

# Lamenting The Future Of The USA



4-2-2025 To The Genuinely Born Again Outside the USA (Part 4)

## Commemorate So That You Please Our Lord!

*"Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is Yours. Yours is the kingdom, O LORD, and You are exalted as Head over all" (1Chronicles 29:11).*

Dear Friends in Christ Jesus our Lord,

Soon many Christians will be commemorating the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus. But please realize the pivotal significance and foreshadowing in the Older Testament of His death and resurrection which can't be overstated! In God's Word, the Christian commemoration of our Lord's shed blood and our deliverance from sin's penalty of death is the fulfillment of Israel's celebrating Passover (*Pesach*) in the way God had commanded them. Passover commemorates the Israelites' liberation from the bondage of slavery when the tenth plague struck down the firstborn of the Egyptians. The Israelites who obeyed God's command were delivered from this plague after marking their doors with a lamb's blood, "*a Passover sacrifice of the LORD*" (Exodus 12:27).

Not only does Passover serve as a reminder to the *genuinely* born again of God's faithfulness to the Israelites to deliver them by means of a substitute sacrifice. Passover also points to the Lamb of God, the Messiah Jesus, Who served as the once-for-all Sacrifice for our sins. The commemoration for the *genuinely* born again is a time to remember our former bondage to sin, and even more so to celebrate our eternal deliverance. Rejoice in the reality of this assurance which we who are *genuine* have:



*"I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ Who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, Who loved me and gave Himself for me" (Galatians 2:20). Hallelujah!*

A serious caution for you. In commemorating what our Lord Jesus accomplished on our behalf, we must never allow **syncretized pagan practices** to be part of celebrating the holy and righteous reality of what it cost Christ to reconcile us with His Father. Overwhelming demonic influence in nominal Christianity is intertwined with much of both Roman Catholicism and Protestantism in the US. That's why pagan practices which are accepted by so many as "just fun" in fact

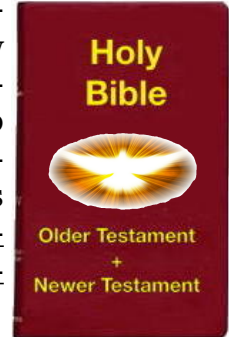
*"For the LORD will pass through to strike the Egyptians, and when He sees the blood on the lintel and on the two doorposts, the LORD will pass over the door and will not allow the destroyer to enter your houses to strike you" (Exodus 12:23).* For the enslaved Israelites in Egypt, failing to smear the Passover lamb's blood on the doorpost meant death at the destroyer's hand.



The early Hebraic *genuinely* born again understood the holiness of the Passover. The night before Passover, Jesus identified Himself as the One Who would be slain as their Substitutionary Sacrifice. His disciples could fully trust the words of Jesus and pass them down to succeeding generations of Jesus followers: *"This is My body which is for you"; "This cup is the new covenant in My blood"* (1Corinthians 11:24,25).

insidiously diminish the absolute focus on Christ alone. And these practices may be part of your commemoration and celebration. We wrote earlier that **the demonic forces of Satan are well-entrenched in the US**. So please take seriously Paul's warning: "The sacrifices of pagans are offered to demons, not to God; and [we] do not want you to be participants with demons! You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons too; you cannot have a part in both the Lord's table and the table of demons" (1Corinthians 10:20,21).

Neither the *genuinely* born again in this nation or in others would intentionally mix in demonic practices with the holiness of our Lord Jesus. (Think how detestable this is from our holy and righteous Father's perspective!) But centuries ago demons deceived the 'learned' minds of anti-Semitic theologians to syncretize pagan practices into Christianity. Over time these practices have become so traditional among the nominal that they are above all questioning. This has been made possible because the theologians disavowed the Holy Spirit's vital importance in discerning truth. And they eliminated the foundational purpose of the Older Testament in understanding the Newer Testament.



### **"What Fellowship Does Light Have With Darkness?" (2Corinthians 6:14)**



God commanded the Israelites to celebrate Passover "on the fourteenth day of the first month at twilight" (Leviticus 23:5). That's pretty specific! But instead of recognizing the Jewish Passover which points to the sacrifice of our Lord Jesus, anti-Semitic theology adopted "Easter" which is rooted in the pagan celebration of the spring equinox honoring the goddess Eostre. The timing of Easter falls on the first Sunday after the first full moon after the vernal equinox. This aligns with the pagan celebration of the spring equinox to celebrate the return of fertility on the land. Associated with this pagan practice are "Easter" eggs and "Easter" bunnies

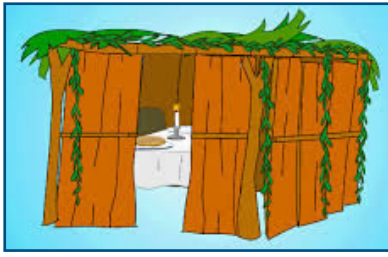
✚ The earliest followers of Jesus never observed either Christmas or Easter as special holy days on a "church calendar". And many later *genuine* resisted the religious hierarchy's establishment of these pagan-based celebrations. Ask the Holy Spirit for wisdom for yourself.

***"Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and pilgrims to abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against your soul"* (1Peter 2:11; see James 4:4).**

To further emphasize a foundational purpose of the Older Testament to help you more fully understand the Newer Testament, let's explore another precedent from the Hebrew Scriptures.

❖ Whether you were an Israelite or are now the *genuine* in Christ, it remains a prime concern of our Lord that you keep focused on this earthly life as a journey, not as your final destination. Satan knows from his millennia on earth that Christians can be readily tempted into friendship with the world's values and goals. He has had staggering success with the nominal! So make sure you are alert and on guard.

God made clear to the Israelites that their lives on earth were temporary. Certainly they weren't to live independent of His Presence and His will for them. So He commanded them as His own chosen and set-apart people to annually keep the Feast of Tabernacles (or Booths). Celebrated in early autumn when crops were gathered in, the Feast of Tabernacles was a time



of great rejoicing and thanksgiving to God. Each man was required to construct a very temporary shelter made of boughs and branches for his family to live in for 7 days. This was an experiential reminder that they were wanderers and sojourners during their 40 years in the wilderness. And during their own life's journey they could annually reinforce the truth that God Himself was their Provider of all that they needed. By returning to Jerusalem each fall as a collective

people to celebrate this reminder, they kept their focus on His faithfulness. (The Puritans modeled their celebration of thanks at harvest time on this Feast.) But just think if this biblical Feast of thankfulness to God had continued to be commemorated in Christianity by all the genuine as an annual reminder that we are just sojourners on earth — this isn't our true home!

King David reminded the Israelites that “we are strangers and sojourners before You, as all our fathers were. Our days on the earth are like a shadow, without hope” (1Chronicles 29:15). If anti-Semitic theology hadn't let demonic influence eliminate the Feast of Tabernacles, the genuine could celebrate each year this reminder of our Father's faithfulness during our own earthly sojourn. Take to heart this description of our sojourning family in Christ who remained faithful til their own earthly journey was complete:

*“These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them and welcomed them from afar; they acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth. For people who speak thus make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they were to keep recalling the one they left, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for He has prepared for them a city”* (Hebrews 11:13-16).

In the midst of the eighth and final day's celebration of the Feast, Jesus cried out in the Temple courts, “If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink! Whoever puts his trust in Me, as the Scripture says, rivers of living water will flow from his inmost being!” (John 7:37,38). Our Lord was speaking about the Holy Spirit whom those who trusted in Him would receive. The Scriptures to which Jesus was referring are in the Older Testament: Isaiah 44:3 in which God promises to pour His Spirit on their offspring; Isaiah 55:1 in which God tells His own who are thirsty to come to the waters; and Isaiah 58:11 in which our Lord tells His own that He will guide them and satisfy their needs so they will be like a spring whose waters never fail.

Through anti-Semitic theology Satan has harmed multitudes of Christians by disavowing the Holy Spirit's vital importance in both discerning truth, and living according to the Spirit, “We live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit” (Galatians 5:25). The enemy has also eliminated the foundational purpose of the Older Testament for understanding the Newer Testament. The pagan infusion of Christmas and Easter celebrations should never exist among those who are true to our Lord and His Word.

For further insights related to what we've been sharing, please read our September-October 2004 Newsletter: [Lessons From The Feasts](#)

**Wouldn't it be wonderful to have an annual reminder for the genuine to regularly recall that we are here to be poured out as living water of the indwelling Holy Spirit and to live as our Lord's redemptive ambassadors in a demon-plagued world?**

