Non-biblical Nonsense

Compare the true and the false, and leave with the Truth alone (Isaiah 8:20, John 14:6)

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UNDER CONSTRUCTION 12/1/16 PLUS

What to expect on this page:

1. Links to truthtellers on the issues of what constitutes BIBLICAL worship and BIBLICAL doctrine; *Non-biblical* nonsense will be exposed by comparing truth with error and outright falsehood 2. Truth-telling book, audio, and video recommendations 3. My own Biblicallyinformed perspective, aided by those named above

[Material below transplanted from *Home* on 1/4/17]

And in vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men. For laying aside the commandment of God, you hold the tradition of men...All too well you set aside/reject the commandment of God, that you may keep your tradition-Mark 7:7-9

Look for additions to this page at +++ below

Sola Scriptura. If it doesn't line up with Scripture, it must be rejected. The Bible is God's authoritative lastword on all matters of faith and practice. Adding to God's Word is NOT an option. Subtracting from it is NOT an option. Because GOD says so in His *un*changing written Word (**Deut 4:2 & 12:32; Prov 30:5-6; Rev 22:18**). [see also: **Mal 3:6; James 1:17-18; Heb 13:8**]

Of course, where mere men of *finite* knowledge and *in*finite sinful desires hold sway, adding to/subtracting from God's directives is faith-ruining business-as-usual. Whether it's coming from a pope, an archbishop, or a misguided "Protestant," it's soul-destroying *dung*; it's worthless, and it stinks in the nostrils of Christ. When you attempt to ignore God's will in favor of your own, you're asking for misery in this life and eternal destruction. And you'll get it, make no mistake!

Much will be said on this page (Lord willing, as always -- **James 4:15-16**) about false teachers, rank deceivers, and damnable teachings. There will be an abundance of targets, I'm sure.

+++ 4/1/2018: From the long line of *inventors* that brought you the non-biblical nonsense of christ-mass, "Easter," and a thousand other groundless teachings, this just in: Latest "pope" -- a *socialist*, BTW, in case you hadn't noticed -- tells atheists not to worry about going to hell; they'll just vanish into non-existence, says he. This is *annihilationism*, folks, and those who teach it are in real danger themselves of finding out just how *wrong* they were for a *hopeless* eternity! But far, far worse, they *mislead multi-tudes of dupes into that very real eternal death!*

Perform your own due diligence: <u>read what this</u> <u>rank deceiver said</u> (FYI: "Protestant" "leaders" have often offered the same soul-destroying dung with a smiling face), and then read *God's* Word: Matthew 5, 10, 18, 23-25; Mark 9; Luke 16; 2 Peter 2:4; Rev 20 (lake of fire) and Rev Think about this. Is Christmas(s) the commandment of God or the mere tradition of men?

We ought to obey God rather than men-Acts 5:29

Be honest. Are you obeying God or men regarding "holy days?"

As the Father gave Me commandment, (even) so I do— Jesus speaking, John 14:31

Think! Jesus carried out the will of the Father perfectly, *without omission*. He did NOT establish Christmas, Easter, or any new "holy day," yet He *remains* the Lord of the Sabbath (**Mark 2:28**). Put it all together and go forward in truth!

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<u>12/23/16 --</u> This is a *Christian* Christ-mass-free zone; *Christ? Yes!* <u>Christmass? No!</u>

12/24/16--Flashback to WORLD Magazine, January, 2006 (published my letter to the editor - in

22:15 (those *outside* of Heaven continue to *exist*, with *consciousness* of that existence).

Peter -- *never* a "pope" -- to Jesus Christ: *"Lord, to whom shall we go? You have [the] words of eternal life*." -- John 6:68

Amen!

And...especially pertinent on "Easter," see again my April, 2016 essay, "Holidays?" (at bottom of this page). As always, keep in mind that things are true *not* because any particular human says so, but because what is being said reflects the truth from *God*. This is always the rule.

[The following texts were moved from *Home* on 1/4/17, re-posted on the Home page late in that year, and returned to this page in January, 2018. This material will be available to you here, year-round]

"**Bulletin, this just in**"-- A most timely and informative video link: <u>truth or tradition</u>

IMPORTANT NOTES: I can endorse this video until the 1:32:03 mark (full length is 1:55:00+), with only a couple of reservations (image of God, eschatological misunderstanding). If you want to SEE with your own eyes where all the elements associated with "Christmas(s)" originated -- in well-documented (words and graphics) history -- THIS may be your shortest course to the truth about both the Dec. 25th "holiday" AND "Easter." But...BEYOND THAT POINT, Jim Staley gets it wrong; he advocates *alternatives* that are supposedly STILL pleasing to God, 1,946 years PAST the end of the whole Old Testament/types-and-shadows age/dispensation-economy (all of that came to a crashing halt in AD 70, with the destruction of the Jerusalem Temple). In the process, he disregards the fact that Jesus (Yeshua) DID AWAY with all of that pre-figuring stuff by *fulfilling* all Biblical prophecy in His very own person and work, which culminated in His one-time *Parousia* (AD 66-70).

So, my advice is: watch the video 92 minutes in; learn the true history; turn to Christ in FULL obedience, and do NOT be the dog returning to its vomit (Proverbs 26:11 and 2 Peter 2:22). All of the things that pointed to Christ must be honorably buried, but buried just the same, because Christ has fulfilled every "jot and tittle" of The Law and imputed His perfect righteousness (Law-keeping) to all who have thereby been granted the twin gifts of true repentance towards God and true faith (Acts 20:21) in the person and work of Jesus Christ, the now-andforever-reigning Messiah. So if you love and respect the Truth (John 14:6), you'll be glad you took these steps in the right direction: watched the video and learned the history behind the abomination that is Saturnalia-Yule-Christmass; realized that it has no place in the life of a true follower of Christ; and rejected both Roman Catholicism AND dispensational "Christianity," which is the kind of false teaching that's no better than the dog's vomit, in its denial of the *finished* work of Christ. Move ahead in the Truth! There's more truth embod- ied in one faithful and true follower of Christ than in a whole army of Hal Lindseys, Harold Campings, Jack Van Impes, John Hagees, and Billy Grahams! Trust Christ, not such false-prophet charlatans! After all, it's CHRIST'S eternal Kingdom we're talking about! Hear HIM! (Deut 18:15-22; Acts 3:22-23; Mt 17:5)

More **audio-oriented**? Listen to this 3-part series at SermonAudio.com by Greg Price, "Christ Condemns

part - in "Mailbag"): [link to archives] The real question is, "Why Christmas at all?" Religious holidays are entirely God's call. In the New Testament, we find no command from Christ or command or approved example from the apostolic founders for any churchsanctioned observance of the birthday of Jesus. Had the Lord wanted us to annually observe the day of His birth, He'd have provided the proper date.

<u>Vox Veritas</u> Vita

Thanks for spending some time here with man's opinions and God's facts.

And, as George Washington said, "Associate yourself with men of good quality...'tis better to be Christmass": <u>Part 1</u> (through 35:54; a baptism follows) <u>Part 2</u> (some last-things bones to spit

out)

Part 3 (especially good through 8:45; two key words: *"transitional period;"* key Scripture passage: **Romans 14:23** (whatsoever is not of faith is sin)

AND...

This 6-part series -- also by Price -- as a follow-up to the above: "*What About Celebrating A Secular Christmas?*"

The 4 best parts, in my opinion are... <u>Part 1</u> <u>Part 2</u> <u>Part 3</u> <u>Part 6</u> ... but the whole series (follow links at the other parts to connect to the rest) is recommended, only with the following disclaimer:



(This "sticker" applies to all of the video and audio material linked to above)

New Feature: *The Timely Topic* (periodic short essays, no fixed schedule; current events-oriented via a theological lens)

TTT #1 (12/2/16):

Just Say "No!" to the Mass of Christ

Even after the first eleven months of this stomach-churning election year, I find myself dreading *most* this final month of AD 2016. For the last 16 years or so, Decembers have been the toughest months to get through, and for a reason that you'll likely think is rather odd: I'm a Christian, but I *don't* observe or celebrate — along with the vast majority of "fellow believers" and pagans alike — the man-made "holy day" known as "Christmas." I'm in the distinct minority throughout any given "Yuletide" season, but that in itself is not what causes my annual onslaught

season, but that in itself is not what causes my annual onslaught of anguish.

As I said, this has been going on now each year for at least 16 years, so maybe I should be expected to just grin and bear it at this point. I should be able to blithely dismiss this decidedly nonbiblical business, and give celebrants the benefit of the doubt in assuming that they're acting in ignorance of the facts, and with the best of intentions, right? alone than in bad company." Biblical basis? <u>1 Cor 15:33,</u> 5:6; Gal 5:7-9

Well, I must tell you that I *can't* ignore it all or let it run its course without a peep of objection yet again. Consider this bizarre scenario, just to get a sense for the depth of my frustration: On the issue of public displays of the elements of "Christmas," I side WITH the ACLU, only coming from a totally opposite angle. Like the ACLU, it pains me to see "Christmas" trees" and nativity scenes (often with the requisite three "wise men" in attendance at the *Bethlehem stable*, against the Matthew 2 testimony that an *un*specified number of wise men "came to *Jerusalem*" and "into the *house*" sometime within the first *two years* of the life of "the *young child*" in order to worship Him and give Him gifts, 3 types of which were named). The ACLU and other anti-God forces are steadfastly opposed to such things as breaches of their wrongly-defined "wall of separation between church and state." They flat-out hate God, God-fearing people, and even any reference to God, as they define "God" for His true followers, His blood-bought souls. They break the *First* Commandment without remorse, and even with evil zeal. The one *true* God is not even among their *pantheon* of false gods (Power, Ego, Celebrity, Wealth, and Death, to name just a few).

But *unlike* the ACLU and other enemies of God, *I* oppose all of the trappings of this invented "holiday" (as well as all other purported religious "holy days " — yes, that's where the word *holidays* comes from) simply because *NONE* of it has its origins in the will and commands of the holy God whom we must serve. That's right; it's *ALL* man-made junk that distracts from the true worship of the triune God revealed in the Bible. Therefore, everything associated with this co-opted *pagan* "holiday" (namely, *saturnalia*, the supposed commemoration of the "rebirth" of the invincible *sun*) is rank *idolatry*, and a breach of the *Second* Commandment.

In brief, the Second Commandment forbids the worship of the *TRUE* God by *FALSE* means (*idolatry*, in a word), and in this case, Christmas-observers *claim* to be worshiping the God of the Bible, just through the use of "originally" pagan practices. That's okay, they say. But the God they *think* they're worshiping says, "NO!" It's *not* okay. It's gross *sin*.

So please "tolerate" my view that is so weird to you. And do me the great courtesy of *NOT* wishing me a "Merry Christmas." Jesus said that if we love Him, we'll keep *His* commandments (**John 14:15**); that if we *abide* in *His* word, we are His disciples indeed (**John 8:31**). These things I strive to do. Please join me in this.

RELATED ESSAY FROM APRIL, 2016 (Essay H, "H olidays?")

Holidays?

Next year, A.D. 2017, we get an extra, bonus holiday. How is that? Well, instead of the standard *52* holy days (**Sundays**, or "**Lord's Days**"), *53* days will fall on such sanctified days, including the first and last days of the year! Do I pass this on as just a neat little factoid, or is there some real significance to this? Be advised that it's much more than trivia, because the glory of God is at issue here. Two important introductory points; 1) our English word *holiday* is in fact a contraction/combination of "holy" and "day" (consult any dictionary), and 2) the only being *authorized* to declare a holy day is God; He alone defines what is to be *sanctified* (set apart from or above the rest in some category, including things like temple utensils, altars, and festival days, as we see in Exodus, Leviticus, and Deuteronomy especially). Note that the saints are God's "sanctified ones," — that's where we get that term. By God's gracious election even before He created our world, He set apart — for His holy purposes — all those "in Christ" (**2 Tim 1:9, Eph 1:4-6**) to be recipients of eternal graces, thereby enabled to truly please Him with the very same good works they were called to do (**Eph 2:8-10**). They (we who were elected, who actively trust in Christ alone) are "the saints." Neither any human being nor any church entity has the right to confer "sainthood" on anyone. It's God's call all the way; one can't elect himself into God's sanctified circle. God's universe, God's rules.

Only God can declare who is among His saints, and only God can declare a *holy* day, a day set apart by God to God. Yes, we humans can declare *national* days of celebrating and memorials (*e.g., Purim*, in the book of **Esther**), but such observances are not mandated by God, nor are they required by Him. The *only* holy day commanded by God is the Sabbath. Between the covers of the Bible, we find only that singular holy day enduring, having been observed on the seventh day throughout the Old Testament (the *creation ordinance* was codified in **Ex 20: 8-11**), and observed on the *first* day of the week from the time of the Resurrection of the Lord of the Sabbath (Mt 12:8; Mark 2:28; Luke 6:5). It's evident that God's declared holy days continue, with only the day of the week undergoing any transition; the *fourth* commandment (*third* for Lutherans) is still in place, and remains in force. And if you took the time to read those passages just cited above, you'd realize that this commandment — along with all of the others — is for our own good; we benefit by obeying. Let God refresh you and energize vou for the week ahead. It works!

Now here's the part where you might think I'm stepping on your toes: there's *no Biblical warrant* for "Christmas" or "Easter." Sorry, but that's the truth. Let's calmly consider some readilyapparent facts:

1) Every Sunday/Lord's Day is a commemoration of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ, an historic event that occurred in A.D. 30; neither Christ nor His Spirit-directed, NT Church-founding apostles (see 1 Cor 3:11 and **Eph 2:20**) ever set up an *annual* observance, and they had about 40 years to do so, had it been God's will; 2) As was the case with the "first Easter," the first Christmas (literally, the "mass of Christ") was not "officially" observed — by the *Roman Catholic* papacy – until the fourth century, A.D.! A human-hewn "holiday," to be sure, and not God's idea. It rankles me to no end when professing Christians refer to the day of our Lord's resurrection as "that *first* Easter." It was no such thing, since "Easter" (eastre or oestre) had been a pagan festival for centuries, and any trustworthy source, whether "sacred" or secular, can confirm that. The Romanist church simply took two pagan festivals that had been around for a long time (the other was Saturnalia, the winter solstice), tweaked the names a bit, kept and perpetuated the age-old customs, and spun out "Christian" versions. Again, sorry, but this process does

not yield a *God*-ordained holy day.
3) With specific regard to the day on which Jesus was born into our world, do you suppose that maybe God the *Father* had a fairly good idea of when that was? Year? Month? Day? Hour? *Nanosecond*? Of course! And could there be a father more proud? His beloved Son, in Whom He was well pleased, had been born into the world as The Savior. It's ludicrous to suggest that God would leave it up to sinful humans to invent "Christmas" to mark the occasion. And with a *lag time* of 400 years?!? I think not!