

IN REMEMBRANCE OF HIM



RISEN

DEATH WHERE IS YOUR STING?

(Matthews 26:23; I Corinthians 11)

Christmas season is the time when everyone is running to and fro, here and there, after gifts for one here and the other there, but not realizing the meaninglessness of it all when they say it is YAHSHUA'S birthday. The Word of God tells us that YAHSHUA had no beginning and no end. We read this in the book of John chapter one verses 1-4: In the beginning there was the Word (YAHSHUA), the Word was with God and the Word was God Himself! He was present originally with God. All things were made and came into existence through Him(YAHSHUA), and without Him was not even one thing made that has come into being. In Him was Life, and the Life was the Light of men. He existed before time; He was never held in the boundary of time, neither to its limits, for time exists only by Him. To fulfill the Father's will, a body was prepared for Him, but that did not measure the time frame of His existence, neither His beginning. It just implies the human's time frame for men to mark the date of His coming to earth. Therefore, He does not have a birth date. In no particular day was He born. When the Bible tells us of the time frame in which He came and how He came, it was for our own understanding that that birth was the period in which He took a form of man to live among them. It was not to be considered a birthday like that of a human's,

which marks the beginning of our existence. He has no birth date to be remembered; otherwise we would have known the exact date when He came to earth. But, as it is, nobody seems to know when. It is all speculation. He took the form of a man to suffer the extension of pain that men suffer, and more, to the point of shedding His own blood- even before a cross was given Him to carry to be crucified on. He had to suffer like men do, not like God. His body was scourged beyond measure in the countless floggings, which left him “marred more than any man’s,” (Isaiah 52:14). He was poured out like water, His bones were out of joint His heart was like wax; it softened and melted down within Him, His strength was dried up like a fragment of clay pottery; [with thirst] His tongue cleaved to His jaws, a company of evildoers encircled Him; they pierced His hands and His feet; He could count all His bones, the evildoers gazed at Him; they parted His clothing among them and cast lots for His raiment (Psalm 22:14-18). These we are to remember! The marks on His body proves that He was Who He said He was and will continue to do so, and like the disciple Thomas who doubted Him, the remnant of Israel will someday cry, My Lord, and my God! When they will see Him face to face and the marks printed on His hands and feet.

YAHSHUA commanded us to remember His death and resurrection through the partaking of the bread- symbolic of His broken body and the wine symbolic of His blood. We are to do so until He comes again. But nowhere are we commanded to remember His “birth.” Paul said, The Lord YAHSHUA on the night when He was treacherously delivered up ... took bread. And when He had given thanks, He broke [it] and said, Take, eat. This is My body, which is broken for you. **Do this to call Me to remembrance.** Similarly, when supper was ended, He took the cup also, saying, This cup is the new covenant in My blood. **Do this, as often as you drink [it], to call Me to remembrance. For every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you are representing and signifying and proclaiming the fact of the Lord’s death until He comes [again]** (I Cor. 11:23-26). Yes, we are proclaiming with Him that He conquered death for us; He paid in full the price for our salvation; there is nothing more left to do. “It is finished!” So He cried just before He gave up His Spirit and died. He proclaimed this fact even to the spirits in prison, who [were the souls of those] who long before in the days of Noah had been disobedient, when God’s patience waited during the building of the ark in which a few [people], actually eight in number, were saved through water (I Peter 3:19-20). He went there to make a proclamation, not preaching as the Bible translators so translated.

“Do this in remembrance of Me.” The word remembrance sparkles an emotional feeling of memory toward somebody in relation to what he/she has done. Actions are associated with people in the process of remembering somebody. When we break bread and drink the cup in remembrance of our Savior, the cross, the crown of thorns, the beatings, the spitting automatically fill the mind. That should compel us to live a sanctified and holy life, as we ponder on the price that He had to pay to set us free from the power of sin.

In this season, Christians, together with the world, are remembering YAHSHUA'S birth in ways that fall short and is lacking truth. When Constantine, the emperor of Rome made official the erroneous date of the birth of YAHSHUA, he connected Christianity to his pagan celebration at the conclusion of the pagan winter festival. The effort to create one world religion had its beginning then. When the Christian's belief was mingled with that of other gods, paganism invaded the hearts of the Christians and their churches. Even the word Christmas is of pagan origin. Christ's name does not belong to the mass' pagan rituals. His name is to be revered, respected, and highly exalted. In spite of knowledge available through all kinds of means, Christians continue in the dark age of ignorance by holding hands with paganism as they celebrate, they think, YAHSHUA but I think not. What celebrating the “birth” of YAHSHUA has in common with Christmas tree, Saint Claus, reindeers, snowman and other Disney characters? Do you have any idea what Disney stands for and represents? It would be better to remove Christ from all that mess and masses of paganism to be free from the chains of tradition and do that which He commanded: “Do this in memory of Me.” What **this** that I will do, will bring a memory of Him? What memory is He talking about? To eat the bread-His broken body; to drink the wine – His blood in an attitude of thanksgiving and brokenness of heart; with repentance and praising Him, measuring every aspect of His suffering, realizing that our sin did that to Him. Do this in memory of His death.

It is better to obey than to offer sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams was the words Samuel warned King Saul when he disobeyed God on the battlefield (1 Sam. 15:22). The Christian churches have made their choice to “offer sacrifice” in the altar of Christmas, While the Lord YAHSHUA'S voice calls us to remember His death. They refuse to let go of the Christmas pagan traditions and set them apart in obedience to God. Samuel asked King Saul the question when he tried to

excuse his actions: Has the Lord as great a delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as in obeying the voice of the Lord? Then I ask you: is the Christmas traditions of greater influence in your life than to obey the Word of God? Choose, friend, choose to obey God, for tradition kills but the truth will set you free; ignorance blinds the eyes of reason, but knowledge opens the understanding of those who want to know.

THINK ABOUT IT!