SATAN DOES NOT WANT YOU TO READ THIS ARTICLE

"And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, in whose case the *god of this world* has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God" (II Corinthians 4:3-4).

"And the great dragon was thrown down, the serpent of old who is called the devil and *Satan*, who deceives the whole world; he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him" (Revelation 12:9).

"For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for *Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light*. Therefore it is no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works" (II Corinthians 11:13-15).

Satan has deceived the world, and specifically, mainstream Christians. For example:

- a) We do not have an immortal soul. Immortality belongs only to God (I Timothy 6:16) and spirit beings (angels, demons). Jesus said that "No one has ascended into heaven, but He who descended from heaven: the Son of Man" (John 3:13). And God said to Adam, "By the sweat of your face you will eat bread, till you return to the ground, because from it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return" (Genesis 3:19).
- b) We are not going to heaven or hell when we die. First, hell is fictional. There's no such place where God will eternally torment the wicked. This lie falsely portrays God as harsh and unmerciful

Nor do we go to heaven when we die. If that's the case, then there's no logical reason for the future resurrections stated in the books of Matthew, Corinthians, Thessalonians, and Revelation. "Blessed and holy are those who have part in the *first resurrection*. The second death has no power over them, but they will be priests of God and of Christ and will reign with him for a thousand years" (Revelation 20:6). "But we do not want you to be uninformed, brethren, about those who are asleep, so that you will not grieve as do the rest who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep in Jesus. For this we say to you by the word

of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord" (I Thessalonians 4:13-17).

When do the dead in Christ rise? "For since by a man came death, by a man also came the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, after that those who are Christ's *at His coming*" (I Corinthians 15:21-23).

c) God is not a mysterious trinity. Satan once belonged to a *trinity* of archangels (Michael and Gabriel are the other two archangels). The Godhead, however, consists only of God the Father and Jesus: "yet for us there is but one God, the Father, from whom are all things and we exist for Him; and one Lord, Jesus Christ, by whom are all things, and we exist through Him (I Corinthians 8:6).

Satan has also deceived Christians into believing that God's laws, holy days and festivals (as found in the Old Testament) have been nailed to the stake, commonly referred to as the cross. Nonsense! Jesus Himself validated such laws, holy days and festivals: "Do not think that I came to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I did not come to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass from the Law until all is accomplished. Whoever then annuls one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever keeps and teaches them, he shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 5:17-19). Heaven and earth have not passed away, neither have God's laws, holy days and festivals.

Moreover, the mainstream Christian celebrations of Easter and Christmas are rooted in paganism. For example, if you remove Christ from Christmas, you're left with the pagan Roman celebration of Saturnalia. And the word "Easter" is derived from "Eostre, a Saxon goddess celebrated at the spring equinox" (*The Oxford Companion to the Bible*, pg. 173). Eostre is also known as Ostara. "In ancient Anglo-Saxon myth, Ostara is the personification of the rising sun. In that capacity she is associated with the spring and is considered to be a fertility goddess. She is the friend of all children and to amuse then she changed her pet bird into a rabbit. This rabbit brought forth brightly colored eggs, which the goddess gave to the children as gifts. From her name and rites the festival of Easter is derived" (*Encyclopedia Mythica*)

The Christmas and Easter celebrations arrived in the fourth and fifth centuries AD, hundreds of years after the death of the original apostles. They obscure the plan of God, as revealed in His holy days and festivals. In order to divert people from the truth, Satan has convinced mainstream Christianity to replace the Passover with Easter, and the Feast of Tabernacles with Christmas.

Satan does not want Christians to observe God's holy days and festivals. He has convinced mainstream Christians that such holy days and festivals are either nailed to the cross, or that they apply solely to Jewish people. Yet God said, "The Feasts of the LORD, which you shall proclaim to be holy convocations, *these are My feasts*" (Leviticus 23:1). While originally

centered on the Israelites, the holy days and festivals beginning with Passover and ending with the Feast of Tabernacles and the Last Great Day are Christ-centered:

- a) **Passover**: Jesus is the Passover lamb which was slain for us;
- b) **Festival of Unleavened Bread**: Jesus was unleavened. Biblically, leaven symbolizes sin. Jesus referred to Himself as the "bread which came down from heaven." Jesus was sinless, or unleavened;
- c) Festival of the Firstfruits (alternately called Feast of Weeks, later known as Pentecost): Jesus is the First of the firstfruits of God, and Christians are also called firstfruits who receive God's Holy Spirit, which was first made available in a transformative way on the first Day of Pentecost (Acts 2);
- d) **The Memorial of Blowing of Trumpets** heralds the return of Jesus to the earth;
- e) The Day of Atonement depicts Jesus' atoning sacrifice on our behalf (and the binding of Satan for one thousand years following the return of Jesus);
- f) **The Feast of Tabernacles** represents Jesus 'tabernacling' in the flesh for 33.5 years, and He was probably born on the first day of the Feast of Tabernacles; and
- g) The Last Great Day foreshadows Jesus as Judge in the judgment period after the second resurrection.

Moreover, Satan does not want us to learn that that these holy days and festivals reveal God's plan for mankind. The plan of God culminates in the (i) return of Jesus, (ii) first resurrection, (iii) temporary banishment of Satan and his demons for 1,000 years, (iv) establishment of the Kingdom of God and the millennial reign of Christ and His saints, (v) permanent banishment of Satan and his demons, (vi) second resurrection, (vii) 100-year Great White Throne Judgment period; (viii) third resurrection, (ix) transformation of this earth, and the (v) transfer of God the Father's throne to the transformed earth. God's plan symbolically unfolds with each passing holy day and feast:

a) Passover: Jesus became our Passover, thus redeeming us from the second death mentioned in Revelation (Rev. 2:11, 20:6, 20:11, and 21:8). We've all sinned, and the "wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord" (Romans 6:23). Sin occurs when we break God's laws: "Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth also the law: for *sin is the transgression of the law*" (I John 3:4). On that stake, Jesus assumed the penalty of sin (death) on our behalf. We recognize this when we observe Passover (technically, the Lord's Supper) and the Feast of Unleavened Bread. Such recognition is the first step in God's plan for us.

- b) **Feast of Unleavened Bread**: Leaven represents sin. When God calls us, and we accept Jesus as our Passover sacrifice, then we should be determined to remove sin from of our lives, and to obey God's laws. Removing leaven (symbolic of sin: I Corinthians 5:7-8) from our households serves as a reminder that we must remove sin from of our lives.
- Pentecost: The Church of God celebrated its birth on Pentecost. Anciently, Pentecost was called the Feast of Firstfruits. Jesus is called the firstfruit, and Christians who have the Spirit of God are also called firstfruits. This implies that God is revealing His truth not to everyone, but to a select few who are symbolically called the firstfruits. They've received God's transformative Spirit, and will be resurrected or changed at the return of Jesus, itself symbolized by the Feast of Trumpets.
- d) **Feast of Memorial of Blowing of Trumpets**: "For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the *trumpet of God*, and the dead in Christ will rise first" (I Thessalonians 4:16). This Feast points to the return of Jesus and the resurrection of the dead in Christ.
- e) **Day of Atonement**: This day symbolizes not only the Jesus' atoning sacrifice, but the binding of Satan for 1,000 years. It also signifies the literal day when we will be "at one" with God, which can occur only after Satan has been banished.
- f) **Feast of Tabernacles** represents the millennial reign of Jesus and His saints on the earth.
- g) **Last Great Day**, which immediately follows the last day of the Feast of Tabernacles. This day represents the second resurrection for everyone not resurrected one thousand years earlier, and the ensuing 100-year judgment period in which everyone will have an opportunity for salvation.

The Befuddled Disciples

"So when they (the apostles) had come together, they were asking Him (Jesus), saying, 'Lord, is it at this time You are restoring the kingdom to Israel?' He said to them, 'It is not for you to know times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority; but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth' (Acts 1:6-8).

Jesus' disciples were young and zealous. They believed that Jesus would overthrow Roman rule and thus restore the Davidic kingdom of Israel. Even during Jesus' last supper, they argued about whom would be greatest in the new kingdom of Israel: "And there arose also a dispute among them as to which one of them was regarded to be greatest" (Luke 22:24). Some wanted to be the equivalent of our secretaries of State, Defense, and Treasury.

In many ways the disciples were clueless. They did not understand that Jesus had to die: "For He was teaching His disciples and telling them, 'The Son of Man is to be delivered into the

hands of men, and they will kill Him; and when He has been killed, He will rise three days later.' But they did not understand this statement, and they were afraid to ask Him" (Mark 9:31-32). Nor did they understand that Jesus would rise three days after His crucifixion: "For as yet they did not understand the Scripture, that He must rise again from the dead" (Mark 9:31-32).

Indeed, Jesus began to open their eyes after His resurrection: "Now He said to them, 'These are My words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things which are written about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.' Then He *opened their minds to understand the Scriptures*, and He said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Christ would suffer and rise again from the dead the third day, and that repentance for forgiveness of sins would be proclaimed in His name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem" (Luke 24:45-47).

After His resurrection, Jesus opened the minds of His apostles. Only then did they begin to realize that Jesus was not sent to overthrow the Romans, or to reestablish the Davidic Kingdom of Israel then and there. Rather, they began to understand that Jesus will return to establish the worldwide Kingdom of God.

Jesus and His Kingdom

"And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. And He will reign over the House of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end" (Luke 1:31-33). "For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. *He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever*. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this" (Isaiah 9:6-7).

Jesus did not establish His kingdom in the first century. But He will do so in the near future: "And I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse, and He who sat on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness *He judges and wages war*. His eyes are a flame of fire, and on His head are many diadems; and He has a name written on Him which no one knows except Himself. He is clothed with a robe dipped in blood, and His name is called The Word of God. And the armies which are in heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean, were following Him on white horses. From His mouth comes a sharp sword, so that with it He may strike down the nations, and He will rule them with a rod of iron; and He treads the wine press of the fierce wrath of God, the Almighty. And on His robe and on His thigh He has a name written, 'KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS'" (Revelation 19:11-16).

Where's the location of Jesus' Kingdom? On the earth, of course: "Behold, a day is coming for the LORD when the spoil taken from you will be divided among you. For I will gather all the nations against Jerusalem to battle, and the city will be captured, the houses plundered, the women ravished and half of the city exiled, but the rest of the people will not be cut off from the city. Then the LORD will go forth and fight against those nations, as when He fights on a day of battle. In that day His feet will stand on the Mount of Olives, which is in front of Jerusalem on the east; and the Mount of Olives will be split in its middle from east to west by a very large valley, so that half of the mountain will move toward the north and the other half toward the south. You will flee by the valley of My mountains, for the valley of the mountains

will reach to Azel; yes, you will flee just as you fled before the earthquake in the days of Uzziah king of Judah. Then the LORD, my God, will come, and all the holy ones with Him! In that day there will be no light; the luminaries will dwindle. For it will be a unique day which is known to the LORD, neither day nor night, but it will come about that at evening time there will be light. And in that day living waters will flow out of Jerusalem, half of them toward the eastern sea and the other half toward the western sea; it will be in summer as well as in winter. *And the LORD will be king over all the earth*; in that day the LORD will be the only one, and His name the only one" (Zechariah 14:1-9).

After the return of Jesus and the resurrection of the saints (and the change of the saints into spirit beings), and after the battle at Armageddon (or Megiddo, in Northern Israel, where the nations will assemble to fight the returning Christ), Jesus will establish His Kingdom.

The Kingdom of God will be based from Jerusalem: "Now it shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established on the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow into it. Many people shall come and say, "Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; He will teach us His ways, and we shall walk in His paths. For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the *word of the Lord from Jerusalem*. He shall judge between the nations, and rebuke many people; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore" (Isaiah 2:2-4).

The extent of the Kingdom will be worldwide: "They shall not hurt nor destroy in all My holy mountain: for the *earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD*, as the waters cover the sea" (Isaiah 11:9).

Furthermore, Jesus and His resurrected and changed saints will enforce God's laws, including the seventh-day Sabbath and the holy days. For example, Jesus will expect everyone to observe the Feast of Tabernacles: "And it shall come to pass that everyone who is left of all the nations which came against Jerusalem shall go up from year to year to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, and to keep the *Feast of Tabernacles*. And it shall be that whichever of the families of the earth do not come up to Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, on them there will be no rain. If the family of Egypt will not come up and enter in, they shall have no rain; they shall receive the plague with which the LORD strikes the nations who do not come up to keep the Feast of Tabernacles. This shall be the punishment of Egypt and the punishment of all the nations that do not come up to keep the Feast of Tabernacles" (Zechariah 14:16-19).

A quick summary of events

Jesus will return to earth and wage war against the nations assembled at Armageddon, or Megiddo. In the previous three and one-half years there was great and unparalleled tribulation in the earth: "For then there will be a great tribulation, such as has not occurred since the beginning of the world until now, nor ever will. Unless those days had been cut short, no life would have been saved; but for the sake of the elect those days will be cut short" (Matthew 24:21-22). This period of time will be characterized by the:

a) **Emergence of three distinct blocs of nations** known biblically as the (i) *king of the* north (also identified as the "beast" power in the books of Daniel and Revelation, and as the fourth empire - the last manifestation of the ancient Roman Empire - in Daniel 2 and

7); (ii) king of the south (probably an Islamic nation or group of nations; and the (iii) kings of the east, probably an Asian nation or group of nations.

- b) Emergence of a false prophet allied with the king of the north, or beast power. This false prophet will masquerade as Christ or Christ's emissary. The Apostle Paul describes him as the "man of sin" who "opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God" (II Thessalonians 2:3-4). He is also symbolized by the "harlot" of Revelation 17:
- c) **Persecution of God's saints**: "Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name's sake" (Matthew 24:9).
- d) **Persecution of the modern-day nations of Israel (e.g. the United States, Great Britain, etc.), including the Jewish nation**: "For thus says the LORD: 'We have heard a voice of trembling, o fear, and not of peace. Ask now, and see, whether a man is ever in labor with child? So why do I see every man with his hands on his loins like a woman in labor, and all faces turned pale? Alas! For that day is great, so that none is like it; and it is the time of Jacob's trouble, but he shall be saved out of it. For it shall come to pass in that day,' says the LORD of hosts, 'that I will break his yoke from your neck, and will burst your bonds; foreigners shall no more enslave them. But they shall serve the LORD their God, and David their king, whom I will raise up for them" (Jeremiah 30:5-9).
- e) **Ministry of God's two witnesses**: "And I will grant authority to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy for twelve hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth. These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands that stand before the Lord of the earth. And if anyone wants to harm them, fire flows out of their mouth and devours their enemies; so if anyone wants to harm them, he must be killed in this way. These have the power to shut up the sky, so that rain will not fall during the days of their prophesying; and they have power over the waters to turn them into blood, and to strike the earth with every plague, as often as they desire. When they have finished their testimony, the beast that comes up out of the abyss will make war with them, and overcome them and kill them" (Revelation 11:3-7).

These events will culminate in the return of Jesus, the resurrection of the saints (the living saints will be changed), and the banishment of Satan and his demons for 1,000 years: "Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand. He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years; and he cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal on him, so that he should deceive the nations no more till the thousand years were finished. But after these things he must be released for a little while" (Revelation 20:1-3).

Why is Satan so angry?

Satan is angry because of the following reasons:

- He tried but failed to overthrow God: "How you are fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! How you are cut down to the ground, you who weakened the nations! For you have said in your heart: 'I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will also sit on the mount of the congregation on the farthest sides of the north; I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will be like the Most High.' Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol, to the lowest depths of the Pit. Those who see you will gaze at you, and consider you, saying: 'Is this the man who made the earth tremble, who shook kingdoms" (Isaiah 14:12-16).
- b) He will try to overthrow God again, and he will again fail: "And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought, but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer. The great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him" (Revelation 12:7-9).
- c) Bitter and angry, Satan will then attack the children of God: "Now when the dragon saw that he had been cast to the earth, he persecuted the woman who gave birth to the male Child. But the woman was given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent. So the serpent spewed water out of his mouth like a flood after the woman, that he might cause her to be carried away by the flood. But the earth helped the woman, and the earth opened its mouth and swallowed up the flood which the dragon had spewed out of his mouth. And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring (symbolically, the Church or children of God), who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ" (Revelation 12:13-17).
- d) Satan is murderously angry at the children of God who keep His commandments and hold to the testimony of Jesus because they will inherit what Satan thinks is rightfully his: the Kingdom of God. "Therefore, brethren, we are debtors--not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, 'Abba, Father.' The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs-- heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together" (Romans 8:12-17).

If we have God's Spirit, and keep His commandments and hold to the testimony of Jesus, then we will inherit the Kingdom of God. We'll become kings and priests (Revelation 5:10). This is why Satan is so angry at us. This is why Satan did not want you to read this article. He doesn't want us to know the plan of God, as revealed in God's holy days and festivals (Leviticus 23, Deuteronomy 16, etc.). Satan wants us to be blithely unaware of his methods in obfuscating God's truth. He wants us to observe Easter and Christmas, not the biblically-sanctioned Passover and Feast of Tabernacles.

It's often said that the truth hurts. Well, God's truth hurts Satan. The plan of God - as revealed in His holy days and festivals - is not kind to him. Therefore, Satan desperately wants us to never learn plan of God. Most of all, Satan doesn't want us to accept God's truth, and to become God's children (Romans 8). I hope we disappoint him.

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