THE MYSTERY OF THE “SUN WORSHIP”

The great masterpiece of deception to counterfeit God’s wonderful plan of Salvation is sun Worship.

No form of idolatry has been more widely practiced than that of the worship of the sun. In fact every form of idolatry is but an outgrowth of sun-worship. Sun-worship has been the Devil’s master key down through the centuries to enslave the minds of men in false doctrines and evil practices.

I want to tell you a little about the origin of ancient sun worship. Let us read about a man who had great deal to do with tower of Babel. He (Nimrod) began to be a mighty one on earth. And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel, and Erech, and Akkad and Calneh, in the land of Shinar. (Genesis 10:10) The marginal reading of “Babel” is Babylon. Nimrod was the great grandson of Noah, the son of Cush and the founder of Babylon.

His wife, history tell us, was named Semiramis, and she was the first deified (sanctified) queen of the city. Nimrod was the first deified King, and when he died, the people mourned, saying that Nimrod was a god. Semiramis told the people that Nimrod was the sun god, and that his spirit was still living in the sun, and further said that she herself was the queen of the heaven, and her spirit was that of the moon. She said that at her death she would dwell in the moon as Nimrod was dwelling in the sun. Thus in Nimrod was founded the system of religion known as paganism which is devil worship. “But I say that things which the gentiles sacrifice they sacrifice to devils, and not God; and I would not that ye should have fellowship with devils”. (I Corinthians 10:20)

Every year when the cold season began, the people believed their sun-god was leaving them. They came to learn that his lowest dip in the horizon was about December 21 and then followed by his gradual return until in midsummer he was directly overhead at noon day. It was on 25th of December that they began to notice this gradual return of the sun-god. This day they called the “birthday of the sun”.

After the death of Nimrod, Semiramis never married again. Some years later she gave birth to a son, whom she named Tammuz. He was also born “on the birth of the sun”- December 25. There was great rejoicing, and Semiramis told the people that the spirit of the sun, her husband Nimrod, was the father of Tammuz. Thus, through the sin of this queen, Satan was laying the foundation of false system that would counterfeit the miraculous birth of Jesus Christ. Tammuz was regarded as the miracle child of Semiramis, and was hailed as the son of the sun-god. He was idolized and worshipped. The first letter of his name became the symbol of the sun-worship. Human sacrifices to the sun god were offered on this initial letter, made of wood, known as the cross, “T”. His birthday December 25 was honoured more and more.

One Historian writing of the time of Rome, say; “The 25th of December, was observed as the day when victorious god re-appeared on earth, and was held as the Natalis Invivti, solis, ‘the birthday of the unconquered sun’. The Yule log is the dead stock of Nimrod,
deified as the sun god, but cut down by his enemies; the Christmas tree is Nimrod redivivus---the slain god come to life again.”

To further honour the son god and the moon goddess, the first day of the week was called Sunday in honour of the sun-god and the second day was called Moons day (Monday) in honour of the moon. “Thus said the Lord, learn not the way of the heathen, and be not dismayed at the signs of heaven; for the heathen are dismayed at them. For the customs of the people are vain; for one cutteth a tree out of the forest, the work of the hands of the workman, with the axe. They deck it with silver and with gold; they fasten it with nails and with hammers that it move not”. (Jeremiah 10:2-4)

Babylon fell as God had predicted and Satan’s scheme to bring the entire world under his dominion was thwarted. But while Babylon fell, her systems of worship in a false religion conquered the world. The religion spread to every nation and survived the milliseconds of time. It is with us today. Sun worship is the oldest, the most widespread, and the most enduring of all the forms of idolatry known to man. The ruins of ancient cities testify to the grandeur/splendor and pomp attached to the sun worship. In these beautiful temples Satan was worshipped as God under Nimrod’s name. In Egypt, Nimrod was Osiris. Semiramis was called Isis. In Babylon, the bull was a symbol of Nimrod, the mighty hunter. In Egypt, the bull, or the sun god was called Apis. Even in India, the sacred bull, or Nimrod, is worshipped, and it is a common sight in India to see men prostrate themselves before the sacred bull in the streets of cities.

Paul speaks of those “who changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things” (Romans 1:23). They worshipped the creature rather than the Creator. How far man can fall. Always remember that the heathen-worship is sun worship or devil-worship.

In Egypt the people believed that the sun-god occasionally would come from the sun to the earth and be reincarnated in the bull. They would choose a certain bull, which they thought, represented the reincarnation of the sun and decorate it with garlands. In a gaudy/colourful procession, attended by the priests and vestal virgins, Apis the bull was taken to the temple and worshipped by the people as God.

Many times Israel backslid and gave themselves over to the sun-worship. They prostrated themselves before the sun-god and joined in its lascivious rites on the day appointed to worship the sun-Sunday. Even after they entered the land of promise, Israel went back to sun worship time and again. It was so deceitful, so appalling to the senses with its ritual and pageantry that it exerted a fascinating influence over the people of God.

Paganism, a hundred of years before the birth of Jesus Christ, said that the “Messiah had come”. When a young man, Tammuz was killed by a wild boar, there was great weeping and mourning throughout the kingdom, and forty days before the first full moon following the vernal equinox were set apart as a time of “weeping and for Tammuz”.

Let me read about this in the Bible; “Then said he unto me, son of man, hast thou seen what ancients of the house of Israel do in the dark; every man in the chambers of his imagery? For they say, the Lord seeth us not; the Lord hath forsaken the earth. He said unto me, turn thee yet again and thou shalt see greater abominations that they do. Then
he brought me to the door of the gate of the lord's house, which was toward the north; and, behold, there sat women “weeping for Tammuz”. Then said he unto me, hast thou seen this, o son of man? Turn thee yet again, and thou shalt see greater abominations than these. And he brought me into the inner court of the Lord’s house, and behold at the door of the temple of the Lord, between the porch and the altar, were about five and twenty men, with their backs toward the temple of the Lord, and their faces toward the east; and they worshipped the sun toward the east. Then he said unto me, hast thou seen this o son of man? Is it a light thing to the house of Judah that they commit the abominations, which they commit here? For they have filled the land with violence, and have returned to provoke me to anger; and Lo, they put the branch to their nose. Therefore will I also deal in fury; mine eye shall not spare, neither will I have pity; and though they cry in mine ears with a loud voice, yet will I not hear them” (Ezekiel 8:12-18)

God’s people were constantly coming in contact with paganism-, which was sun worship. They also worshipped the moon-goddess, “the queen of heaven”. Let us read; “Therefore pray not thou for this people, neither lift up cry nor prayer for them, neither make intercession to me; for I will not hear thee. Seest thou not what they do in cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem? The children gather wood, and the fathers kindle the fire and the women knead their dough, to make cakes to the queen of heaven, and to pour out drink offerings unto other gods that they may provoke me to anger” (Jeremiah 7:16-18). These ‘cakes’ were round, and on them was cut a cross in honour of the sun-god, and they were offered to the queen of heaven.

Bryant, in his “Mythology” says; “One species of sacred bread which used to be offered to the gods was of great antiquity (ancient times) and was called bun (bread roll). (Vol.1 pg 375). Yes, dear friends, the famous hot cross buns, which are common eaten on Good Friday, are relics of paganism. At least 1500 years before Christ these buns were offered in the worship of the queen of heaven. Another name for this queen of heaven was Ishtar, from which we get our word “Easter”. “The word Easter- Anglo Saxon Eastre, - Easter; is derived from Eastre, or Ostera, the Anglo-Saxon goddess of spring”.

Down through the centuries the distinguishing mark that separated the pagan from God’s people was their day of worship, which was Sunday, or sun’s day, while God’s people observed the seventh day of the week. On Sunday the pagans worshipped the sun giving it highest honour in their worship and by naming the day after the sun-god. Thus, the distinguishing mark of the heathen was their Sunday and the mark of God’s people- was their Sabbath.

The queen of heaven, Semiramis, was considered the goddess of reproduction. She was worshipped in different countries under different names; but the Anglo Saxon name was Eastre (Ishtar) from which we get Easter. In connection with the worship of this goddess of reproduction, the pagans chose an egg as a symbol of fertility. They knew a fertile egg would produce a chick as a symbol of fertility. They also chose a rabbit as a symbol of germination in connection with the worship of this goddess of reproduction. A rabbit is a very fast reproducing animal. Now remember that Sunday, the first day of the week, was the day on which celebration was held, and was dedicated to the sun-god. The people went up early in the morning to some high mountain and there they watched the sun come up in the east. They honoured the goddess of east in this service as well as the sun-god,
and reality sun-worship was worship of the reproductive powers, which exists in men and women. They believed that to commit adultery was to honour the sun god.

One historian writes, “As the sun was the great god, the supreme lord, and as he exerted his most glorious powers in reproduction, it was held to be the most acceptable worship for his devotees so to employ themselves and their powers. Consequently, prostitution was one chief characteristic of sun-worship wherever found. The sacrifice of virginity was the most acceptable offering that ever could be made in worship of the sun.

Finally Christ was born. The exact date of His birth no one knows. You remember Tammuz was exalted by Satan to be the false messiah, or rival of Jesus, and the cross of letter “T” was his sign of sun-worship. Jesus came and died for lost sinners. Furthermore, He died upon the symbol of sun-worship, the cross, as Paul said, “Even the death of the cross” (Philippians 2:8). You can see how the devil has been successful in getting the sun-worship in every generation and every age of the world. What a rejoice by the demon. The Son of God, delivered by His own people and crucified by the sun-worshipping Romans on the symbol of sun worship, - “the cross”.

As the disciples and early Christians went forth to preach the gospel, they came face to face with the pagan world and pagan sun-worship. The Christians told of their saviour, the Son of God, and the devil then succeeded in getting thousands of pagans to accept Christianity normally merely for influence. In heart they were still pagans, and they used their influence to lower the standards of the Church. When a Christian king would conquer a pagan tribe, he would give them their choice of being baptized or being put to death. To save their lives they would join the church, but their hearts were ignorant and they were not converted. Thus were thousands brought into the church, and brought with them their pagan rites and ceremonies.

Listen to Mosheim, the church historian; “The pagans have been accustomed to numerous and splendid ceremonies from their infancy, and when they saw the new religion to be destitute of such ceremonies, they thought it to be simple. The Christians were pronounced atheist, because they were destitute of temple alters, victims, priests (as they knew them) and all the pomp which the pagan supposed to be the essence of religion; for the unenlightened persons are prone to estimated religion what meets their eyes. To silence this accusation, the Christian leaders thought they must introduce some of the rites and ceremonies, which would strike the senses of the people. Before the success century was a half gone, before the last of the apostles had been dead for forty years, this apostasy, this working of the ‘mystery of iniquity’ had so large spread over both east and west, that it is literally true that a large part of the Christian observances and institutions, even in this century, had the aspects of pagan mysterious”.

Thus a pagan flood entered the Christian church and heathen rites and beliefs were blended with the doctrines of Christianity. Like the Israel of the old, the Christian church went into sun-worship. Rites and ceremonies, of which neither Paul nor Peter had sanctioned of, crept silently into use and then claimed the divine authority. The religion of the pagan conquered the Christian Church. This is the reason that there are so many pagan rites, practices and doctrines in the churches of today. Remember, it has always been Satan’s plan to institute in the entire world the various rites of the sun-worship, and he has been successful in doing this very thing.
You remember we showed how Nimrod, the builder of the tower of Babel was the founder of sun-worship. By getting people to build imitation towers of Babel all over the world, Satan has been successful in getting people to worship the sun. They are called “high places” in the Bible, for they are built on mountains and call wind the tower of Babel. Here the priests of the sun-worship would pray to the sun. These towers were built high to catch the “first rays” of the rising sun and the “last rays” of the setting sun.

In China today we can still see the tower of Babel represented by a Chinese pagoda. In Egypt they used the obelisk to represent the Babel tower. In Alaska, the Indians have the ten poles for the same symbol. We find the same form of the sun-worship in South America amid the ruins of ancient temples. This also accounts for the origin of the steeples, which we see on churches today.

Images of Semiramis and Nimrod are worshipped in China today, and are called “Sning Moo”. In ancient Egypt Semiramis was called Isis. The halo or nimbus surrounding the heads of the idols represents the disk of the sun. Go to Japan, another strong-hold of sun-worship, and the Emperor is called “the son of the sun-god”, just as were pharaohs of Egypt. Go to India, another center of sun-worship, and there you will find holy men who are waiting for alms. Their rosary beads are always with them. As for holy water, the entire river Ganges is holy.

Bear in mind they chose the “T” as symbol of the sun-worship in honour of Tammuz, the false messiah. It is still the symbol today. Did you ever wonder why many Protestants have the “T” or cross, on their steeples? Little do they know it is the sign of the sun-god. In Mexico, you will see the sign of the cross everywhere, a symbol of sun-worship. The carvings of the Egyptian gods had beads around the neck and a jeweled cross on the beads as god, as jeweled cross women wear today. Our American Indians had the sign of the cross on rocks and other places. The brown shirts on the Hitlerites of Germany have adopted this symbol of sun-worship also. So we can see that the devil has been successful in instituting the various forms of sun-worship into most of the religions of the world.

Notice this alarming fact: The exact date of Christ’s birthday was not known; it was therefore suggested: “Why not call it the same date as the birth of Tammuz, December 25?” Thus gradually, but surely, December 25 came to be known as the “Birthday of Christ”. The papal Church finally instituted a “special mass” on that day—“Christ’s mass” and so December 25 became “Christmas”.

It is well known that Christ was not born on December 25. I quote from Encyclopedia Britannica, page 704 on “Christmas Day”. “There is however, a difficulty in accepting this as the date of nativity, December being the height of the rainy season in Judea, when neither flocks nor shepherd could have been at night in the fields of Bethlehem”. Again from American book of Days, by Douglas: Christmas; “the exact date of Jesus’ birthday is unknown”. Note how the devil seemed to be successful again. He was influential in getting the Romans designate, December 25, as the birthday of Christ, which indirectly honoured the sun-aged Tammuz whose birthday came on that date.

Christ was crucified and resurrected in the spring of the year. The devil was working again, to bring in the idea of having celebration the same time as a heathen one, and call it “in
honour of the resurrection”. The cakes to the queen of heaven became the “hot cross buns” we have today, and the “forty days of the weeping of Tammuz” became “Lent” and the close of Lent became “Easter Sunday”.

Observe what this authority says of Lent. This is taken from “The two Babylon’s”, the Alexander Hislop: “Among the pagans this lent seems to have been an indispensable preliminary to the great annual festival in commemoration of the death and resurrection of Tammuz, which was celebrated by alternate weeping and rejoicing, and which in many countries, was considerably later than, therefore called the “Month of Tammuz”. In Egypt, it was celebrated about the middle of May, and in Britain, some time in April. To Conciliate the pagans to nominal Christianity, Rome pursuing its usual policy, took measures to get Christians and pagan festivals amalgamated, and it was found not difficult matter in general, to get paganism and Christianity- now far sunk in idolatry- in this and so many other things, to shake hands” (Page 105).

The goddess Ishtar (Easter) came to be known as the goddess of spring time “new life”, or as history records it, the “goddess of reproduction “. The pagans went out to some mountainside early Sunday morning and worshipped this goddess as the sun was rising in the east. They participated in immorality and indecency of every description. As we have mentioned, eggs and rabbits were used as symbols of fertility and germination. What a terrible doing? Satan succeeded in transferring the insulting festivals of the pagan over in honour of Christ’s resurrection, and so today we still have the eggs and rabbits, the hot cross buns and the early sunrise service, after the Lent, all in honour of Christ’s resurrection. All these things came into church in gradual way, were sanctioned by papal Rome, and later pawned (placed) off onto the protestant world.

Notice these quotations in connection with the pagan worship on Sunday: Webster unabridged (Full-length, complete) Dictionary says of Sunday; “So called because the day was anciently dedicated to the sun or its worship”. The North British Review, Vol. P. 409, calls Sunday “the wild solar holiday of all pagan times”.

Here Satan gained another victory. The Seventh-day Sabbath, which God blessed and made holy for men to worship the true God upon, was gradually set a side and the festival day of pagan sun-worship was taken into the church in its place. Professor Hutton Webster, PhD. in his book, “Rest Days”, Page 270 says: “What began as a pagan ordinance, ended as a Christian religion, and a long series of imperial decrees, during the forth, fifth, and sixth centuries, enjoined with increasing stringency abstinence from labour on Sunday”.

Did you ever wonder who blessed Sunday and gave it the name “Lords’ Day?” The Catholic Church, for over one thousands years before the existence of protestant, by virtue of her divine mission, changed the day from Saturday to Sunday... The Christian Sabbath (Sunday) is therefore, to this day, the acknowledged offspring of the Catholic Church”. This is a boast of the Catholic Church herself!

**Conclusion:**

Now comes the question: How many of us today have been caught in this clever trap of the devil---in his plan to bring various forms of sun –worship into the churches of
Christianity? Are we ignorantly and unconsciously worshipping the sun today? First, there is Easter coming from sun-worship, originally devoted to all forms of immorality and indecency, with its eggs and bunny rabbits. Secondly, Lent and Good Friday all part of pagan sun worshippers. Thirdly, Christmas also has come down to us from the birthday of Tammuz, the sun-god.

Fourthly, where did we get the idea of a new hat at Easter time? I read from the “Custom of Mankind” by Eichler: “Perhaps Greeks, Gauls, Romans, believed the secret of life was in the egg. Easter (Spring) is the time of the solar new year- incubation of nature. The Chinese, Japanese and American Indians and many others have the custom of casting off the old clothing and putting on new ones…house is cleaned and new fires built. Just as the world dresses itself in new spring flowers, mankind dresses himself in new, bright apparel”.

Fifthly, we mention both cross buns and other crosses symbolizing sun. Sixth point: Did you ever hear of sunrise worship on Easter morning? Protestants and Catholics today often go to hilltop and watch the sun as it comes up on Easter morning. Seventh, there is the day itself, Sunday. It has no sacredness in the Bible. It is purely in pagan holiday of all pagan times, a day of worship to the sun, blessed and sanctified and let a part by papal Rome and adopted by the protestant world. Just think for a moment; Jesus the one who made Sabbath in the beginning, the one who said He was the “Lord of Sabbath”, the one who freed the Sabbath from all traditions of men: do you think He would cast a side His Holy day and substitute in its place a day kept by Satan and used in devil worship for thousands of years in the most wicked and immoral manner? No? Jesus never did that. He never changed the Sabbath. Such apostasy is the work of the antichrist. Jesus suffered in the garden, went to the cross to save man from sin, gave His life to satisfy the demands of a holy Law, having lived a perfect life to help us live clean, pure lives and to help us keep the Sabbath a perfect day.

Jesus said, “If ye love me, keep my Commandments” (John 14:15). “Blessed are they that do His Commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the City” (Revelation 22:14). “And being made perfect, He became the author of Eternal Salvation unto all them that obey Him” (Hebrews 5:9). The time has come when we must choose the way we will go.

Tonight the Blessed Saviour is knocking at the door of your heart. Will you let Him bring the truth to you? Will you accept His grace to help you live it? Decide your destiny my brother/sister, because your destiny lies in your own decision today. God bless you.

Remember: If you need extra copy/copies for friend/friends and other different publications, please write to me on 070-818 181 or sirkoi@yahoo.com.