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Exodus 32:2-4

So Aaron said to them, "Take off the rings of gold that are in the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me." 3 So all the people took off the rings of gold that were in their ears and brought them to Aaron. 4 And he received the gold from their hand and fashioned it with a graving tool and made a golden calf. If the Israelites were trying to make Yahweh in a physical form, as a mediator to replace Moses, it was certainly no accident that the Israelites chose a calf. Why? Why did they choose a calf to represent Yahweh? In scripture, God is often likened to an ox, even in the context of the Exodus.

Numbers 24:8 "God brings him out of Egypt; He has strength like a wild ox;

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When reading the Bible it is better to have an Ancient Hebrew perception of God rather than our modern western view. The word *el* was originally written with two pictographic letters, one being an ox head and the other a shepherd staff. The ox represented strength and the staff of the shepherd represented authority.

Exodus 32:4

4 And he received the gold from their hand and fashioned it with a graving tool and made a golden calf. And they said, "These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!"

Exodus 32:5-6

When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it. And Aaron made a proclamation and said, "Tomorrow shall be a feast to the LORD (Yahweh)." 6 And they rose up early the next day and offered burnt offerings and brought peace offerings. And the people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play.

Aaron declares that the feast is for Yahweh...and then they offer gifts to Him. Unfortunately, this is the way of Cain mentality to the extreme... You might be thinking, in my Bible says LORD, not Yahweh. But recall what we mentioned earlier, anytime that we see Lord in all capital letters in English Bibles, we know that it is intentionally replacing the Tetragrammaton YHWH, or as we often pronounce it, Yahweh.

Anyone can look into any Hebrew concordance and see for themselves that Aaron literally dedicated the feast to Yahweh, the God that took them out of Egypt This proves without a doubt that the Israelites were simply trying to replace Moses and connect to Yahweh in different way. The Israelites were not trying to make "gods" so to speak but "God" - Elohim. They chose a calf for Yahweh because He is Elohim.

This is what is important to understand, because this is what they did. They chose to invent their own feast, their own holiday, to Yahweh instead of the feasts outlined in Leviticus 23. They chose to worship God their own way, instead of God's way. They sincerely thought that they were doing the right thing. They thought it was ok to make up their own holiday for Yahweh and worship Him how they chose.

But clearly, despite the fact that the Israelites were sincerely attempting to worship God, even dedicating the day to Him, giving gifts to him, God did not see it that way. They were worshipping God through the pagan practice of using things to worship God, and declaring and putting into effect a false holiday. They even made offerings to Yahweh...they really thought that Yahweh would accept their worship, just like Cain did. The way of Cain. This is exactly what we do with Christmas and Easter....we take the ways of man, ways of false gods, and then offer them all up to God and expect Him to smile, while we please ourselves in the process.

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We can still be claiming to be worshipping the one true God, but if we abandon His way and do it our own way, we are actually worshipping false gods in the process...sadly, we are worshipping ourselves...bowing down to ourselves, and following ourselves...We're following our own instructions instead of his. How does He want us to worship Him?

John 4:23-24

But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father is seeking such people to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth."

How does He not want us to worship Him?

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Deuteronomy 12:4 You must NOT worship the LORD (Yahweh) your God in THEIR way.

What ways should we not learn?

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Jeremiah 10:2 "Learn not the way of the nations...

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Christmas and Easter are not rooted in truth. They come from false ways of worshipping false gods. These are the ways of the nations...ways He has told us not to learn. It might be surprising to many, but God is not on the same page of the let's keep Christ in Christmas bandwagon. God does not appreciate the Cain mentality, the mentality that says it's ok in one's heart to worship God in the way we choose, contrary to the way that He requests.

We must learn from the mistakes of Israel, who, doing what was right in their own mind, chose to worship God in their own way, offering Him a new holiday, a new festival, with gifts and worship up to Him. Cain was also sincere...Israelites with the golden calf were sincere...our intent in celebrating Christmas and Easter may be very sincere as well...

But the problem is this...according to God....not according to us or not according to anyone else, despite all of the theologians promising you it's simply ok....God Himself said no, it is not ok, it is not how I want to be worshipped. He loved us so much that He sent His own son that we might live! That being said, let's live for Him, in His ways, not our way. Let's love Him back in the way He has told us He wants to be loved.

1. The Deuteronomy 12:31 Test: Are the origins of Christmas and Easter of cultic pagan sun god traditions, and thus an attempt to worship unchanging Yahweh in a way that He hates, as the nations worship their gods.

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2. The John 4:24 Test: Are the days of Christmas and Easter worshipping God in ways that are truth or in ways that are false, as the Father only wants us worshipping in spirit and in truth.

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We then found that the common and only Christian theologian defense for observing Christmas and Easter is that those days were "Christianized" and thus we, as man, made something evil into something good; that we can worship God in our own way, despite what God asks for or instructs. We discovered that such thinking was the mind of Cain, and spawned such events as the Israelites with the golden calf.

Now what we want to find out is, 'how did all these cultic pagan sun god days and traditions become part of the practices of the Christian faith?' To answer that, we need to go back to the time of Nimrod. We can find the story of Nimrod in the Bible and the Babylonian legends. The ancient Babylonians began the mother \child cult worship, which is still alive and well today. Nimrod of the Bible was the founder of this false religion. He is also known as Ninus in historical documentation. Scripture says that Nimrod was a mighty hunter before Yahweh. The primary regions of his kingdom were Babel, Erech, Akkad, and Calneh in the land of Shinar. From that land he went to Assyria, where he built Nineveh, Rehoboth-Ir, Calah, and Resen, which is between Nineveh and the great city of Calah.

Genesis 10:8-9

Cush fathered Nimrod; he was the first on earth to be a mighty man.* He was a mighty hunter before the LORD. Therefore it is said, "Like Nimrod a mighty hunter before the LORD (Yahweh)." The fact that Nimrod was "a mighty hunter" does not necessarily only infer that Nimrod was a great gamesman. He was also a conqueror and hunter of men. Furthermore, the Hebrew preposition in verse 9 could and should be translated "against Yahweh."

The Historian Romani Scriptorium states that:

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Ninus strengthened the greatness of his acquired dominion by continued possession. Having subdued, therefore, his neighbors, when, by an accession of forces, being still further strengthened, he went forth against other tribes, and every new victory paved the way for another, he subdued all the peoples of the east. Thus, Nimrod was most certainly feared in his day. The great city he built was Babel, later called Babylon. He also built Nineveh, which actually means "the habitation of Ninus." Semiramis was married to Ninus, or Nimrod. After Ninus died, Semiramis continued the pagan worship he had inspired and declared that Ninus had become the Sun god and was to be worshipped. She had an illegitimate son and named him Tammuz. To conceal her adultery, she claimed that Tammuz was supernaturally conceived in her by the rays of the Sun which she claimed was her dead (but now alive) husband Nimrod, who had become the sun god - and that Tammuz was actually the reincarnated Ninus. This Tammuz is the exact same one we see in Scripture, where women in the temple of Yahweh facing east and worshipping and weeping for Tammuz.

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Ezekiel 8:14

Then he brought me to the entrance of the north gate of the house of the LORD (Yahweh), and behold, there sat women weeping for Tammuz.