

Easter a Pagan Festival

Written by Administrator

Sunday, 04 September 2011 11:38 -

E

ter is the most important festival in the Christian calendar. This in itself does not mean that Easter actually commemorates the death and resurrection of Jesus - as commonly supposed. On the contrary, Easter with all its rites and symbols actually honours the ancient Assyrian and Babylonian goddess of spring. The very name

EASTER

instantly proves that this festival has nothing to do with Jesus. The name of this most important Christian festival is etymologically linked to the name of the Anglo-Saxon goddess

EASTRE

. Collier's Dictionary, Vol. 1, on p. 320 clearly shows that the word

Easter

is derived from

Eastre

- the name of the pagan goddess:

"Old English *eastre* this feast, from *Eastre* the Teutonic goddess of the dawn whose rites were also celebrated in the spring".

Compton's Encyclopedia, 1956, Vol. 4, under Easter says:

"our name 'Easter' comes from 'EOSTRE', an ancient Anglo-Saxon goddess, originally of the dawn".

Reader's Digest Library of Essential Knowledge, Vol. 2, on p. 743 gives us the following

Easter a Pagan Festival

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Sunday, 04 September 2011 11:38 -

information:

“The name Easter is said to be derived from Eostre, the northern goddess of the spring, who, according to the monastic chronicler Bede, was worshipped by the pagan Anglo-Saxons”.

The New Unger’s Bible Dictionary on p. 329 corroborates the fact that the name Easter is derived from the pagan goddess Eastre:

“The word *Easter* is of Saxon origin, Eastr, the goddess of spring, in whose honor sacrifices were offered...By the eighth century Anglo-Saxons had adopted the name to designate the celebration of Christ’s resurrection”.

The goddess **EASTRE** or **EOSTRE** was known as **ISHTAR** in ancient Assyria and Babylon. The Germanic tribes called her

STERN

- as Teutonic mythology clearly reveals. Ostern in German means *east*

- and therefore dawn and rising of the sun. Phoenicians called her

ASTARTE

. Alexander Hislop in his classical work *Two Babylons* makes the following remark:

“Easter bears its Chaldean origin on its very forehead. Easter is nothing else than ASTARTE, one of the titles of Beltis, the QUEEN OF HEAVEN, whose name, as pronounced by the people of Nineveh, was evidently identical with that now in common use in this country. That name, as found by Layard on the Assyrian monuments, is ISHTAR” [Two Babylons, p. 103. See also: *Nineveh and Babylon*, Vol. 2, p. 629, by Austin Layard].

The Dictionary of Mythology, Folklore, and Symbols, Part 1, on p. 487 gives us the following important information:

“The name [Easter] is related to ASTARTE, ASTORETH, EOSTRE and ISHTAR, goddess who visited and rose from the underworld”.

The Interpreter's Dictionary, Vol. 3, on p. 975 tells us that **ISHTAR** was the goddess of love and fertility who was called

Mistress of Heaven

. It also tells us that she was worshipped in Palestine as

QUEEN OF HEAVEN

under the name of

ASHTORETH

. Unger's Bible Dictionary, on p. 412 tells us that ASHTORETH is ASTARTE and a Canaanite goddess. It tells us that ASHTORETH was actually ISHTAR of Babylon, the goddess of sensual love, maternity and fertility. On p. 413 Unger's Dictionary tells us that ASTARTE is the Greek name for ASHTORETH. Collier's Encyclopedia, Vol. 3, on p. 97 tells us the following of Astarte:

"ASTARTE, the Phoenician goddess of fertility and erotic love. The Greek name "Astarte," was derived from Semitic, "Ishtar," "Ashtoreth"...among the Canaanites, Astarte, like her peer Anath, performed a major function as goddess of fertility...she is represented on plaques [dated 1700-1100 B.C.] as naked, in striking contrast to the modestly garbed Egyptian goddesses'.

Collier's Encyclopedia, Vol. 9, on p. 622 associates goddess ISHTAR with the PHALLIC RITES:

"The ISHTAR FESTIVALS were symbolical of ISHTAR as the goddess of love, or generation. As the daughter of Sin, the moon god, she was the MOTHER GODDESS who presided over child birth, and women, in her honor, sacrificed their virginity on the feast day or **became temple prostitutes**, their earnings being a source of revenue for the temple priests and servants".

The Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible, Vol. 3, gives us the following information in connection with these TEMPLE PROSTITUTES:

"The prostitute who was an official of the cult in ancient Palestine and nearby lands of biblical times exercised an important function. This religion was predicated upon the belief that the processes of nature were controlled by the relations between gods and goddesses. Projecting their understanding of their own sexual activities, the worshippers of these deities, through the use of imitative language, engaged in sexual intercourse with devotees of the shrine, in the belief that this would encourage the gods and goddesses to do likewise. Only by sexual relations among the deities could man's desire for increase in herds and fields, as well as in his

Easter a Pagan Festival

Written by Administrator

Sunday, 04 September 2011 11:38 -

own family, be realized”.

Unger’s Bible Dictionary on p. 412 points out that there were not only female temple prostitutes but that there were also **male temple prostitutes**. Unger’s Dictionary points out that Ishtar was:

“Frequently represented as a nude woman bestride a lion with a lily in one hand and a serpent in the other, and styled QUDSHU “the Holiness”, that is, the Holy One in a perverted moral sense, she was a courtesan. In the same sense the male prostitutes consecrated to the cult of the Qudshu and prostituting themselves to her honor were styled **qedeshim**, “sodomites”. Characteristically Canaanite lily symbolizes grace and sex appeal and the serpent fecundity”.

Deuteronomy 23:17-18 plainly shows that there were indeed temple prostitutes in ancient times and that God actually hated them:

“No Israelite, man or woman, is to become a temple prostitute. Also, no money earned in this way may be brought into the temple of the LORD your God in fulfilment of a vow. The LORD hates temple prostitutes” [Good News Bible].

1 Kings 14:23-24 shows that the Israelites themselves practiced the pagan rites. They also had male and female prostitutes at their shrines:

“Worst of all, there were men and women who served as prostitutes at those pagan places of worship” [Good News Bible].

Certain kings of Judah banned this practice and they expelled male and female temple prostitutes from the land [1 Kings 15:12; 22:46]. So far we have established the fact that the name Easter is derived from the name of the pagan goddess. We have also clearly seen that this pagan goddess **EASTER-EASTRE-EOSTRE-ASTARTE, ASHTORETH-ISHTAR** was the goddess of **fertility, erotic love** and

Easter a Pagan Festival

Written by Administrator

Sunday, 04 September 2011 11:38 -

temple prostitution

. That rites and symbols of Easter as now observed by Christians worldwide has nothing to do with Jesus and his death and resurrection, but rather they are closely connected with ISHTAR - the Queen of Heaven who was passionately worshipped in antiquity - will now be plainly documented. There are several symbols which are closely connected with the Christian festival of Easter. The

rabbit

[hare] and coloured Easter

eggs

are very prominent. The

hot cross buns

are also eaten on Good Friday. If you visit a Christian Church on Easter Sunday morning you are very likely to see a

lily

decorating the altar or the pulpit. These symbols have nothing to do with Jesus but are rather in honour of the

QUEEN OF HEAVEN

There are also several practices which are passionately observed at Easter. Easter **sunrise services**

are held worldwide. Children

roll Easter eggs

and they also

hunt for hidden coloured Easter eggs

. Rolling of eggs annually take place at Easter on the lawn of the White House in the United States.

Ham

is also eaten on Easter Sunday and it is obligatory for Roman Catholics to attend Mass and partake of the

Eucharist

. It is also obligatory for most Protestants to partake of the

Holy Communion

or

Lord's Supper

during the Easter season. Romish Church also observes the

Lent

which lasts for 40 days. Now not even a single rite or custom mentioned above was ever observed by the Twelve and their earliest converts. Nor were they ever observed by the true prophets of God. But we know that each and every rite and practice I have just referred to was actually observed and practiced by

pagans THOUSANDS OF YEARS BEFORE THE DEATH AND RESURRECTION OF Jesus.

Since all Easter symbols and rites were observed prior to Jesus how plain then that they really have nothing to do with his death and resurrection. That Easter is really pagan and has nothing

Easter a Pagan Festival

Written by Administrator

Sunday, 04 September 2011 11:38 -

to do with Jesus is affirmed very clearly in both ecclesiastical and secular textbooks. These same authoritative sources plainly admit that all Easter symbols and rites were directly borrowed from the festival originally observed by pagans in honour of the goddess of fertility and sex called EASTRE-EOSTRE-ASTARTE-ASHTORETH-ISHTAR. Please note the following admission plainly written in Nelson's Illustrated Bible Dictionary on p. 317:

"Easter was originally a **pagan festival** honouring **EOSTRE**, a Teutonic goddess of light and spring...As early as the **eight century** the name was used to designate **the annual Christian celebration of the resurrection of Christ**".

These Christian Bible scholars plainly admit that Easter is not a biblical practice nor was its observance ever implemented by El Elyon, Jesus or the Twelve. They also clearly state that Easter was originally a PAGAN FESTIVAL honouring the Teutonic [Germanic] goddess of spring called **EOSTRE**. It wasn't until the **8th century** that this pagan festival was finally "**Christianised**" and observed as CHRISTIAN FESTIVAL. Funk and Wagnalls Standard Reference Encyclopedia, Vol. 8, 1962, on p. 2940 gives us the following information:

"Although Easter is a Christian festival, it embodies traditions of an ancient time **antedating** the rise of Christianity".

Please note that traditions and rites associated with Christian Easter were **antedating** the rise of Christianity. The word *antedate* means *to be or occur earlier than; to precede in time*. Since the rites and symbols of the Christian Easter were observed by pagans prior to the rise of Christianity - how plain then that they have nothing whatsoever to do with Jesus or his twelve Apostles.

Compton's Encyclopedia, 1956, Vol. 4, under 'Easter' says:

"Many Easter customs came from the Old World...colored eggs and rabbits have come from **p**

Easter a Pagan Festival

Written by Administrator

Sunday, 04 September 2011 11:38 -

agan antiquity

as symbols of new life...Some Easter customs have come from this and other

pre-Christian

spring festivals”.

Easter eggs and rabbits are symbols of fertility, sex and sensual lust. Roman Catholics often picture Mary with a rabbit at her feet. This signifies that Mary [in their thought ever virgin] actually overpowered sensual lust. The Reader's Digest Book of Facts, 1987, on p. 122, gives the following information about 'Easter and the Bunny':

“Children's stories in many countries tell how Easter eggs are brought not by a chicken but by hares and rabbits. These long-eared hopping mammals have represented **fertility** in many cultures because they breed so quickly.

In traditional Christian art the hare represents lust, and paintings sometimes show a hare at the Virgin Mary's feet to signify her triumph over temptations of the flesh

. Yet as a symbol of life reawakening in the spring-often portrayed as the innocent and cuddly Easter bunny-the rabbit coexists in many places with the solemn Christian rites of Easter”.

The Encyclopedia Britannica under 'Easter' says:

“Like the Easter egg, the Easter HARE came to Christianity from antiquity. The HARE is associated with the moon in the legends of ancient Egypt and other peoples. Through the fact that the Egyptian word for 'hare', 'UM' means also 'open' and 'period'. The HARE came to be associated with the idea of 'periodicity' both lunar and human, and with the beginning of new life in both the young man and young woman and so a **symbol of fertility and the renewal of life**”.

Funk and Wagnalls Standard Dictionary of Folklore, Mythology and Legend, 1949, Vol. 1, on p. 335 says:

“Children roll pasch eggs in England. Everywhere they hunt the many-colored Easter eggs, brought by Easter rabbit. This is not mere child's play, but the vestige of a fertility rite, the eggs and the rabbit **both symbolizing fertility**. Furthermore, the rabbit was the escort of the Germanic goddess OSTARA who gave the name to the festival by way of the German Ostern”.

Dictionary of Christian Lore and Legend on p. 89 gives us the following information regarding the coloured eggs of Easter:

“The Easter egg, **pagan symbol of rebirth**, was given a Christian meaning when it became the practice to bring eggs, forbidden food during Lent, to be blessed in church on Easter Sunday”.

Albert Pike in his book *Morals and Dogma* on p. 400 states:

“The world, and the spherical envelope that surrounds it, were represented by a MYSTIC EGG, by the side of the SUN-GOD whose mysteries were celebrated. The famous ORPHIC EGG was consecrated to Bacchus in his mysteries. It was, says Plutarch, an image of the universe which engenders everything, and contains everything in its bosom. ‘Consult’, says Macrobius, ‘the initiates of the mysteries of Bacchus, who honor with special veneration THE SACRED EGG’. The rounded and almost spherical form of its shell, he says, which encloses it on every side, and confines within itself the principles of life, is a symbolic image of the world; and the world is a universal principle of all things. The symbol was borrowed from Egyptians, who also CONSECRATED THE EGG TO OSIRIS, GERM OF LIGHT, himself born, says Diodorus, from that famous egg. In Thebbes, in upper Egypt, he was represented as emitting it from his mouth, and causing to issue from it the first principle of heat and light, or the fire god, Vulcan, or Phtha. We find this egg even in Japan, between the horns of the famous Mithraic bull, whose attributes Osiris, Apis, and Bacchus all borrowed. Orpheus, author of the Grecian mysteries, which he carried from Egypt to Greece, consecrated this symbol: and taught that matter, uncreated and informous, existed from all eternity, unorganized, as chaos; containing in itself the principles of all existences confused and intermingled, light with darkness, the dry with humid, heat with cold; from which, it after long ages taking the shape of an immense egg, issued the purest matter, or first substance, and the residue was divided into four elements, from which proceeded heaven and earth and all things else. This grand cosmogonic idea he taught in the mysteries; and thus the hierophant explained THE MEANING OF THE MYSTIC EGG, seen by the initiates in this sanctuary”.

To the initiates of the Mystery Religion an egg contained self inherent life. From this mystic egg all other life had evolved. This is the original teaching of Evolution - existence apart from an intelligent Creator. Pike further states:

“The serpent entwined round an egg, was a symbol common to the Indians, the Egyptians,

Easter a Pagan Festival

Written by Administrator

Sunday, 04 September 2011 11:38 -

and the Druids. It referred to the creation of the universe. A serpent with an egg in his mouth was a symbol of the universe containing in itself the germ of all things that the sun develops. The property possessed by the serpent, of casting its skin, and apparently renewing its youth, made it an emblem of eternity and immortality" [p. 496].

Reverend Alexander Hislop in his book Two Babylons on p. 109 gives us the following information:

"The ancient Druids bore an egg, as a sacred symbol of their order. In ancient times eggs were used in the religious rites of the Egyptians and Greeks, and were hung up for mystic purposes in their temples. An egg of wondrous size is said to have fallen from heaven into the river Euphrates. The fishes rolled it to the bank, where doves having settled upon it, and hatched it, out came VENUS, that is, **ASTARTE** or **EASTER**; and accordingly, in Cyprus, one of the chosen seats of the worship of VENUS or ASTARTE, the egg of wondrous size was represented on a grand scale".

Historical evidence plainly reveals that coloured eggs were used in pagan rites before the birth of Jesus. Therefore it is evident that an egg has nothing to do with the death of Jesus. Both the Easter egg and the Easter rabbit are symbols of **fertility** and **sensual love** and they were closely associated with the goddess EASTRE, and ultimately

ISHTAR

- the Queen of Heaven. Some Christians however would like you to believe that coloured Easter eggs are derived from the practice of "virgin Mary". The Polish legend says that Mary [Miriam], the mother of Jesus, painted eggs red so that Jesus could play with them. The Rumanian legend is even more far-fetched. It says that Mary placed some eggs beneath the cross and so they were coloured red by the blood of Jesus [See Shadows of the Supernatural, p. 42].

When we realise that Easter eggs and Easter rabbit play a much greater significance than commonly supposed it becomes apparent then why God calls the Romish Church **BABYLONI AN HARLOT**

and the Christian churches

DAUGHTER HARLOTS

. They all teach and believe essentially the same doctrines. And virtually all practice the same pagan and abominable Easter rites. Now the Catholic Encyclopedia, 1909 edition, plainly admits that Easter rites are not 'Christian' but were incorporated from paganism. Please note:

“A great many pagan customs, celebrating the return of spring, gravitated to Easter. **The egg is the emblem of the germinating life of early spring...The rabbit is a pagan symbol and has always been a symbol of fertility**

”.

Regrettably, neither Roman Catholics nor do Protestants take this statement very seriously. But virtually all indulge in these abominable rites pretending that they are celebrating a religious festival in honour of Jesus when they are in actual fact celebrating sensuality and fertility of the ancient goddess and her temple prostitutes. Not only do ordinary Catholics use coloured eggs during the Easter festival, but even the popes themselves do so. In fact, Pope Paul V instructed his faithful thus to pray at Easter:

“Bless, O Lord, we beseech thee, this thy creature of **eggs**, that it may become a wholesome sustenance unto thy servants, **eati**

ng it in remembrance of our Lord Jesus Christ

” [Scottish Guardian, 1844. See also Two Babylons, p. 110].

Now the adherents of the Romish Church and Christianity in general do not only eat coloured Easter eggs and bunnies, but they also eat the **HOT CROSS BUNS** every Good Friday. But from where has this practiced been derived? It certainly did not originate with El Elyon and his true prophets. Nor did it originate with Jesus and his twelve disciples. Just like coloured Easter eggs and bunnies were borrowed from ancient paganism, the hot cross buns come from the same source. Moreover, the buns were known in Babylon by the same name and were also marked with the sign of the cross. The Last Two Million Years, The Reader's Digest Association, 1981, on p. 216 gives us the following information in regards to the 'cross buns':

“Cakes which were eaten to mark the festivals of ASTARTE and EOSTRE were the **direct ancestors of our hot-cross buns**

”.

Alexander Hislop in Two Babylons on pp. 107-108 says:

“The hot cross buns of Good Friday, figured in the CHALDEAN RITES just as they do now. The “BUNS”, known too by that identical name, were used in the worship of the Queen of

Easter a Pagan Festival

Written by Administrator

Sunday, 04 September 2011 11:38 -

Heaven, the goddess EASTER, as early as the DAYS OF CECROPS, the founder of Athens - that is, 1500 years before the Christian era. One species of sacred bread, says Byrant, which used to be offered to the gods, was of great antiquity, and called **BOUN**. Diogenes Laertius, speaking of this offering being made by Empedocles, describes the chief ingredients of which it was composed, saying, He offered one of the sacred cakes called

BOUN

, which was made of fine flour and honey”.

The Judahites themselves worshipped the Queen of Heaven. The prophet Jeremiah was sent to denounce this pagan worship. In honour of ASTARTE the Judahite women **baked BREAD**. In Jeremiah 7:16-18 [The Bible for Today] we are told the following:

“Jeremiah don’t pray for this people! I, the LORD, would refuse to listen. Do you see what the people of Judah are doing in their towns and in the streets of Jerusalem? Children gather firewood, their fathers build fires, and their mothers **mix dough to bake BREAD for the goddess they call the Queen of Heaven**

”.

In a footnote of the Bible for Today we are told that the Queen of Heaven was actually **ASTARTE**

Now the word

bread

in the Hebrew text in its consonantal form is

KHVN

and with points was pronounced

KHAVAN

. This was transliterated into Greek as

KA PANOS

[See Lexicon Sytogge, part 1, p. 130 by Phoetius]. From this Greek form the Latin

PANIS

[bread] comes. At other times the Hebrew word

KHAVAN

was transliterated into Greek as

KHABON

[See Neander in Kitto’s Biblical Cyclopaedia, Vol. 1, p. 237]. From

KHABON

or

KHABOUN

the name

BOUN

Easter a Pagan Festival

Written by Administrator

Sunday, 04 September 2011 11:38 -

or

BUN

is derived. The Hebrew letter

B

in some languages is transliterated as

V

. In Slavic languages for example

Babylon

becomes

VAVILON

. While

Baal

and

Baalam

become

Vaal

and

Vaalam

. Even Greek letter

B

is rendered as

V

in the Slavic languages. Sometimes the reverse is the result. The Hebrew form

KHAVAN

pronounced as one syllable is

KVAN

which is transliterated into Greek as

KPAN

. The form

KHABON

pronounced in one syllable would become

KBON

and ultimately was transliterated into English as

BON

or

BUN

. It should be remembered that even the English word

LOAF

has undergone a similar process and is actually derived from old English word

HLAF

[See Collier's Dictionary].

God condemned the Judahites for baking and eating **buns** in honour of the Queen of Heaven.

Easter a Pagan Festival

Written by Administrator

Sunday, 04 September 2011 11:38 -

Should He then tolerate Christians who also bake and eat

buns

during the Easter festival which is clearly in honour of the goddess ASTARTE - as we have already seen? I have pointed earlier that Roman Catholics observe Lent - a forty days of fasting - just preceding the Easter festival. This rite has nothing to do with the death and resurrection of Jesus. In fact, Lent which lasted forty days was observed in Egypt [Wilkinson's Egyptian Antiquities, Vol. 1, p. 278]. This Lent was expressly observed in honour of Adonis [Landseer's Sabean Researches, p. 112]. Pagan Mexicans observed Lent of forty days in the spring of the year

in honour of the sun

[Humboldt's Mexican Researches, Vol. 1, p. 404]. The Lent of forty days is still observed by pagan Yezidis or pagan Devil-worshippers of Koordistan [Layard's Nineveh and Babylon, p. 93]. It is to be noted that Lent was never observed by the Twelve nor by the Ebionites - their immediate and direct descendants. In fact, the Lent was originally unknown even in the Romish Church herself. When it was introduced into the Church of Rome it was observed only for three weeks and not six like now. We know this fact from the writings of ecclesiastical historian Socrates. About 450 c.e. he wrote:

“Those who inhabit the princely city of Rome fast together before Easter **three weeks**, excepting the Saturday and the Lord's day” [Socrates, Ecclesiastical History, lib. 5, cap. 22, p. 234].

It wasn't until 519 c.e. that the fast called LENT was extended to **six weeks**, that is, **forty days**. In that year the Council of Aurelia, when Hormisdas was the Bishop of Rome also decreed that Lent should be observed just prior to Easter. Lent therefore is just another pagan rite incorporated from paganism.

I have also stated earlier that during Easter festival many pulpits of the Christian Church are decorated with **lilies**. Collier's Encyclopedia, 1966, Vol, 17, under *Easter: A Day of Joy* says the following:

“On Easter people go to church services and delight in the sight of great masses of **Easter lilies** that decorate the altars”.

Easter a Pagan Festival

Written by Administrator

Sunday, 04 September 2011 11:38 -

We have already seen that the name Easter is derived from EASTRE that is, ASTARTE or ISHTAR. We have likewise seen that many Easter rites and symbols were originally connected with ISHTAR, the goddess of spring. Now we also know that **lily** was a symbol of this goddess. Unger's Bible Dictionary on p. 412 gives us the following information:

“ASHERAH...Other names of this deity were ASHTORETH [Astarte] and Anath. Frequently represented as a nude woman bestride a lion **with a lily ... lily symbolizes grace and SEX appeal**”.

There is nothing wrong with lilies themselves. They are beautiful creation. But when used during Easter festival and in connection with the Easter festival they, just like Easter eggs and Easter rabbits, symbolise fertility, fecundity and sensual lust. Therefore, Easter lily is just another pagan symbol incorporated directly from the pagan worship and Easter is nothing else than a festival in honour of the pagan Babylonian goddess ISHTAR.