god elements, until we “Christianized” the sun god worshipping traditions.

"The observance of December 25 (as a Christian festival) only dates from the fourth century and is due to assimilation with the Mithraic festival of the birth of the sun" ~(World Popular Encyclopedia, Volume 3). (093)




So, now you know why the date December 25<sup>th</sup> was chose...not because our Messiah was born on that date, but because the sun god Mithra was born on that date. There is substantial evidence that Y'shua was not born in December, but born in the Fall, most likely during Yom Teruah to the Feast of Sukkot.




Eventually we realize that the early Roman Catholic Church could not discontinue the pagan sun god practices, so they adopted the practices themselves, completely giving into a “*if you can’t beat them, then join them,*” approach....







The transition from festivals commemorating the birth of a sun god to a celebration ostensibly for the Son of God occurred sometime in the fourth century. Unable to eradicate the heathen celebration of Saturnalia, the Church of Rome, sometime before 336 A.D., designated a Feast of the Nativity to be observed. - James Taylor, "Christmas," in *The New International Dictionary of the Christian Church* (J. D. Douglas, ed.; Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1974), p. 223.




Many of the customs associated with Christmas also took their origins from the heathen observances. The exchanging of gifts, extravagant merriment, and lighting of candles all have previous counterparts in the Roman Saturnalia. The use of trees harkens back to the pagan Scandinavian festival of Yule.~James Taylor, "Christmas," in *The New International Dictionary of the Christian Church* (J. D. Douglas, ed.; Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1974), p. 223.



"On the Roman New Year (January 1), houses were decorated with greenery and lights, and gifts were given to children and the poor. To these observances were added the German and Celtic Yule rites . . . Food and good fellowship, the Yule log and Yule cakes, greenery and fir trees, gifts and greetings all commemorated different aspects of this festive season.



Fires and lights, symbols of warmth and lasting life, have always been associated with the winter festival, both pagan and Christian" (Encyclopedia Britannica, 15th edition, Micropaedia, Vol. II, p. 903, "Christmas").



"December 25, the birthday of Mithra, the Iranian god of light and...the day devoted to the invincible sun, as well as the day after Saturnalia, was adopted by the [Roman Catholic] church as Christmas, the nativity of Christ, to counteract the effects of these festivals." [The New Encyclopedia Britannica.]