SCRIPTURAL PASSOVER (Pesach) vs. Religious Easter -- allow SCRIPTURE and SCRIPTURE alone to guide you!

Read and study WITHOUT the influence of man!

I share this IMPORTANT STUDY with you to give you the opportunity of making and INFORMED DECISION of whether you want to be part of a godly instruction or a man-made tradition.

Many devout Christians believe that {Abbah} Father YHUH/YHWH's endorsement of Passover ended with our Messiah's death and that He has since replaced it with the observance of Easter as a celebration of Yahusha's (Messiah's) resurrection. But is that so?

At around the end of March, beginning of April each year, a billion or more people who identify themselves as Christians will celebrate a man-made tradition, called Easter. In more or less the same time, a far smaller number will observe the SCRIPTURAL Passover.

How do these two scenarios compare? On the one hand, we have a fun-filled Easter egg hunt, Easter bunnies galore and an Easter Sunday sunrise service. On the other, a solemn Passover gathering that typically includes participants washing one another's feet and partaking of unleavened bread, amongst other. Easter seems more fun, more joyous; Passover seems old-fashioned and more serious.

These are some differences that are obvious on the surface. Many other differences aren't so obvious. Have you ever compared the meanings and symbols of Passover and Easter? Have you ever asked what our FATHER thinks of the two?

If you truly love FATHER Yahuah (YHUH), want to please Him and follow His commandments, then PLEASE READ THIS PRAYERFULLY, and allow His Qodesh Ruach (Set-Apart Spirit) to guide you!

In **Jer 10** verses 2 and 3 we read that we should not LEAN on the way of the Gentiles, for their CUSTOMS are WORTHLESS!

In Mar 7:13 we read how the Gentiles nullified the Word of Elohim through their tradition which they handed down (through generations).

Gal 1:10 For do I now persuade men, or Elohim (Almighty)? Or do I seek to please men? For if I still pleased men, I should not be a servant of Messiah.

Exo 34:14 for you do not bow yourselves to another mighty one, for YHUH, whose Name is jealous, is a jealous Ěl –

1Thes 2:4 But as we have been approved by Elohim to be entrusted with the Good News, so we speak, not as pleasing men, but Elohim who proves our hearts.

2Pet 2:1 But there also came to be false prophets among the people, as also among you there shall be false teachers, who shall secretly bring in destructive heresies, and deny the Master who bought them, bringing swift destruction on themselves.

The Scriptures clearly taught that our Messiah Yahusha was a HEBREW who observed the Passover (NOT Easter) with His closest followers and instructed them, and us, to continue to keep it until His return (Mat 26:26-29). And NO, this Festival is NOT only for the Jews, it is for ALL who chooses to guard and observe the Word of Elohim (Almighty).

The Emissary (Apostle) Sha'ul (Paul) explicitly told "Church members" in the Greek port city of Corinth — most of whom were not and never had been Hebrews — to observe the Passover as a reminder and memorial of Yahusha's death (1Cor 11:23-26).

NO eggs or rabbits are found anywhere in the Scriptures associated with Passover.

The one place where the word Easter is found in the Scriptures — Act 12:4 (in the King James Version) is a MIS-TRANSLATION — the original word there is actually Pascha or Pesach, the Greek word for Passover!

The History of Easter

The pagan festival of Easter originated as the worship of the sun goddess, the Babylonian Queen of Heaven, who was later worshiped under many names including Ishtar (a fertility goddess called Ashtoreth in Israel during Scriptures times) —1Kin 11:5, 33; 2Kin 23:13. She was worshiped in many ancient nations, which helps explain the origins of the Easter egg, a fertility symbol associated with this goddess), also worshiped as Cybele, Idaea Mater (the great mother), or Astarte for whom the celebration of Easter is named.

Easter is the celebration commemorating the death **and resurrection of Tammuz the "sun god."** As legend has it, Tammuz was out hunting, when he was killed by a wild boar. He is said to have been in the ground three days and then resurrected to ascend into heaven to become the "sun god." (Does it sound familiar?)

Easter is not another name for the Scriptural feast of Passover and is not celebrated at the Scripturally prescribed time for Passover. This pagan festival was given a "Christianized" theme several hundred years after Yahusha ascended to heaven. However you cannot "Christianize" things associated with evil; after all what part does light have with darkness? As we know, shatan tries to counterfeit everything that our Master Yahusha did, due to his jealously of Yahusha's crown.

But that's not the worst part. Easter's origins — (you can verify this yourself with a little research) actually long predate Christianity. Its strange symbols (what do eggs and rabbits have to do with our Messiah's death and resurrection?), its timing (in the spring of the year), its most notable custom (worshiping at sunrise) and even its name all go back to the worship of pagan fertility gods and goddesses.

Father YHUH's Word is very clear as to how He views adapting pagan customs and practices to worshiping Him. He explicitly commands His people not to copy religious practices used to worship other gods (**Deut 12:28-32**). He calls such practices abominations and emphatically states, "You shall not worship YHUH your Eloah (Almighty) in that way"!

1Jhn 5:3 For this is the love of YHUH, that we keep His commandments: and His commandments are not heavy (burdensome).

1Co 10:19-21 What then do I say? That an idol is of any value? Or that which is offered to idols is of any value? No, but what the gentiles offer they offer to demons and not to Elohim, and I do not wish you to become sharers with demons. You are not able to drink the cup of the Master and the cup of demons, you are not able to partake of the table of the Master and of the table of demons.

Easter is a widely known man-made tradition. It stands against the true YHUH and His teachings (Torah). The apostle Sha'ul (Paul) wrote to certain Believers, lamenting, "For, indeed, if he who is coming proclaims another Yahusha, whom we have not proclaimed, or if you receive a different spirit which you have not received, or a different Good News which you have not accepted, you put up with it well enough!(2Cor 11:4).

SADLY, many deceived Believers still do!



Shining the light on Easter

Can Easter and Passover be compared and weighed in the balance? If so, could and would it have any effect on your life, your future?

Most Christians think that as long as a person celebrates Easter as honoring Yahusha's resurrection, Father Yahuah (YHUH) won't mind and we shouldn't care. But Father YHUH does mind and we should care that He does.

Many sources are available that describe the origins, history and purpose of the Easter celebration. If you read them without testing what Scripture teaches about which religious festivals are acceptable to YHUH (Lev 23), you could easily conclude that the writers and researchers know what they are writing about. Their analyses may seem well-grounded, even beyond questioning. But question you must. If you follow human dogma that doesn't match YHUH's teachings, you're on religious guicksand without the lifeline of YHUH's saving truth.

You can check in Scripture and encyclopedia's to verify several fundamental facts:

Easter cannot be found in Scripture.

Easter was never instituted by Father Yahuah (YHUH).

Easter was never sanctioned by Yahusha, our Messiah.

Easter was never taught by Yahusha's taught ones (Disciples).

Easter was never observed by the early "New Testament Congregation".

<u>Is Easter a valid SCRIPTURAL replacement?</u>

If you celebrate Easter with sincerity (and many millions do), you likely regard Easter as a religious holiday that superseded the archaic "Old Testament Passover". After all, that's what most churches teach — that Easter has replaced the Passover. But is there more to the story than that?

Even the Catholic Encyclopedia acknowledges that Yahusha and His disciples never celebrated Easter, observing instead the seventh-day Sabbath and the 7 eternal annual festivals of YHUH, including the Passover, all listed in Lev 23 and mentioned in many other places in Scripture (New Catholic Encyclopedia, Vol. 5, 1967, p. 867, "Early Christian Feasts").

You might have heard that Easter came from pagan origins but may have simply dismissed this as irrelevant. After all, Father YHUH surely wouldn't mind if you celebrated this holiday to honor Him, would He? Yet **He does mind.**

Has Easter, in fact, replaced Passover as a Christian obligation, sacred because so many people keep it and because it was sanctioned by the universal church?

If those assumptions are true, then it's the end of the story. But if they are not, then we'd better ask some serious questions. In fact, we'd better seriously question those assumptions either way.

Is it only harmless tradition?

Easter is not simply a harmless man-made religious tradition that supposedly replaces the Passover because a church or some group of clerics said it does. The fact remains that any religious tradition that does not agree with what Scripture teaches about Yahusha's death or resurrection cannot represent Him.

When we weigh Easter in the balance, it is clearly found wanting. It isn't found in Scripture, the way it is celebrated conflicts with basic Scriptural facts, and it is directly traceable to ancient pre-"Christian" pagan practices.

Finally, let's review how Easter and Passover compare and differ.

Our Messiah Yahusha observed the Passover, not Easter, with His disciples, instructing them to continue to observe it and teach it to the "congregations/assemblies" and declaring that when He returns, He will observe it again with His true followers (Mat 26:26-29).

Regardless of how many well-meaning people celebrate Easter, they cannot legitimize a religious holiday that doesn't represent or belong to Yahusha. If a billion people do something wrong, it's still wrong.

Easter, the very name of which comes from an ancient goddess of fertility, denies the Messiah it claims to honor. Yahusha would never have sanctioned or observed it since doing so would have broken some of the very commands He inspired to be recorded in Scripture. And had Yahusha sinned in this way, we would not have a Redeemer King.

The command to observe Passover is one of the incorruptible teachings and commands of YHUH, given to human beings to commemorate the death of Yahusha, in spirit and truth. (Mat 26:17-29; Jhn 4:23-24).

Is it then our Passover (1Cor 5:7)?

Believers keep Yahusha's Passover festival because it reminds them that if it weren't for the ultimate sacrifice of Yahusha, we would surely die forever. Yahusha shed His blood for humanity, and those who accept His shed blood, while following Father Yahuah's (YHUH's) righteous teachings and commands (Rom 7:12), are promised an abundant life now and everlasting life later.

With YHUH, timing and meaning are important. Our FATHER is always on time and He does nothing without life-giving meaning. Easter does neither.

Remember that sin is the breaking of YHUH's laws and commands (1Jhn 3:4). The observance of Easter is contrary to YHUH's teachings, commands and laws (Deut 12:28-32); Passover observance is part of YHUH's teachings, commands and laws (Lev 23:1-5).

EliYah demanded of the Yisraelites, "How long will you falter between two opinions? If YHUH is Elohim (Almighty), follow Him; but if Ba'al (The Lord), follow him" (1Kin 18:21). Though YHUH is patient, He commands all men everywhere to repent of their sins (Act 17:30).

Messiah Yahusha is the same yesterday, today and forever (Heb 13:8).

He did NOT replace Passover with Easter. When you honestly compare and contrast Easter with Passover, there should be no question as to which one our FATHER desires you to observe.



Either we obey YHUH or we don't. If we choose to disobey Him, we choose to obey man! This is rebellion and idolatry! YHUH sanctioned the true Passover and not the pre-Christian and man-made tradition called Easter. Are you willing to follow what He says?

WHO will you serve? Satan and his perverted traditions through man or YHUH and His inspired Word?

Your choice will determine your destiny . . . love and blessings to all!!!

