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CHRISTMAS: The Facts and the Fiction

A brief look at what many believe to be a 'Christian Festival'

by Rev. Ivan Foster

Scripture makes clear why the Son of God was born of a woman in Bethlehem nearly 2000 years ago. "For this purpose the Son of God was manifested, that he might destroy the works of the devil." I John 3:8. He came to destroy the very works which are the chief means used by the majority in Christendom to celebrate His birth.

'Christmas' - a Roman Catholic term referring to a celebratory Mass in honour of Christ - is that section of the year in which pagan activities are freely and unashamedly indulged in and all in honour of the incarnation of the Son of God. He, of whom it was said that He "is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners..," Hebrews 7:26, cannot be impressed or pleased by such activities even though they are in honour of His birth. Surely activities, supposedly in celebration of His coming, which require special Government advertising and increased police activity to stop the celebrants becoming maniacs on the roads, are an offence to the Holy God of Heaven?

Gluttony

'Christmas' is a time of unrestrained indulgence in greed and gluttony. It is considered acceptable because it is devoted to the glory of Christ. What utter blasphemy! The spirit of Christmas is so contrary to the Gospel of Christ that those who plead for a 'putting of Christ back in to Christmas', miss the whole point. Christ never was in Christmas!

Christmas, like so many of the rituals Protestants have unwittingly adopted from Popery, is but a pagan festival, thinly disguised by a few Biblical terms. The Christmas Tree, Santa Claus, the feasting and drinking, the exchanging of gifts originate, not in the Bible or in the practice of the early Church, but in the mid-winter celebrations of paganism.

Some evangelical churches, whenever 25th December falls upon a Sabbath Day, have placed the myth above the command of God and cancelled or altered their usual Sabbath services. Is this not the essence of Israel's sin in the days of Jeremiah? Is this not delighting in a pagan feast day more than in the Sabbath of God?

Christians know the truth

Many Christians know this to be so but continue to propagate the myth and Protestant Churches, loud in their declaration of separation from apostasy, are happy to include a reference to the popish mass in the newspaper announcements of their 'Christmas Services'.

Babylonianism

As the age moves nearer and nearer the final apostasy and the open avowal of Babylonianism of which the present 'Christmas' activities are but a foretaste, just when will Christians feel it has gone far enough for them to cease from their involvement in such ungodly practices? They may find, as generations in the past who similarly compromised with evil



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found, that the children they raised in the belief and acceptance of such folly will not share their desire to separate. The members of Lot's family who stayed in Sodom and heeded not his pleadings considered him 'as one that mocked'. The acceptance of this so-called harmless and innocent event as part of the activities of the work of God follows exactly the pattern of the acceptance of the errors of paganism in the first four centuries of this dispensation. The 'Glorious Reformation' was a purging to a large degree of the Church of Christ of these errors. The entrance of creeping error of which Paul and Peter and Jude warned is still to be guarded against today. It would not be the first time the devil outflanked the Church as it stood resolutely against one set of errors only to be quietly engulfed by another just as deadly.

Titbits

Do we, who stoutly refuse to touch a morsel of the Pope's doctrine served up on the platter of ecumenism, not stand in danger of being poisoned by dainty tit-bits, pleasing to the flesh, such as that of 'Christmas'?

Three causes have usually been responsible for the entrance of sin into a church and for the successful overthrowing of the work of God in that church.

Those three are:

- 1. Ignorance of the nature of and Satan's purpose behind the innovation.**
- 2. An appearance of harmlessness and much pleasure for the flesh in the novelty.**
- 3. The popularity the novelty enjoys makes the prospect of severe reproach being heaped upon those who would oppose it very likely.**

How many great denominations have succumbed to error in this way! As the E U *Kingdom of Antichrist* daily grows before our eyes, it is apparent that the spirit of Babylon is beginning to advance unrestrained. The clamour for a single European monetary system and the advance of E U control over national affairs, signal the rise again of Babylonianism in the world. Complementing the rise of political Babylonianism is that of spiritual Babylon of which Christmas festivities have long been a harbinger.