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the knowledge of truth. You are His creation, once lost but now found.

All of us have common roots that go back to Noah and his family saved by the Flood. Therefore all of us come from the first man Adam who was created to become an obedient, loving Son of God. Adam disobeyed and disobedience became a way of life for us by choice. God has wanted each of us to be reconciled ever since.

God loves <u>you</u>, **yes you!** <u>No matter what</u> you have done in the past or how you have lived – He wants you to turn your heart to Him. **He wants all of mankind to be saved.** [I John 4:10-11; I Timothy 2:4, John 3:16-18]

God sent His only Son, Jesus the Messiah (Christ), to pay the death penalty required for our disobedience. He did this so you and I can be forgiven and receive eternal life as a gift of reconciliation. All it takes is for you to confess to him that you are a sinner and that you need to be forgiven by the precious blood of Jesus Christ. Then start life anew as a **living saint of God.**[IlCorinthians 5:17; Revelation 14:12; Romans 10:9-13]

## **DECEMBER 25th**

If you asked the average person what event does December 25<sup>th</sup> commemorate in the celebration called Christmas you probably would get the answer "Its when Jesus was born."

Was Jesus really born on Dec 25<sup>th</sup>? Where does this date come from? Does it have any significance? Does any of this matter today?

Anyone can prove these facts for themselves by searching common encyclopedias, historic and traditional sources. This tract will help the reader to briefly examine these questions and prove the truth of the matter using some quotes from various intelligent and factual sources.

Does December 25<sup>th</sup> have any historic significance? Actually, to the surprise of many, December 25<sup>th</sup> was commemorated CENTURIES before Jesus was born. Several heathen sun-gods had their traditional birthdays celebrated on this date by ancient pagans long before the Son of God came in the flesh to dwell with men.



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A few of the most popular winter sun-worship celebrations with pagan religious cults were the Saturnalia, Brumalia, and the Calends.

"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 church as Christmas, the nativity of Christ, to counteract the effects of these festivals." [The New Encyclopædia Britannica.]

"The observance of December 25 [as a Christian festival] only dates from the fourth century and is due to assimilation with the <u>Mithraic</u> <u>festival of the birth of the sun</u>" (World Popular Encyclopedia, Volume 3)

The word NOEL comes from two Celtic words novo and Hel. Novo means "new" and Hel means "sun = NEW SUN.

"The largest pagan religious cult which fostered the celebration of December 25 as a holiday throughout the Roman and Greek worlds was the pagan sun worship -- Mithraism...This winter festival was called 'the Nativity' -- the 'Nativity of the SUN'," (Frazer, Golden Bough, p. 471)



Satan inspired the rejection of God's holydays and the observance of pagan holidays in their place. He has deceived the whole world!

But now you can see that Christmas is a LIE. No lie is of the truth. The true and Living God and His Son Jesus Christ have showed you truth this day. And the truth shall set you free.

Become free of the pagan holiday called Christmas. Let the truth of God destroy the entanglements of the world that bind you to the world's holidays. Repent of this sin and turn over a new leaf. Stop observing pagan holidays and learn about God's holydays and weekly Sabbath.

Visit <u>www.truthontheweb.org</u> on the Internet for more information.

You will find a great reward in being obedient and humbly seeking God's will. God's Word as found in the Bible is for all mankind – not just the ones labeled as "Christians." God wants all to come to

How will YOU react to the truth about Christmas being a pagan holiday that is abhorred of God? Will you stumble over the truth then just dust yourself off and be on your way? Or be strong and love the truth?

With the advent of modern corporations, holidays such as Christmas have become big business. For major profits, toy, candy, decoration manufacturers and all retailers promote Christmas -- which may have altogether disappeared without their influence. Even those calling themselves "Christians" have supported this unwholesome greedy merchandising to promulgate this pagan festivals continuance.

But know this - that Gods Holy Word, says: "1 Corinthians 10:21 Ye cannot drink the cup of the Lord, and the cup of devils: ye cannot be partakers of the Lord's table, and of the table of devils."

The Scriptures inform us that Satan is a real spirit being who is bent on preventing our ever becoming spirit beings (by accepting Jesus Christ as our Savior) by using any means at his disposal. His favorite trick is to get people worshipping Him through false holidays, idols and religion.

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A person may even assume they do honor God and Jesus Christmas day but what does God think? Does God say that it is alright to observe the pagan festivals such as Christmas even if we say we are honoring Christ? No, He emphatically tells us not to learn or mimic the ways of the heathen or profane nations. Notice carefully what he said to the Israelites before they entered the promised land:

Deuteronomy 12:29-32 "When the LORD thy God shall cut off the nations from before thee, whither thou goest to possess them, and thou succeedest them, and dwellest in their land; Take heed to thyself that thou be not snared by following them, after that they be destroyed from before thee; and that thou enquire not after their gods, saying, How did these nations serve their gods? even so will I do likewise. Thou shalt not do so unto the LORD thy God: for every abomination to the LORD, which he hateth, have they done unto their gods; for even their sons and their daughters they have burnt in the fire to their gods. What thing soever I command you, observe to do it: thou shalt not add thereto, nor diminish from it."

This referred, not to Christ's birth, but to the birth of the sun-god during the winter solstice (around Dec 25<sup>th</sup>), and marked the time of the year when the days began lengthening.

"Although there was no Christmas observance at this time, there were various <u>pagan celebrations</u> held in conjunction with the <u>winter solstice</u>. In Scandinavia, the great feast of <u>Yule</u> with all its various ceremonies, had celebrated <u>the birth of the winter sungod</u>.

In the Latin countries there reigned <u>Saturnalia</u>, a <u>cult of the god Saturn</u>. The date <u>December 25</u>, coincided also with the <u>birth of Attis</u>, a <u>Phrygian cult of the sun-god</u>, introduced into Rome under the Empire. The popular feasts attached to the births of other <u>sun-gods such as Mithras</u>, were also invariably celebrated at the time of the winter solstice."

[ Ethel L. Urlin, Festivals, Holy Days, and Saints' Days (London, 1915; rpt. Detroit: Gale Research Co., 1979), p. 232.]

These pagan celebrations were merely renamed and re-associated.

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Earl W. Count, Professor of Anthropology at Hamilton College, in his book, "4000 Years of Christmas" page 18 states:

"We do not know its beginning . . . we do not really know when the Christ child it venerates was born: or the time and place when Christmas was first celebrated: or exactly how it was that, over the centuries, a bishop saint of Asia Minor, and a pagan god of the Germans merged to become Santa Claus". "Although the Christmas story centers in the Christ child of Bethlehem, it begins so long before his coming that we find its hero arriving on the scene after more than half of the time of the story has gone by. Christmas began over 4000 years ago, as the festival which renewed the world for another year. The 12 days of Christmas, the bright fires and probably the yule log; the giving of presents; the carnivals with their floats; their merry makings and clownings; the mummers who sing and play from house to house, the feastings; the church processions with their lights and song all these and more began three centuries before Christ was born. And they celebrated the arrival of a new year." [solstice]

"Our annual Christian festival (Christmas) is nothing but a continuation under a different name of this old solar festivity (Saturnalia)." [The New Golden Bough- Fraser and Foster, page 653]

In the Schaff-Herzog Encyclopedia we read "How much the date of the festival depended upon the pagan Brumalia (December 25th) following the Saturnalia (December 17-24), and celebrating the shortest day of the year and the "new sun" . . . cannot be accurately determined. The pagan Saturnalia and Brumalia were too deeply entrenched in popular custom to be set aside by Christian influence. The pagan festival with its riot and merrymaking was so popular that Christians were glad of an excuse to continue its celebration with little change in spirit and manner. Christian teachers of the West and Near East protested against the unseemly frivolity, while Christians of Mesopotamia accused their western brethren of idolatry and sun worship for adopting as Christian the pagan festival"

Such sun worship and its related solstice celebrations were idolatrous and abominable to the true God of the Bible.

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That the Christmas observance is utterly pagan is common knowledge to anyone who is well-read. Luciferians know the truth about Christmas and so do real life witches. Even non-religious people are learning the truth about the pagan origins of Christmas.

Drew Carey, the well-known, unconventional Hollywood comedic star, appeared May 4th 2002 at the White House Correspondents' Annual Association dinner. The event gathered US President George Bush and guests from every corner of Hollywood, media and government. Whether knowingly or inadvertently (we do not know) Drew testified some truth to the full house at the Washington Hilton International Ballroom:

Drew Carey said, "Yeah, I read the bible a lot, you know---this is crazy---we celebrate holidays in the United States. I found out just recently there are so many religious holidays we celebrate here in this country that have nothing to do with the bible at all. Real famous holidays, like Christmas---Christmas has nothing---it's not in the Bible. The birth of Jesus is in the Bible, but not Christmas. "

God tells us not to add unto, or take away from, what He has to say. In Leviticus 23 God gives His people a list of annual holydays – festivals in His honor - for to keep. Most people either do not know this or they are content to disregard God's festivals and rather observe pagan inventions of men in their stead. Today, you have learned the TRUTH.

Galileo- famous inventor physicist, mathematician and astronomer said: "All truths are easy to understand once they are discovered; the point is to discover them." How will YOU react to the Truth now?

Bertrand Russell British logician, philosopher, and mathematician said: "What a man believes upon grossly insufficient evidence is an index into his desires -- desires of which he himself is often unconscious. If a man is offered a fact which goes against his instincts, he will scrutinize it closely, and unless the evidence is overwhelming, he will refuse to believe it. If, on the other hand, he is offered something which affords a reason for acting in accordance to his instincts, he will accept it even on the slightest evidence. The origin of myths is

Let us quote the Catholic Encyclopedia published in 1913AD "..Origen, glancing perhaps at the discreditable imperial Natalitia, asserts (in Lev. Hom. viii in Migne, P.G., XII, 495) that in the Scriptures sinners alone, not saints, celebrate their birthday; Arnobius can still ridicule the "birthdays" of the gods." (VII, 32 in P.L., V, 1264)

The Encyclopedia Americana says "Christmas, . . . it was, according to many authorities, **not celebrated** in the first centuries of the Christian church, **as the Christian's usage in general was to celebrate the death of remarkable persons rather than their birth** . . . "

"In early times this day [Christmas] was not one of the feasts of the Christian Church. In fact, the church fathers frowned upon the celebration of birthdays and thought them a heathen custom." [The New Book of Knowledge. New York: Grolier, 1979. p289.]

Do we know better than they did? We can be certain that since the early Christians did not observe birthdays that they did not observe Christ's birth either. There is no record of anyone observing the birthday of Jesus Christ until the fourth century!

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According to Celebrations: The Complete Book of American Holidays, Luke's account "suggests that Jesus may have been born in summer or **early fall**. Since December is cold and rainy in Judea, it is likely the shepherds would have sought shelter for their flocks at night" (p. 309).

Also, The Interpreter's One-Volume Commentary says this passage argues "against the birth [of Christ] occurring on Dec. 25 since the weather would not have permitted" shepherds watching over their flocks in the fields at night.

"There is no certainty as to the month or day of the birth (of Jesus). The Christmas date, December 25, is first met within the West in the 4th century, and was then possibly borrowed from a pagan festival. December, in the winter season, seems unlikely, as unsuitable for the pasturing of flocks. A more probable date is a couple of months earlier"

(The International Standard Bible Encyclopedia, 1986, "Jesus Christ,")

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With all this help from history, encyclopedias, and the Bible we can clearly and with confidence declare that Jesus Christ was not born on or anywhere new December 25th. We have also learned that this date, the associated festival and even decorations reverences Satan as the "sungod" and NOT Jesus, the "Son of God."

Let's make this a little clearer by examining the birthday celebration. The birthday celebration is one of self-exaltation. Only two birthdays are mentioned in the Bible. The birthday of Pharoah [Gen 40:20] and the birthday of King Herod [Matt 14:6] – two **heathen** leaders. Both of these **pagan birth celebrations** culminated in the **beheading of a human being.** That is all we can read about birthdays in the bible. Enough?

According to the December 23,1996 issue of **US News & World Report**, "the earliest Christians simply weren't interested in celebrating the Nativity...". The same magazine continues, "**They 'viewed birthday celebrations as heathen'**. The third-century church father Origen [a catholic] had declared it a sin to even think of keeping Christ's birthday 'as though he were a king pharoah'."

Jeremiah 10:2 Thus saith the LORD, Learn not the way of the heathen, and be not dismayed at the signs of heaven; for the heathen are dismayed at them.

God warns against false gods and their trappings in the Bible. We are told to not serve the True God in the ways that the heathen served their false gods. [ref. Deut 13:6-10] As you have read, it is a fact that the same Christmas festival was kept by the pagans in homage to their sungod for two thousand years before Christ was born of the flesh. Should we take this celebration or worship and say it is for God?

Deuteronomy 11:16 Take heed to yourselves, that your heart be not deceived, and ye turn aside, and serve other gods, and worship them;

When Moses was receiving the ten commandments on the mount, the Hebrews had his brother Aaron build them an idol, a golden calf. Aaron told them that these were the gods that brought them out of bondage

Drew Carey continued, "The tree's not in the Bible, you know, gifts--that's not---there's nowhere that says, 'Celebrate My birthday, says
Jesus ...It's just we---it's a pagan holiday that the Romans invented
that we just do! "We now can only hope Carey does something with
his new knowledge rather than become indifferent. Winston Churchill
said, "Men occasionally stumble over the truth, but most of them pick
themselves up and hurry off as if nothing ever happened."

When people fell away from worshipping of the true God of the Bible they invented their own false gods. The observation of the "birth" of the "sungod" was also invented by men and inspired by Satan long before the Catholic church decided to adopt it and paint it Christian. The bible tells us that Satan deceives the whole world and one of his most frequent ways to do this is through false gods and pagan religion. **Does God care if we worship Him like the pagans worship their false gods?** Yes, He most definitely cares. The God of the Bible tells us to only worship Him the way He prescribes – not any old way we choose – especially not like the heathen religions.

and declared in their riotous celebration that "tomorrow is a feast to the LORD (that is, the True God.) We know that although they called it a feast to God's honor that God was not pleased with it – neither did He accept it as praise to Him. In fact, if it wasn't for Moses' pleadings God would have consumed the people in His hot displeasure. [Exodus 32]

"This festival [now called Christmas] has been commonly believed to have had only an astronomical character, referring simply to the completion of the sun's yearly course, and the commencement of a new cycle. But there is indubitable evidence that the festival in question had a much higher influence than this--that it commemorated not merely the figurative birthday of the sun in the renewal of its course, but the birth-day of the grand Deliverer...the Sun-God and great mediatorial divinity."

(Alexander Hislop, The Two Babylons, Loizeaux Brothers, 1916, pp. 94, 97)

What about Jesus' birthday? Is it okay to take the "birth" of the "sun-god" and all its pagan trappings and festivities and say that it honors the Jesus Christ, the Son of God? Would God like the idea of taking the

The bible tells us that Satan used to be named "Lucifer" which basically means "shining star of the dawn." We are also informed that this "sungod" wants to be worshipped as God. Thus, Satan foists himself off as a good god. 2 Corinthians 11:13-15 For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for **Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.**Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.

Consider this quote by leading occultist of the New Age Madame Blavatsky: "Horus (Eg.). The last in the line of divine Sovereigns in Egypt, said to be the son of Osiris and Isis. He is the great god 'loved of Heaven,' the "beloved of the Sun, the offspring of the gods, the subjugator of the world.' At the time of the Winter Solstice (Christmas), his image in the form of a small newly-born infant, was brought out from the sanctuary for the adoration of the worshipping crowds..." (H.P. Blavatsky, The Theosophical Glossary, London: 1892, p.145)

date of His sworn enemies' birth celebration and having folks say that it honors His own Son (on a day that wasn't His birthday) with the occultist festival?

What does God think of such birthdays and pagan holidays of men? Some folks want to crusade to "put Christ back in Christmas" but the truth is Christ was never truly a part of this idolatrous festival hated by God. Can you prove that for yourself? **Yes, you can indeed prove it.** 

Jesus Christ was <u>not</u> born on or anywhere near December 25<sup>th</sup>. The bible itself tells us that the timing was much earlier than the dead of winter. The biblical history tells us **that the shepherds were still staying overnight with their flocks** at the timing of the fleshly birth of Jesus Christ. This means Christ' birth was not in Judea's cold rainy season during the month of December but, more than likely, in the Autumn.

Luke 2:8 And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

The scriptures can give us further insight on the timing of Christ's birth as well. The biblical account, based on details of the conception and birth of John the Baptist, point to the biblical seventh month (or our September or October) as the most likely time of Jesus' birth.

We know that Elizabeth (John's mother) was in her sixth month of pregnancy when Jesus was conceived (Luke 1:24-36) and that John's father, Zacharias, was a priest serving in the Jerusalem temple during the course of Abijah (Luke 1:5) which corresponded to June 13-19 in that year (The Companion Bible, 1974, Appendix 179, p. 200).

During his time of temple service, Zacharias learned that Elizabeth, would have a child (Luke 1:8-13). After he finished his priestly course he traveled home. It was then that Elizabeth conceived (verses 23-24).

Assuming John's conception took place near the end of June, adding nine months brings us to the end of March as the most likely time for John's birth. Since John was six months older than Jesus, this brings us to around the end of September as the likely time of Jesus' birth.

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