A large, spreading tree with dense green and yellowish foliage dominates the foreground. The tree is set in a desert landscape with rocky ground and sparse vegetation. In the background, there are low hills under a clear blue sky with a few wispy clouds. The overall scene is bright and sunny.

THE  
SACRED NAME  
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All quotes in The Sacred Name Broadcaster are from The Sacred Scriptures, Bethel Edition, 1981, Assemblies of Yahweh, Bethel, PA 19507, unless otherwise stated. All translations of the Bible quoted herein have been corrected to be consistent with the oldest available manuscripts. Copies of The Sacred Scriptures, Bethel Edition, are available. For information about purchasing your copy, write to Assemblies of Yahweh.

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**Founder and Author:** Elder Jacob O. Meyer

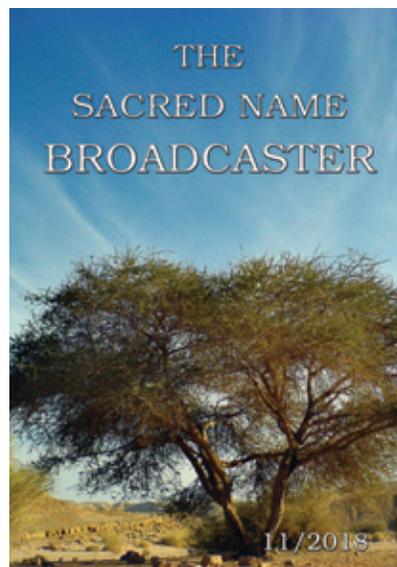
## Our Cover:

Our cover this month shows a scene from the arid land of southern Israel. Within a short distance of the wilderness of Zin, the terrain changes and becomes lush and green.

How many times do we become disheartened and give up before we achieve our goal? Do we—like Israel in the wilderness—murmur against Yahweh, not believing that our life situation will improve? Do we show faith or doubt in times of trial?

**"The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; and the desert shall rejoice, and blossom as the rose. It shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice even with joy and singing...."** (Isaiah 35:1-2a).

Eye has not seen, nor have ears heard of what things Yahweh has prepared for those who love Him.





# Heathen Ways

by Elder Jacob O. Meyer

As we near the close of the common year, customarily the thoughts of average individuals turn toward the observance of the popular, worldly holidays (Chr-stmas and New Year). During the course of conversation in many life settings during this time of year, people of the world usually wish each other “Merry Chr-stmas” and “Happy New Year.” There is little else people seemingly think about at this time!

The True Worshipers—the members of the Assemblies of Yahweh—do not observe these worldly holidays. When people of the world wish them “Merry

Chr-stmas” and “Happy New Year,” they will respond that they don’t observe those holidays, because they are unscriptural. Such a reply usually amazes the hearer! When a discussion ensues (and it usually does) regarding the stand that the True Worshiper has taken, people cannot seem to comprehend that celebrating Chr-stmas as the birthday of the Messiah is totally UNSCRIPTURAL. Nor is it necessary to observe the Messiah’s birthday to be a dedicated child of the Most High, for there is no scriptural commandment to do so.

Nevertheless, those convic-

tions are absolutely true! The True Worshiper will be keeping the commandments of Yahweh along with his faith in Yahshua the Messiah, rather than the ways of the world. **“And the dragon became exceedingly angry with the woman, and went away to make war with the remnant of her seed, that keep the commandments of Yahweh, and hold the testimony of Yahshua...Here is the patience of the saints; They that keep the commandments of Yahweh, and the faith of Yahshua.”** (Revelation 12:17; 14:12). Can you comprehend that the commandments of Yahweh

identify the Old Testament Law? The True Worshiper will live by every Word which proceeds from the mouth of Yahweh (Matthew 4:4).

When we tell people that we do not keep Chr-stmas and New Year's Day (and Easter), because mention of them cannot be found in the Bible, the True Worshiper usually has to confront several questions immediately. "Don't you believe in the Messiah, because you don't keep His birthday?" The answer to that question is, "Yes, we do believe in the Messiah of the New Testament! However, HIS BIRTHDAY WAS NOT ON DECEMBER 25." We respond that when we faithfully keep Yahweh's annual holy days, we actually keep the Messiah's birthday during the Feast of Tabernacles. Amazingly, the term *Chr-stmas* is never found in the Bible! Actually the term is derived from Roman Catholicism, and it means *the mass of Chr-st*. How can anyone keep a mass when that type of religious

service is not scriptural? Derived mostly from superstitions, a mass is not at all representative of True Worship. It was never a part of the Apostolic Assembly practice.

Although passages are quoted from the Bible to support it, actually, the doctrines of Roman Catholicism are proof texted, for the most part. They are **not the product** of an inductive study of the Sacred Scriptures—the Bible study method that humbly allows the scriptural facts to dictate sound doctrine and regulate the life of the True Worshiper.

The Bible always speaks in plain terms of keeping the Law of Yahweh. The recorded episodes of the life of Yahshua the Messiah include frequent mention of the feast days listed in Leviticus 23, as the holy days which the Messiah Himself observed. (John 10:22 also tells us that the Messiah was in Jerusalem for the feast of dedication, today commonly called Hanukkah.)

The emphatic comment that

a worldly individual commonly directs at the True Worshiper is this: "*Chr-stmas is for kids. What do you do for the kids? You are harming your children psychologically by not allowing them to enjoy the Chr-stmas celebration. What could be wrong with that?*"

The answer to those questions is very simple. The True Worshiper—a member of the Assemblies of Yahweh—faithfully observes Yahweh's annual holy days of Leviticus 23. These feast days are described as holy convocations (a calling together for sacred worship), wherein the family of True Worshipers gathers together to offer praise and thanksgiving to Almighty Yahweh and to be instructed in His ways. When the True Worshiper keeps the feast days of Leviticus 23, his children also find great joy and gladness in obeying the Word of Yahweh. Furthermore, the parents teach their children that the worldly holidays must be avoided, since they come from paganism, and they are based upon many falsehoods.

No, we don't set up Chr-stmas trees! We do not believe in a Santa Claus, nor do we have Rudolph the red-nose reindeer, or the Grinch that stole Chr-stmas, or Bob Cratchit and his son Tiny Tim, or Ebenezer Scrooge. We do not sing Chr-stmas carols. But it always gives True Worshipers great joy to be worshiping Almighty Yahweh on the very days which He has specified that we shall assemble to worship Him. Our children also enjoy the gathering of believers. Furthermore, we are not suggesting that the children believe lies, as do the members of ch-rchianity who follow their fallacious practices.

Did you know that the world today has found a new savior?



Let me repeat what the author heard on a business report on the radio some time ago. The announcer made the statement that the merchants in the United States are hoping for an especially lucrative Chr-stmas shopping season that will **save** their businesses, since some firms make as high as 60 percent of their profits between Thanksgiving and Chr-stmas. Horrors! I thought. Has commercialism become the modern *savior* of the United States? But then the chilling reality struck. Yes, indeed! THE UNITED STATES MERCHANTS VERY HEAVILY RELY ON COMMERCIALISM. Our economy looks toward **commercialism** as their savior, rather than to the True Messiah, although the people of the world appeal to the Messiah of the Bible to legitimize their materialistic avarice.

But the J-sus Chr-st that the worldly ministers say they intend to restore to the **Chr-stmas celebration** is not the true Savior of the world. Our Messiah was a Jew. He was born a Jew during the holy days of Leviticus 23, which His parents faithfully observed. He was actually born on the first day of the Feast of Tabernacles (John 1:14) and he was circumcised on the eighth day. He lived His life as a Jew and, as an obedient son, obeyed the Law (the Torah, the commandments) of His Father in heaven (Almighty Yahweh). He lived a life free from sin—transgression of the Law (1 John 3:4). He never heard of December 25 as His birthday, nor did He even hear of Santa Claus and his reindeer, or the term Chr-stmas. He never sang Chr-stmas carols, and He never heard the popular Chr-stmas stories of this time of year. All of these Chr-stmas traditions and customs and

customs are an admixture of pagan customs adhering to the Sacred Scriptures to gain some semblance of legitimacy.

### **Modern Chr-stmas Customs Are Pagan!**

It is only during the past few decades that Chr-stmas has been observed as lavishly as it is kept today. This year, even before the national Thanksgiving Day, one could already see Chr-stmas trees being set up in the houses around the area of Bethel. Chr-stmas lights were being strung, and the decorations were quickly displayed in all of the places of businesses even before Thanksgiving Day.

Nevertheless, the author can remember speaking to his great-grandparents (who were born in the early 1860s). These forefathers of ours lamented the trends leading toward a more lavish observance of Chr-stmas, in the 1930s and 40s, before they died. What would they say now? They used to describe how the Chr-stmas in their youth consisted only of a mention that December 25 was the Messiah's birthday, whereupon their parents would give them oranges and a small amount of candy. Many times they even attended school on Chr-stmas day! Today, an extended vacation is scheduled for the Chr-stmas season. People throw a tremendously lavish celebration. Just as in ancient Rome, the activities of the world come to a complete halt on Xmas day. It seems to have become the most holy day of the year!

One need only read the book, **History of the Plymouth Plantation**, to learn how early colonists felt about Chr-stmas. The Pilgrim fathers, who immigrated to the United States

***All of these Chr-stmas traditions and customs are an admixture of pagan customs adhering to the Sacred Scriptures to gain some semblance of legitimacy.***

of America and settled in Massachusetts, clearly stated that they did not keep Chr-stmas, because it was derived from a pagan source. Let us see.

*“Herewith I shall end this year—except to recall one more incident, rather amusing than serious. On Chr-stmas Day, the Governor called the people out to work as usual; but most of the new company excused themselves, and said it went against their consciences to work on that day. So the Governor told them, if they made it a matter of conscience, he would spare them till they were better informed. So he went with the rest, and left them; but on returning from work at noon he found them at play in the street, some pitching the bar, some at stool-ball, and such like sports. So he went to them and took away their games, and told them that it was against his conscience*

*that they should play and others work. If they made the keeping of the day a matter of devotion, let them remain in their houses; but there should be no gaming and reveling in the streets. Since then, nothing has been attempted in that way, at least openly."*

Notice the footnote at the bottom of the page: "*The Pilgrims did not observe either Chr-stmas Day or Easter, since as they said, they could find no authorization in Scripture for such observance. They branded the celebration of these days as "Roman corruption" and declared that no one who participated in the customary rites could be called a true Chr-stian.*" (William Bradford, **The History of Plymouth Colony**, Classics Club, Roslyn, NY, p.126).

When the author was a boy, his parents did not set up a Chr-stmas tree. Many times, presents were given without even being wrapped. Today, all kinds of decorations are put up and lavish presents are given. Feasting is a usual part of the celebration. **VERY FEW PEOPLE EVEN THINK OF THE SCRIPTURAL MESSIAH!** The convictions of the immigrant Pilgrims have long since been forgotten.

### ***Nonreligious People Avidly Observe Chr-stmas***

Why is it that some of the **most nonreligious people** of the world are the most **avid** observers of Chr-stmas? Even in Japan the holiday has caught on! In various other undeveloped countries, people are currently observing Chr-stmas. Why should people who do not demonstrate any interest in the New Testament Faith keep a day purported to be the birthday of the son of the Most High? The author can recall being in the Caribbean

islands visiting brethren in the Faith and seeing in neighboring houses paper cutouts of Chr-stmas trees thumbtacked to the wall in the houses of those who were unbelievers. (There are no evergreens [pines] in the Caribbean.)

Even in a liberal Jewish publication, the author read a question a year or two ago which went something like this, "*When we live in a society observing a holiday like Chr-stmas as a national type of holiday, should we not join in that celebration with our neighbors?*" The answer was given by the Rabbi who said, "*No, of course not! WE DO NOT FOLLOW THE CUSTOMS OF THE NATIONS.*" Even though this Rabbi was a liberal, he recognized the objectionable pagan customs of Chr-stmas celebration.

### ***When Was the Messiah Actually Born?***

We realize that the world places great emphasis upon the celebration of the Messiah's birthday on December 25, but was that day really His birthday?

Historically we are informed that the date of December 25 was not chosen to be the Messiah's birthday until about the year 221 C.E. It was then that the noted historian, Julius Sextus Africanus of Alexandria, Egypt, who composed the chronicle of events in the history of the world up to 221 C.E. (Common Era), specified December 25 as the birthday of the Messiah. Competing closely with this historian are two other accounts. One of these was by Theophilus of Antioch, 171-183 C.E. (thought to be spurious), and the second is found in Hippolytus' Commentary on Daniel, 202 C.E.

December 25 is closely asso-

ciated with the ancient pagan observance of the winter solstice. The term *solstice* means *sun standing still*. The winter solstice occurs around the 21st day of December. The 25th of December has been arbitrarily chosen to celebrate the day, because on that day the southward movement of the sun has been visibly halted. Eight days later, which today is called January 1, the sun visibly has been observed to have begun its return to the north again, and the pagan peoples would rejoice in the recognition that a new year has begun. Consequently, when this happened, the ancient pagan people would celebrate **the birth of a new sun**. Now that celebration has hailed the birthday of the new **son!**

Apostatizing Chr-stians adopted this day as the birthday of the new *son*, but all of these traditions actually hark back to ancient Babylon when the apostate Nimrod was slain by his great-uncle Shem for Nimrod's rejection of the True Worship of the Most High. Nimrod was symbolically described in mythology as a tree being cut down (later depicted as the yule log), and a new little tree (Tammuz) springing up from the roots of the old one. This is the reason why some ancient heathen peoples brought a pine tree into the house to decorate it, which symbolizes the birth of Tammuz, the reincarnated son of Nimrod and his mother-wife Semiramis.

### ***When Was Yahshua the Messiah Really Born?***

From Luke chapter 1, verse 5, we discover that Zachariah the priest, the father of John the Baptist, was of the course of Abiyah. By turning to 1 Chronicles 24:10, we learn that the course of Abiyah was the eighth course

(or section) of priestly service. This course of priestly service took place **eight weeks after the Passover** and **eight weeks after the Feast of Tabernacles**. Since we have previously mentioned that John 1:14 shows that Yahshua the Messiah was not born at Chr-stmas time, but, rather, during the Feast of Tabernacles (because He tabernacled with us), then we must choose the time of eight weeks after Passover as the setting of the incident in the Temple when Zachariah saw the vision of the angel telling him he would procreate a son in his old age.

Zachariah, thereupon, returned home from Jerusalem, and Elisabeth, his wife, conceived. When she was in the sixth month of her term of pregnancy, an angel appeared to Miriam in Nazareth announcing that she would be the mother of the Messiah and that this was the sixth month of pregnancy with Elisabeth, her relative.

Consequently, by counting yet another nine months, the Bible student arrives at the Feast of Tabernacles, **if all these dates are counted from a scriptural calendar**. Paradoxically, Yahshua the Messiah was conceived just before the winter solstice—**HE WAS NOT BORN AT THAT TIME!**

The astonishing fact is that **these accounts are read around the time of** December 25 (Chr-stmas) each year, **but no one appears to ask the question**—“What does the course of Abiyah mean?” If they would do so, they would begin to study and learn that the course of Abiyah has great significance in determining when the birthday of the Messiah actually occurred. It specifies the date of Yahshua’s birth and clearly

proves that **HE WAS NOT BORN ON DECEMBER 25!**

### *Symbols of Chr-stmas Pagan*

In these modern times, people decorate their homes lavishly and Chr-stmas symbolism pervades the atmosphere of the world at the winter season. The astounding fact is clearly revealed, that **very little** of the symbolism used to represent the Messiah and His supposed birthday on December 25th traces to the account of His birth as described in the Sacred Scriptures. Why do people use these things then, if they are not scriptural? The answer is that they represent the erroneous ideas of ancient pagan people that they wanted to retain in their devotion.

The prophet Jeremiah warns us against assimilating pagan symbolism. Let us turn to Jeremiah 10 and read verses 1-5. ***“Hear the word which Yahweh speaks to you, O house of Israel: Thus says Yahweh, Learn not the way of the nations, and be not dismayed at the signs of heaven; for the nations are dismayed at them. For the customs of the peoples are vanity; for one cuts 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 moves not. They are like a palm tree, of turned work, and speak not: they must necessarily be borne, because they cannot go. Be not afraid of them; for they cannot do evil, neither is it in them to do good.”***

It is Almighty Yahweh (the author of the Bible) who speaks authoritatively to the True Wor-

shiper through the pen of the prophet Jeremiah. The True Worshiper is commanded not to learn, accept, or practice, the ways of the people of the nations (the heathen, pagan peoples).

Let us examine some symbols that appear at Chr-stmas time to determine if they are really scriptural.

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### *The Chr-stmas Tree*

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Nowhere in the Bible can we ever find that Chr-stmas trees, as we know them, are commanded. They are not mentioned except in the passage we have just read where Jeremiah the prophet clearly inveighs against them. As we have previously shown, the worldly traditions accompanying the evergreen tree are manifold. First of all, for pagan nature worshipers, the evergreens represent eternal life, because an evergreen does not become dormant during the winter and lose its foliage, as do deciduous trees. Therefore, this concept was applied to the sun renewing itself—being ever alive.

Furthermore, the ancient traditions indicate that Shem, the



son of Noah, became filled with righteous indignation against his grand-nephew Nimrod who was teaching men to rebel against the authority and Law of Almighty Yahweh over their lives. Shem preached against Nimrod, finally killing him for his apostasy with the sword of his mouth (or perhaps also with a literal sword). But Semiramis, Nimrod's wife-mother, claimed that Nimrod was reincarnated in her son Tammuz, who was born after Nimrod's death. This development was depicted as a little tree springing up from the root of a dead tree stump that had been cut down. Hence, today, when people bring in a Chr-stmas tree, they are depicting a pagan tradition harking back to Genesis 10:8-12. Incidentally, the pagan mighty one Escalapius, (the mythological physician or healer) depicted as a serpent, was represented as wrapping himself around the dead tree stump to give the dead stump life.



*The Yule Log*

Ancient pagan tree worship also took the form of burning a special log during the winter solstice. It was dragged into the house and ignited on Chr-stmas Eve. The yule log has various symbolical meanings. The term **yule** in Chaldean means "child" (similar to the Hebrew term *yalad*). Some authorities claim that the word **yule** means "wheel", and that it honored the rebirth of the wheel-shaped sun. Lighting the yule log was

a major religious ceremony for the ancient pagan Druids. Sadly, it is still being practiced in various places today, although it obviously came from a proven pagan source.



*Chr-stmas Wreaths*

Made from evergreens, the Chr-stmas wreaths are most frequently round. **Evergreen** in pagan mythology symbolizes "eternal life, a never-dying existence." The round form represents the sun (just as do halos in religious art). Today,

many people let their round evergreen wreaths hang on their doors until they turn quite brown and dead. Some people go from year to year allowing an old, dried-up Chr-stmas wreath to hang from their door. Certainly such a practice demonstrates to all the world that they are sun worshipers! (But, perhaps, it is just plain forgetfulness!)



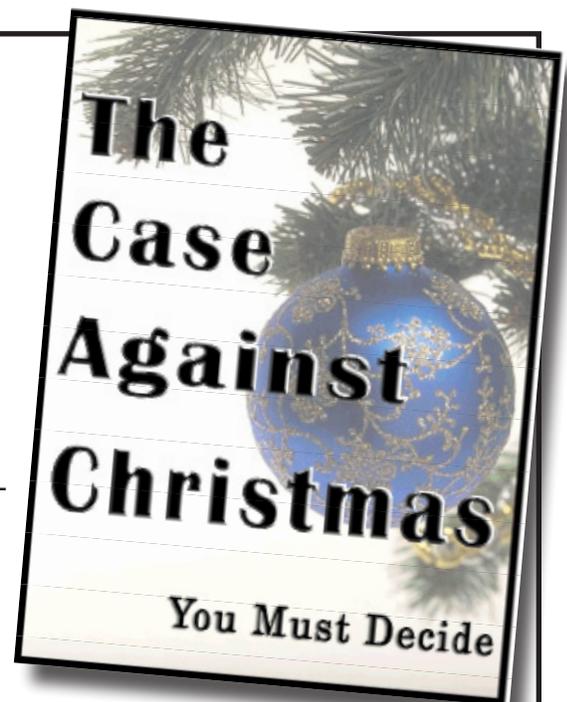
*Mistletoe*

The sensuous innovation of kissing under the mistletoe was borrowed from the ancient

## Learn the Startling Truth About Christmas!

The high point of the pagan religion and secular calendar was, and remains, December 25—Christmas. Revelry and worship, commercialism and customs, ornaments and rituals have been examined and identified in **The Case Against Christmas**, a thorough, scholarly study of this pagan holiday.

*Write today for this free, in-depth study.*



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Druids. Mistletoe was regarded as a branch that dropped from heaven and grew upon a tree on the earth. The mistletoe itself is a parasitic plant, but are not all of these traditions of paganism parasites adhering to True Worship?




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### *Santa and His Reindeer*

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According to various traditions, the American Santa Claus is derived from a certain St. Nicholas of Holland. In German, he is called *Belznikel*. But little information can be discovered in history to corroborate the existence of this so-called saint. Actually, the shortened form **St. Nick** means “St. Satan,” because your dictionary informs you that **Nick** is a appellative of **Satan**. How about that?

Santa’s reindeer obviously hark back to paganism also. The stag was a symbol of the mighty one Nimrod. The symbolism of antlers worn on the head by a notable leader would demonstrate his powers as a hunter, and, therefore, influence people to submit to his authority. From antiquity, the stag was venerated. Additionally, just as the buck (male) deer loses its antlers each winter and then grows new ones each spring, one can perceive the relationship to the “unconquerable sun” and the pagan concept of eternal life.

Tragically, parents will insist that their children believe in a Santa Claus. **THEY WILL INSIST THAT THEIR CHIL-**

**DREN BELIEVE A LIE!** The parents will actually tell their children many lies about this mythical character who comes down a chimney, leaving presents and goodies in the home for Chr-stmas. But the many fictions surrounding the celebrations of Chr-stmas are indeed a violation of the ninth commandment, we must all conclude.

Why not teach children the way to salvation—the Truth of the Bible, which is found in the Sacred Scriptures? Encourage them to believe and live the Truth, and **always tell the truth to your children and grandchildren.** Do you comprehend that such a noble approach will prohibit you from observing Chr-stmas?




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### *Chr-stmas Candles*

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Some writers believe that the burning wax candles represent a phallic symbol. Others explain that lighting candles and placing them before their mighty ones constituted one of the prominent pagan practices of the ancient world. In modern days, lighting candles comprises a central part of the Chr-stmas observance. But **THERE IS NO SCRIPTURAL PRECEDENT FOR USING THEM!**

Doctor Hislop has commented: *“The candles in some parts of England, lighted on Chr-stmas Eve, and used so long as the festive season lasts, were equally lighted by pagans on the eve of*

*the festival of the Babylonish [mighty one], to do honor to him: for it was one of the distinguishing peculiarities of his worship to have lighted wax candles on his altar.”*

*“When every Egyptian on the same night was required to light a lamp before his house in the open air, this was an act of homage to the sun, that had veiled its glory by enshrouding itself in a human form.”* (The previous quotes were taken from Dr. Alexander Hislop’s notable book, **The Two Babylons.**)




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### *The Hogmanay Festival*

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Even to this very day, Scotsmen greet the common new year with a celebration called “Hogmanay.” The traditional Hogmanay feasting begins at midnight with the arrival of a stranger carrying something to drink (malt whiskey is recommended). He should also bring something to eat, especially something like cake or sweet bread. Shortbread made from farm-fresh churned butter or cakes (thick, dark, and fruity) are acceptable. The tradition says that the party light must be kept burning. Music is indispensable to this celebration.

**Chag Meni** in Hebrew and Chaldee means “the Feast of the Numberer.” From this Hebrew term comes the more modern corruption **Hog-manay**. It is prophetically described in Isaiah

65:11. “*But you that forsake Yahweh, that forget my holy mountain, that prepare a table for Fortune [Hebrew—Gad or Gawd], and that fill up mingled wine to Destiny [Hebrew—Meni meaning the number].*” See also the recorded incident of Daniel chapter 5.

This heathen festival, the Feast of the Numberer, Chag Meni (Hog-manay) is still being observed today in a supposedly converted society in Scotland! Why celebrate it, however, since it obviously traces directly back to the ancient pagan Babylon of Nimrod?




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### *Bacchanalia*

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In ancient pagan society (the heathen holidays were called Paganalia—pagan festivals), the festival to Bacchus was always quite popular. The Bacchanalia was characterized by heavy drinking bouts and licentious conduct. Compare that to the modern Chr-stmas office party celebrations today, wherein imbibing is a standard practice. Obviously, for the worldly individual, the spirit of Chr-stmas at the winter holidays comes in a bottle! Where in the Sacred Scriptures do you find described anything like a Chr-stmas party, or imbibing alcoholic beverages with a colleague at Chr-stmas time? The answer obviously is nowhere! NO SUCH PARTY FEATURING HEAVY DRINKING ACCOMPANIES THE

***The symbolism surrounding the celebration of Chr-stmas as the birthday of the Messiah is virtually all derived from paganism.***



BIRTH (OR BIRTHDAY) OF THE TRUE SCRIPTURAL MESSIAH.

### ***Mithraism at the Root***

The Roman armies around the turn of the Common Era were responsible for carrying the pagan, mythological worship of Mithra around the world. It was a popular festival wherein the pagan mighty one was depicted astride a bull as he slaughtered the animal whose blood thereupon drained to the ground, from which came a new productive agricultural year.

The term *Mithra* has several meanings. Some commentators believe that it means *friend*. Perhaps it could mean *dead ruler* or *the exultation of death* or *wrongful death*.

The worship of the mythological Mithra was a fertility rite and it was closely linked to sun wor-

ship and the renewal of the sun at the winter solstice. Its symbolism pleased the Roman soldiers, because it depicted a close connection with power. Some have connected the Chr-stmas celebration with the custom of celebrating the birthday of the Roman emperor.

What probably appealed to Roman soldiers was the designation of the worshipers of Mithra as “soldiers of the faith.” The devotees of Mithra, who were in the Roman armies, seem to have enhanced the idea that the Romans were **invincible**. JUST LIKE THE SUN, THEY COULD NOT BE CONQUERED! From this term comes the term **Sol Invictus** (the unconquerable sun). Perhaps there is a clear relationship here with the Emperor Constantine, who in vision saw

*Continued on page 20.*

# The Worldly Holiday Christmas

an observance created by pagan mankind

by Elder Jacob O. Meyer

People frequently follow customs established by society without questioning where these time-honored traditions have originated. They assume that the world around them accurately portrays the way people ought to live. It is their belief that, since the denominations of nominal Christianity use the Bible in their teachings, they are faithfully following the biblical way of life with the traditions and customs that they observe.

However, your Bible warns continually against accepting the ways of the world. Jeremiah 10:2 admonishes us not to learn the way of the heathen (in Hebrew the term is *goyim*, the nations of this world). The line drawn between the practices of the Apostolic Assembly on the one hand and the religious lifestyle of the world today on the other, is forcefully driven home by a multitude of Scriptures. Just because millions of people practice something is no clear indication

that it is true or that it has been derived from the Bible.

Almighty Yahweh brought Abraham out of Ur of the Chaldees, placing him in the region of the mountains of Canaan to teach him the way of eternal Truth. This can be spiritualized to mean that Yahweh brought Abraham out of the worldly system of Babylon and taught him the True way of life in an isolated place, much as we, the members of the Assemblies of Yahweh today, are being taught.

The nation of Israel—Abraham's descendants—came out of Egypt and spent 40 years in the wilderness learning the ways of Yahweh. Paul describes this in Acts 13:18 by saying, ***“And for about the time of forty years as a nursing father he bore them in the wilderness.”*** Yahweh intended Israel to leave behind the ways of that ancient sinful civilization. Yahweh intended Israel to provide a witness of the Kingdom way of life to the surrounding nations. Your Bible contains a record of the progress

and failures of these people who were to be Yahweh's witnesses.

For a number of years, a file of newspaper and magazine articles relating to the pagan customs attached to the Christmas celebration has been accumulating here at Bethel. Studying the contents of this file in preparation for writing this composition was quite enlightening. The numerous secular authors who wrote these informative articles fully comprehend and understand the obviously pagan origins of the traditions and customs of Christmas (as well as many of the other holidays celebrated by the world). Nevertheless, few and far between are the individuals who actually advocate eliminating these customs from their lives! While they know and comprehend these facts, they will not allow themselves to be corrected by either the biblical, or the secular, evidence. Most of the people of the world reflect this kind of stubborn attitude. Why?

Are you an open-minded person? Have you dedicated your life

exclusively to serving the Most High Heavenly Father? Will you be guided exclusively by the Word of Yahweh the Most High? Do you allow the Bible to correct you? If you can answer in the affirmative to all of these questions, then we would urge you to read this article carefully. Check the facts for yourself from resource material, then make up your mind. The facts published here can be verified in libraries which contain the reference works we have noted.

When the Apostolic Assembly sprang to life, the members totally committed themselves to making their personal preparation for the Second Coming of Yahshua the Messiah. The Apostolic Assembly of the book of Acts was never numerically large. It was a small group, but completely dedicated to obeying Yahweh's Truth.

The brethren of the Apostolic Assembly found themselves in the midst of a very strong government—Rome. The religion of this mighty empire was based primarily upon that of ancient Greece. In the Pantheon, a huge building located in Rome, every major religion was represented and the image of every mighty one was enshrined. Foremost among these pagan mighty ones was Jupiter, the Latin representation of the ancient Greek mighty one, Zeus. So strongly was the religion of Jupiter and Zeus (the father of the mighty ones) imprinted upon the minds of ancient people that evidently some of those pagan religious ideas were subsequently carried over into the Messianic Assembly by people who began to follow the biblical Faith.

December 25 was a sacred day

for the worship of Zeus and other ancient pagan mighty ones. Some writers even claim that Zeus was born on December 25—the winter solstice. Let us note what

***Since they are idolatrous figures representing sun worship, most pagan mighty ones were usually said to be born around the winter solstice, which was anciently set for December 25.***

we find in the historical books of 1 and 2 Maccabees from **The Complete Bible, An American Translation**.

*“And many of the people and everyone who was ready to forsake the Law joined with them and they did wrong in the land, and forced Israel to hide in every hiding-place they had.*

*“On the fifteenth day of Chislew, in the one hundred and forty-fifth year, he erected a dreadful desecration upon the altar, and in the towns of Judah around about they built altars, and at the doors of their houses and in the squares they burned incense, and wherever they found the book of the Law, they tore them up and burned them, and if anyone was found to possess a book of the agreement or respected the Law, the king's decree condemned him to death. The Israelites who appeared from month to month in the towns they treated with force. On the twenty-fifth of the month they offered sacrifice upon the altar which was set up on the altar of burnt offering. The women who had circumcised their children they put to death under the decree, hanging the*

*babies around their necks, and destroying their families and the men who had circumcised them. Yet many in Israel stood firm and resolved in their hearts not to eat what was unclean: they preferred death to being polluted with food or profaning the sacred agreement, and so they died. And Israel suffered intensely.”* (1 Maccabees 1:52-64).

*“Not long after, the king sent an old Athenian to force the Jews to forsake the laws of their forefathers and cease to live according to the laws of [Yahweh], but to pollute the temple in Jerusalem and to call it that of the Olympian Zeus, and to call the one in Gerizim that of Zeus the Hospitable, in keeping with the character of those who lived there. This harshly and most grievously intensified the evil. For the heathen filled the temple with profligacy and revelry, amusing themselves with prostitutes and lying with women within the sacred precincts, and bringing into it things that were forbidden. The altar was covered with abominable offerings, which the laws forbade. A man could not keep the sabbath or celebrate the festivals of his forefathers, or admit he was a Jew at all. On the monthly celebration of the king's birthday, they were taken by bitter necessity to taste the sacrifices, and when the festival of Dionysus was celebrated, they were compelled to wear wreaths of ivy and march in procession in his honor.”* (2 Maccabees 6:11-7).

Why do Christians celebrate Christmas on December 25? Yahshua the Messiah was not born on December 25. Our published article titled, **The Case Against Christmas**, will clearly prove this fact to you if you are

open-minded. Why not write to Assemblies of Yahweh, PO Box C, Bethel PA 19507?

Yahshua the Messiah was, undoubtedly, born on the first day of the Feast of Tabernacles in the fall of the year. This can be ascertained from Luke chapter 1. The word *Chr-stmas* means *the mass of Chr-st*, the mass held in celebration of his birth—a purely Catholic term!

Since they are idolatrous figures representing sun worship, most pagan mighty ones were usually said to be born around the winter solstice, which was anciently set for December 25. Among others, the birthday of Mithra occurred December 25. Mithra symbolized the sun, as did other heathen mighty ones like Osiris, Hercules, and Bacchus, who were also believed to have been born on that day.

Interestingly, China's pagan savior, *Zas*, was born on December 25. (Did you note the close similarity to the Greek word *Zeus*?) Additionally, the Egyptian mighty one Horus, the Hindu mighty one Vishnu, and the Syrian mighty one Tammuz had their birthdays on December 25, as did the Greek mighty one Dionysus, who was a personification of Zeus.

Ancient sun worship provides the key to understanding why *Chr-stmas* today is celebrated on December 25. The seasonal circuit of the earth around the sun was of great concern to ancient agrarian people. On the night between December 24 and 25, the sun was perceived to be furthest from the earth, beginning its journey back from south to north. Since the sun is the light of the world, it could perceptibly remain in the south away from the northern hemisphere, and, therefore, famine would inevitably exterminate the human race if the sun did



***Saturnalia* (1783) by Antoine Callet, showing his interpretation of what the Saturnalia might have looked like.**

not return. Consequently, in the northern hemisphere where most of the early civilizations arose, great rejoicing broke out when the people perceived the sun returning. This is how these mythological traditions originated.

The ancient heathen religions called the sun their savior. Since this solar savior comes, or returns, to save the world suffering from a harsh winter, it means that new life and hope was offered to the people of the world. Therefore, it is not difficult for you to perceive the pagan thoughts retained in some of the modern *Chr-stmas* carols—songs that do not express the true biblical message of the Messiah's birth. The relationship

between ancient pagan sun worship and the modern *Chr-stmas* observance can readily be noted in many facets of the celebration.

In ancient Rome, the time of the *Saturnalia* and *Brumalia* was fixed to occur near the middle of December. These feasts were known as the *Paganalia*. The name *Saturn* meant *abundance*. Distinctive traditions of the *Saturnalia* are closely akin to those of *Chr-stmas* as it is celebrated today.

Gigantic feasts were held throughout *Saturnalia* day. Slaves were given liberty and often were served by their masters at the feast. There was a general suspension of all public affairs. Courts and schools were recessed; commercial and all mil-



**Helios in his chariot, early 4th century BC,  
Athena's temple, Ilion**

itary activities were suspended. Most prominent among the festive dishes served were the boar's head with an apple or orange in its mouth, plum pudding, mince pies, with decorated sweets and cookies for desert. Dolls were frequently given as gifts. Some historians believe that these dolls represented original human sacrifices, since human sacrifices were once offered to Saturn. The term *brumalia* means *winter solstice*. The term *solstice* comes from a combination of words meaning *the sun (sol in Latin) standing still*.

Additionally, parades and mummeries, such as you find at the Pasadena Rose Parade and the Philadelphia Mummer's

Parade, were conducted as an adjunct to the Saturnalia. Such revelry formed an integral part of the extended feasts of Saturn at the winter solstice just as they do today with the Chr-stmas and New Year celebrations. If anyone from the dead were to return from those ancient times, he might conclude that he is right at home among the present-day Chr-stmas and New Year celebrations. Actually, it would seem that the eight-day observance of today has replaced Yahweh's annual festival called the Feast of Tabernacles (Leviticus 23:38-44).

Common in some European countries, especially England, is the yule log. The term yule according to **Webster's New**

**World Dictionary of the American Language, Second College Edition**, is defined as "*orig., the name of a heathen festival at the winter solstice, akin to the [old Norse] jol: cf. JOLLY.*" From this old Norse festival obviously is derived our English term *jolly*, which is used most frequently around the Chr-stmas season to describe the revelry that cannot be supported scripturally.

It is interesting to note that the term *yule* also means *wheel* in the ancient Norse language. The celebration of yule honored the mighty one Woden with the rebirth of the wheel-shaped sun. To use anything with a wheel during the two weeks of rejoicing (work was suspended), such as wagons or spinning wheels, would have been an insult to the sun, implying that it was not moving north fast enough. To hasten the return of the sun, ancient people built huge bonfires (a yule fire utilizing the log). Traps, snares, and fish nets were also brought in so that even the fish, birds, and animals might find yuletide (two weeks, a fortnight; 12 weekdays plus two Sundays), a time of peace. In ancient Chaldean, *yule* meant *the feast of the child*, hence another meaning.

Lighting the yule log signaled the beginning of the holiday merriment. In Britain, it was a religious ceremony for the Druids who blessed the log. The charred remains of the past year's log were used to light the new fire. The burning of the yule log represented the death of the old sun, and the evergreen Chr-stmas tree stood for the annual rebirth of Sol Invictus—the unconquerable sun.

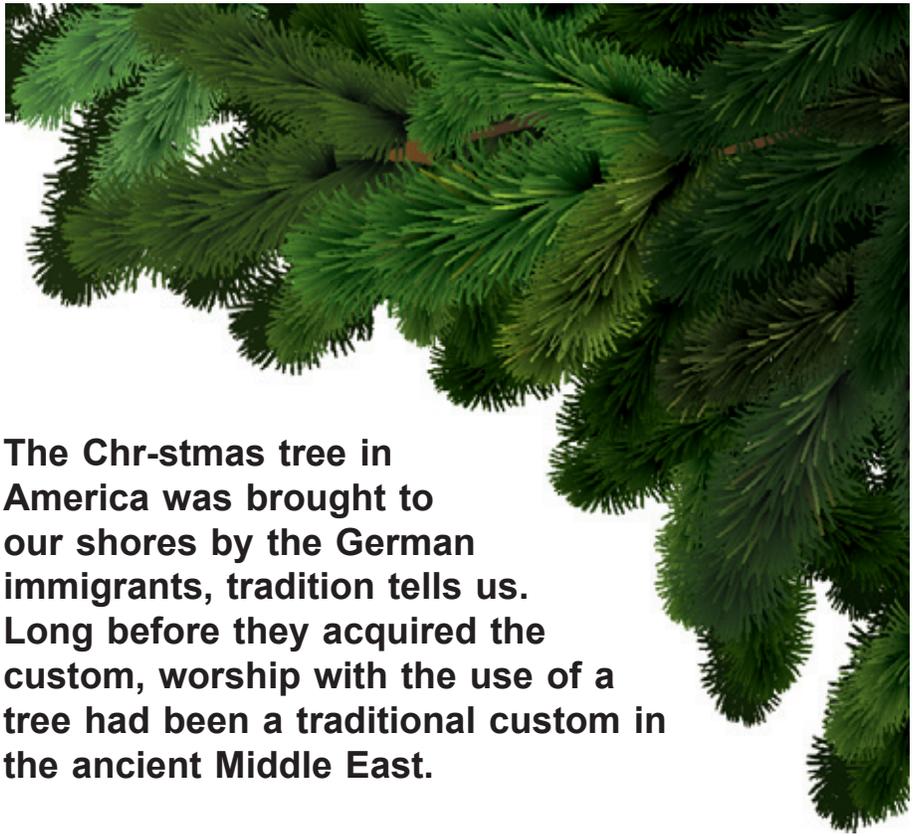
The legend of Santa Claus coming down the chimney also was derived from the early Norsemen. Their stories tell of the mighty one called Hertha appearing on the hearth of the

fireplace and bringing good luck to the house. Therefore, a Santa Claus-type figure came down the chimneys of the ancient Norse households.

Santa Claus is usually called Nick, and you can prove that this was one of Satan's names by checking the word *Nick* in the dictionary. Satan has been masquerading under a variety of names to draw worship to himself. The term *Santa* actually means *saint*, and he was supposed to have been called Saint Nicholas. You will notice in Revelation 2:6 and 15 the term *Nicolaitans*, which is derived from the Greek word *Nike*, who was the evangelist of Zeus. Therefore, the term means *the laity or people of Nike*. Santa Claus is understood to be a contraction of the term *Saint Nicholas*, and this can present a clear association with Nike. Santa Claus, therefore, was sent to announce the advent of the solar mighty one Zeus. Throughout these symbols is an unmistakable, unscriptural atmosphere.

Some traditional beliefs are that the present Santa Claus myth was developed from an actual Saint Nicholas who lived during the fourteenth century. He was credited with miraculous healings. According to one legend, he tossed bags of gold into the windows of three girls who wanted to be married, but had no dowries. Some believe that here is where the custom of giving Chr-stmas gifts began. The wise men, you will remember, did not give gifts to each other, but they gave them TO THE SAVIOR, YAHSHUA THE MESSIAH.

It was the writer Clement Moore in 1822 and the cartoonist Thomas Nast in 1863, who dressed Santa Claus in a red suit with reindeer and toys, and had him coming down the chimney



**The Chr-stmas tree in America was brought to our shores by the German immigrants, tradition tells us. Long before they acquired the custom, worship with the use of a tree had been a traditional custom in the ancient Middle East.**

on Chr-stmas eve. However, the entire corpus of this tradition is based upon telling lies to the children, undermining their faith and trust in spoken truth.

Chr-stmas trees are entirely pagan also. You will notice how Jeremiah 10:2-4 provides a scriptural passage that closely relates to tree worship. ***“Thus says Yahweh, Learn not the way of the nations, and be not dismayed at the signs of heaven; for the nations are dismayed at them. For the customs of the peoples are vanity; for one cuts 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 moves not.”***

The Chr-stmas tree in America was brought to our shores by the German immigrants, tradi-

tion tells us. Long before they acquired the custom, worship with the use of a tree had been a traditional custom in the ancient Middle East. This dated back to the cutting down of the tree, which represented Nimrod. Aesculapius the physician, represented as a serpent, wrapped himself around the dead stump bringing forth a new shoot from its roots with the rebirth or reincarnation of Nimrod's son, Tammuz.

Surprisingly, according to scriptural record, the shepherds and wise men did not arrive at the same time to pay homage to the Savior, as they are depicted in the crèche. Shepherds do not abide in the fields near Bethlehem (Luke 2) and would have, undoubtedly, been tending the sacrificial animals for the Feast of Tabernacles. They were pasturing their animals in a cultivated

field (Greek is *agros*—a field in which agriculture is pursued). The angels did not announce to the shepherds the Messiahs' birth by singing a song, or carol. The angel spoke—angels in the Bible never sing. It is an insult to the Bible student to hear the Chr-stmas carols annually declaring that angels sing songs. But in the Holy Land in winter shepherds abiding in the fields. It is winter, and the flocks are brought into the folds.

When the wise men arrived in Bethlehem, Yahshua and His parents lived in a house, Matthew 2:11. He was no longer in a stable, if He ever was born in a stable. (We are not told that He was, only that He was LAID IN A MANGER.) Yahshua the Messiah was most likely born in a tent out in a field where a small manger stood for feeding animals on pasture. This was then used as a convenient crib for the Messiah. No mention is made that He was born in the inn stable, only that there was no room in the inn for the family of Joseph.

During the month of December, the shepherds around Bethlehem in the Holy Land have brought their flocks into the folds for the winter. Shepherds would not abide in the fields keeping watch over their flocks by night after the eighth month of the biblical year, since the weather turns cold and wet after the Feast of Tabernacles. Notice John 10:22, where we are told that at the Feast of Dedication (Chanukkah), it is winter. The Feast of Chanukkah occurs on Chisleu 25 (December 25).

To this very day, the Scottish people celebrate hogmanay at the winter solstice. The word is said to be derived from the old Norseman-French term *hoguine*, a festival in which New Year's gifts were given

***To restore the pure worship of the Bible and to eliminate from our lives festivals and celebrations displeasing to Almighty Yahweh should be our aim. Let us read the Bible and note for ourselves how groundless are the traditions attached to the Chr-stmas festivities observed today.***

and exchanged. Traditionally, hogmanay feasting begins at midnight with the arriving of a tall, dark stranger. Music is an indispensable part of traditional hogmanay.

But where does this festival actually originate? Is it found in the Bible? Actually, none of the customs, traditions, and festivals attached to the Chr-stmas and New Year holidays can be found to be commanded anywhere in the Bible for the True Worshipers to observe. Some of them are condemned as being pagan. *Hogmanay* actually comes from the Hebrew word for feast (*hog* in Hebrew, or *chag* which means *feast*, and *manay* means *number—from mene*) in Chaldean. Please research Isaiah 65:11

very thoroughly in the original texts where you find that those who forsake Yahweh and the keeping of His commandments are keeping pagan feasts. One of these feasts is furnishing a drink offering to *mene* (the number). Customarily, on New Year's eve, people of the world go dancing and drinking to celebrate the arrival of a new numbered year. (Did you know that the words *money* and *mene* can be traced to a single source? What are the implications? Or do you really care?)

One of the most abominable aspects of the Chr-stmas and New Year celebration is people's quest for the Chr-stmas spirit (that comes out of a bottle). During the Chr-stmas holiday, more people get drunk, more divorces result, more automobile accidents occur from drunken driving, and other tragedies happen that are connected with intemperate use of alcohol, than at any other similar period throughout the year. Evidently, this kind of Chr-stmas spirit is not from Yahweh!

Modern Chr-stmas plants can kill you if you are not careful. Poinsettia, holly, and mistletoe contain deadly poisons that can sicken or kill a child or pet curious enough to eat the leaves. Mistletoe, a parasite plant, was originally used by the Druids to represent a type of peacemaking plant. Kissing under the mistletoe was explained as heaven reaching down to kiss the earth through the rebirth of the sun of heaven. None of these plants are even mentioned in the Bible!

Many people go deeply into debt to buy Chr-stmas presents, a practice which is not at all scriptural. The wise men did not give presents to each other, but they brought presents to

*Continued on page 20.*



## *The Sacred Name Broadcast*

# RADIO MESSAGE

by Elder Jacob O. Meyer

# THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Rather pointedly, the inspired Scriptures ask a question of every person who reads them. You will find this question posed in Proverbs 30:4. It may appear to be rather insignificant and trite, until you learn the correct answer, which may have implications for you which are rather startling. The question, directly from Heaven is this: ***“Who has ascended up into heaven, and descended? Who has gathered the wind in his fists? Who has bound the waters in his garment? Who has established all the ends of the earth? What is his name, and what is his son’s name, if you know?”*** Now what is the answer? Can it be located in the **King James** translation? Where do we go to find the answer?

The brethren of the Assemblies of Yahweh have found the enlightening answer to this question by returning to the original inspired Scriptures as nearly as we can get to them. We have found that the Sacred Name, which has been placed in the inspired Scrip-

tures by an all-knowing Father, is something totally different from the names which are in common use today. The Hebrew Scriptures, through which He spoke to His people, inform us that He declares to us that His Name is “Yahweh.” This Sacred Name has been deliberately deleted from most translations of the Bible, although some of the more modern translations have returned it to its rightful position in the text. For those of you who are interested in the history of the United States and the religious conflicts which caused many of the early immigrants to seek refuge in the New World, this fact may interest you. The Pilgrim Fathers, using their **Ainsworth Psalm Book**, sang the Name *Yah*, and also spelled *Jehovah* with an “I” rather than a “J,” producing a pronunciation more accurate than the way it is pronounced today. Once again, we can detect that the Sacred Name has indeed been evident down through history, although not published prominently.

Was it the Father, or the Son,

who carried the Name Yahweh? We are asked by the writer of Proverbs if we know the Name of the Father and the Son. Do they have separate Names?

As I have shown previously, two distinct beings are evident in the passage of Exodus 23:20-23. One speaks, and another transmits His words to the prophet Moses, who, in turn, will deliver them to the gathered Israelites. No human being has ever had any dealings with the Almighty Heavenly Father, and of this we are informed at several places in the Scriptures (for example, John 1:18). In the Old Testament, Israel only saw the Spirit Being who transferred the instructions of the Heavenly Father. Through His display of awesome power, they assumed that He was the Father who was dealing with them, when, in fact, the Scriptures teach that it was the One who became the Messiah in His pre-existent life. Please allow me to present Philippians 2:5 to 11. ***“Have this mind in you, which was also in the Messiah Yahshua: who, existing in the***

***If the Messiah  
came in His  
Father's Name,  
then He used it,  
He was called  
by it, and He  
proclaimed it. As  
the spokesman  
of the Covenant  
to Israel, He  
delivered the  
message in the  
Name of the  
Heavenly Father  
Yahweh.***

*form of Elohim, counted not the being on an equality with Yahweh a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being made in the likeness of men; and being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, becoming obedient even to death, yes, the death of the torture stake. Therefore also Yahweh highly exalted him, and gave to him the name which is above every name; that in the name of Yahshua every knee should bow, of things in heaven and things on earth and under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Yahshua the Messiah is Master to the glory of Yahweh the Father.”* Did you notice that He was essentially first in the form of the Almighty. Then, He made Himself of no reputation and became obedient to the death of the tree. Commentators feel that the Greek word *Kenoo*, means *that He emptied Himself*—a thought which lends additional verification to the subject. He first appeared in the form of Elohim, but then emptied Himself of His glory to become the Savior of men.

As I stated previously, much confusion has resulted from a misconception of the meaning of the word “Elohim.” In the Hebrew, this word is a plural unity. I might illustrate it by comparing the example of a husband and wife, two human beings who have united to make a home and establish a family. There are, indeed, two individuals—two distinct entities, two physical forms—but they have been united in matrimony. They have united in purpose and determination to achieve their goal, consequently becoming one. *Elohim* comes from the Hebrew word meaning *to be strong or powerful*. Since it has a plural

ending, it should be translated Mighty Ones.

The Jewish people frequently quote the “shema,” which may be found in Deuteronomy 6:4. If you are in a position to do so at this time, please turn to it in your Bible. We read there (Deuteronomy 6:4), and I will give a more accurate translation from the Hebrew then you will find in your **King James** translation, **“Hear O Israel, Yahweh is our Elohim, Yahweh is unity.”** The actual Hebrew phrase reads, “*Shema Israel, Yahweh Elohenu, Yahweh echad.*” The **King James** and the Jews translate the word *echad* to mean *one*. Now if we take the time to check all of the other places in which this same word is used in the Hebrew Old Testament, we will find that the predominant usage is that of one of many, a unity of purpose. Some commentators feel that the Latin word *unus*, meaning *a unity*, would translate it best, rather than the Latin word *unicus* which would be *unique*, or *one*. Notice that the same word *echad* is used in Genesis 2:24, where a man and wife (two) are to become “one flesh.” Yahweh Elohim (plural) is one in purpose and goal!

Now we must come to grips with a verse which was actually spoken by our Savior, Yahshua the Messiah, when He was here on this earth. You may find it in John 5:43. **“I have come in my Father's name, and you receive me not: if another shall come in his own name, him you will receive.”** This verse explains so much of the seemingly incomprehensible difficulties which some people sometimes have with understanding the real concept of the spiritual family. If the Messiah came in His Father's Name, then He used it, He was called by it, and He proclaimed it. As the

Spokesman of the Covenant to Israel, He delivered the message in the Name of the Heavenly Father Yahweh. When He delivered this message verbatim, He spoke for the Heavenly Father, in His place, and the people did not recognize that He was, indeed, only the intermediary.

Let me illustrate again. In wartime, couriers may be utilized in carrying messages. In the height of battle, occasionally, a commanding general will summon a soldier to deliver a message verbally to one of his subordinates in the field. Now the field general has seen, spoken to, and possibly just attended a council of war with his commander. When the soldier courier delivers the message and says, "General Smith orders an attack by your forces upon the left flank of the opposing army," General Jones, who receives it, understands that it is an order transferred by a low-rank soldier to himself, because he had seen and would recognize General Smith by sight. In ancient Israel, the executive officer delivered the message from the Almighty commander. He spoke in the first person, and the people, never having seen the Almighty Father Himself, assumed that they were speaking to the Father.

Now let us go back in the annals of time to the very beginning of this age. We shall return to the time before there ever was a human being on this earth. The creative work is still being done. If you have a Bible edition which points out the Hebrew words that are used in the first chapter of Genesis, you will note that the Sacred Name Yahweh is NOT used in the Hebrew text of Genesis 1. Elohim was the Creator. Human beings were created in the physical image of a Spirit-Being Creator. It is most enlightening to understand

that the **King James** translation, "G-d", in no way can render accurately the meaning of the word Elohim. Again, allow me to reiterate that Elohim means "the Mighty One" or "the mighty Ones." It was the Heavenly Father who said, "**Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.**" (Genesis 1:26). Then, in verse 27, we find that Elohim, the Creator Son, created man in His own image and His own likeness. The plural pronouns are indeed not erroneous in the translation, but reveal the plural unity of the Creator.

Let us read together Colossians 1:13-20. "**...Who delivered us out of the power of darkness, and translated us into the Kingdom of the Son of his love; in whom we have our redemption, the forgiveness of our sins: who is the image of the invisible Yahweh, the firstborn of all creation; for in him were all things created, in the heavens and upon the earth, things visible and things invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers; all things have been created through him, and to him; and he is before all things, and in him all things consist. And he is the head of the body, the assembly: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence. For it was the good pleasure of the Father that in him should all the fulness dwell; and through him to reconcile all things to himself, having made peace through the blood of his torture stake; through him, I say, whether things upon the earth, or things in the heavens.**"

Did you know that your own Bible says that there was once a Yahweh on earth and a Yahweh

**When He delivered this message verbatim, He spoke for the Heavenly Father, in His place, and the people did not recognize that He was indeed only the intermediary.**

# 100-K Club

## DOING A GREAT WORK FOR YAHWEH!

*“And I sent messengers to them, saying,  
I am doing a great work, so that I cannot come down.”*

(NEHEMIAH 6:3A)

During the 1999 Assemblies of Yahweh Feast of Tabernacles, Elder Jacob O. Meyer (OBM) proposed to the brethren who attended that every sincere believer (who is financially able to do so) could offer a special sacrifice of \$1,000 to be used to bring the WMLK radio transmitter up to an output transmission power of 175,000–200,000 watts. The response was immediate and most gratifying! (The term 100-K represents 100 people offering \$1,000.)

The editor believes that some of **The Sacred Name Broadcaster** readers may wish to join this effort if apprised of the opportunity to do so. Consequently, this informative comment has been placed in **The Sacred Name Broadcaster** magazine.

WMLK, the Assemblies of Yahweh international shortwave radio station, is currently being updated and improved. The original transmitter broadcast operated for 15 years. A new antenna has been constructed using the existing towers. Then, in 2000, a used BBC 250,000-watt transmitter was purchased and renovated. On March 22, 2017, the BBC transmitter was damaged by a devastating transformer fire.

A new, state-of-the-art transmitter is being built that will incorporate the latest technology that will deliver a clear, crisp sound with the greatest efficiency available. As we all know, electricity costs have greatly increased; consequently, the higher efficiency will allow us to broadcast more—for less money. Also, the new transmitter will broadcast at 300,000 watts of power, and, in this way, **MOST OF THE INHABITED AREAS OF THE WORLD WILL BE COVERED WITH THIS END-TIME MESSAGE THROUGH THE POWERFUL SIGNAL OF WMLK RADIO**, in fulfillment of the prophecy of Matthew 24:14. *“And these good tidings of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole*

*world for a testimony to all the nations; and then shall the end come.”*

If Almighty Yahweh lays this need upon your heart, and you desire to join us in this endeavor, we pray that His richest blessing will be upon you.

**Send your contributions to Assemblies of Yahweh, PO Box C, Bethel, PA 19507, and mark them—WMLK Upgrading Project.**



in Heaven? Many people overlook this fact and are not impressed by it, although it appears in a familiar scriptural episode. Recognizing the importance of the Sacred Name will reveal a vital message. It all begins on the plain of Mamre. As Abraham was relaxing in his tent door in the heat of the day, he receives a visit from three men, one of whom is Yahweh, the other two being angels in close association with Him. After a meal, the two angels depart for Sodom to investigate the moral character of the town, while Yahweh speaks to Abraham, who, upon learning the purpose of the heavenly visitors, pleads to have his nephew Lot spared from the impending punishment. In chapter 19, the angels have learned that their information concerning the decadent corruption which existed in Sodom and Gomorrah was confirmed by actual personal experience, urgently sent Lot and his family on their flight toward the mountains. After Lot and his family had departed, we read in verse 24, ***“Then Yahweh rained upon Sodom and upon Gomorrah brimstone and fire from Yahweh out of heaven....”*** Do you see the difference the Sacred Name makes in obtaining a better understanding of the message of the Scriptures? Here we have a Yahweh on earth and a Yahweh in Heaven—both united in the purpose of re-establishing morality and divine government on this earth. Evidently, Abraham met with the representative of the Father, the lesser Yahweh, the Son. This Being had power to bring judgment upon a sinful civilization and to exempt Lot, a righteous man. Read again Genesis 18 and 19. Notice carefully Genesis 18:21, 23, and 24, etc.

Another rather confusing verse in the **King James** translation becomes crystal clear by re-

***“And there shall be no curse anymore: and the throne of Yahweh and of the Lamb shall be in it: and his servants shall serve him....”***  
***(Revelation 22:3).***

It has always been so,  
and into eternity the  
Father and Son will still be  
united to rule the world.

turning to the original text and re-inserting the correct Hebrew Name and title into the text. ***“Yahweh says to my Sovereign, Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool.”*** (Psalm 110:1). Yahweh is speaking to David’s Master, who, of course, was Yahshua the Messiah, as He Himself informs us in Matthew 22:41-46. ***“Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Yahshua asked them a question, saying, What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he? They say to him, The son of David. He says to them, How then does David in the Spirit call him Sovereign saying, Yahweh said to my Sovereign, Sit you on my right hand, till I put your enemies underneath your feet? If David then calls him Sovereign, how is he his son? And no one was able to answer him a word, neither dared any man from that day forth ask him any more questions.”***

Known to Israel as Yahweh, the Spokesman—the Son, is the commanding general of the armies of angels. The two angels

who accompanied the Spokesman on His visit to Abraham were probably His top subordinate officers in the angelic army. When Israel entered the Promised Land, Joshua went to scout the town of Jericho in Yahshua 5. He saw there an armed man with a drawn sword. Answering the challenge of Yahshua, this man says, *“As the Captain of the armies of Yahweh am I come. Take off your shoes for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.”* Moses heard EXACTLY the same words in the desert, in Exodus 3:5. Which Mighty One do you serve? Today, I proclaim as did the Psalmist, ***“O Israel, trust in Yahweh: He is their help and their shield.”*** We may see the plurality of the Father and Son most clearly in Revelation 22:3. ***“And there shall be no curse anymore: and the throne of Yahweh and of the Lamb shall be in it: and his servants shall serve him....”*** It has always been so, and into eternity the Father and Son will still be united to rule the world.

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# Heathen Ways

*Continued from page 8.*

the title **In Hoc Signo Vinces** (in this sign conquer). Again, it seems that the connection with the concept of power is unmistakable.

## **Conclusion**

The symbolism surrounding the celebration of Chr-stmas as the birthday of the Messiah is virtually all derived from

paganism. Much more could be written to expose this fraud that is perpetuated today in religious circles. But this brief article has presented merely some of the provable facts to support this assertion.

Why not study this subject for yourself? We have published an exhaustive booklet on the subject entitled **The Case Against**

**Chr-stmas.** It is free for the asking by writing to Assemblies of Yahweh, PO Box C, Bethel, PA 19507. Write in and request it, or telephone our toll-free number 1-800-523-3827. Do it today—right now!

We also have articles on the holy days of Leviticus 23. Why not request them when you write? They are also free. They are titled **Yahweh's Sacred Appointments and How to Keep Yahweh's Holy Days.**

Become an obedient child of the Most High! Keep His commandments and do not learn heathen pagan ways! Then, you will inherit eternal life that has been promised to those who love and obey Him!

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## The Worldly Holiday

# Christmas

*Continued from page 14.*

Yahweh's King, Yahshua the Messiah. Would it not be better to give Yahshua the glory as did the Magi? Better yet, we should keep Yahweh's commanded holy days of Leviticus 23 rather than any birthday.

Among the Hebrew people, birthdays were never observed. It is not wrong to wish each other a joyous birthday, but to engage in birthday parties and other festivities may be traced directly to paganism, especially to that practiced in ancient Rome.

Julius Sextus Africanus was the first person to specify December 25 as Yahshua's birthday. Before the year 225 C.E., it was never observed as such. The winter solstice was selected by Julius Sextus Africanus as the Messiah's birthday through his association with pagan religious practices.

It would appear as though

most of the customs of Chr-stmas are derived directly from the ancient anti-Messiah and false savior Nimrod, and his mother-wife Semiramis. The world today worships a false savior and an anti-Messiah under the guise of sun worship. To restore the pure worship of the Bible and to eliminate from our lives festivals and celebrations displeasing to Almighty Yahweh should be our aim. Let us read the Bible and note for ourselves how groundless are the traditions attached to the Chr-stmas festivities observed today.

Now that we have examined the customs and traditions of the Chr-stmas and New Year celebration and have found them to be derived from ancient pagan mythology, what shall we do? Shall we continue to observe them, however halfheartedly we may enter into the celebration,

once we know it is wrong? Or should we do as Yahshua the Messiah Himself has told us, to obey His Word and keep the commandments of Yahweh (Matthew 5:17-20)? Yahweh gives His Spirit to those who obey Him (Acts 5:32). Those who keep Yahweh's commandments will be blessed (Revelation 22:14). Those who do not, curse themselves (Deuteronomy chapters 27 and 28).

Let us not add to the Word, or diminish from it, but let us keep the commandments of Yahweh for our good (Deuteronomy 6). Eliminate that which is displeasing to Yahweh from your worship and receive His blessing today. ***“And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come forth, my people, out of her, that you have no fellowship with her sins, and that you receive not of her plagues.”*** (Revelation 18:4).

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REVELATION 14:6-12

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*And these good tidings of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world for a testimony to all the nations; and then shall the end come.” —MATTHEW 24:14*

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*“And these good tidings of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world for a testimony to all the nations; and then shall the end come.”*

For more information on how you can help to fulfill the Great Commission, write to Assemblies of Yahweh, PO Box C, Bethel, PA 19507, or log on to [www.assembliesofyahweh.com](http://www.assembliesofyahweh.com) or [WMLK.net](http://WMLK.net).

**If Almighty Yahweh lays this need upon your heart, and you desire to join us in this endeavor, we pray that His richest blessing will be upon you.**