## 09 Church History

## Is "Church" Where Believers Should Worship?

Christianity has many problems. Many of its tenets are not Biblical. The backbone of Christianity is Replacement Theology. Also known as "Two Covenant Theology," Replacement Theology in its simplest form teaches that

Christ has replaced the Torah and the Prophets, Good Friday and Easter replace Passover, Shabbat (Sabbath) is replaced by SUNday, and the "church" replaces Yisrael. What often (but not always) goes with replacement theology is anti-Semitism. Since the word "Jew" comes from the name "Judah" ("Judas" is the Greek name of "Judah") the Jew is forever linked to one



man who betrayed Messiah to the Gentiles to be hung on a tree. This has led to the "church" killing thousands and millions of Jews since the first century in the name of "Christ." This has decimated the Jewish attitude towards Christianity. If a Jew believes in "Christ," then he/she is forgetting what Hitler did in the name of "Christ," what Martin Luther and the Reformers did to the Jews during the Protestant Reformation. Also the Jew is forgetting the million plus Jews murdered by the Crusaders, the Inquisition, the pogroms in Russia and Eastern Europe (done by the Greek Orthodox) etc etc etc. Modern Judaism is predominantly anti-Christian and modern Christianity is likewise, anti-Semitic and certainly anti-Torah and Prophets (for it was the "church" that labeled the Hebrew Bible "Old" and "Irrelevant".) Certainly Christians view the "Old Testament" as less relevant than the New and more relevant Testament. It is sad that Christians label 78% of their Bible "Old" and for vesterday, not for today. It is conceded that all Christians do not believe in Replacement Theology nor do all Churches teach it. However, Replacement Theology is taught in Seminary and the fact is MOST Christians and MOST churches do believe in and teach it Most tenets of Replacement Theology are found in ALL Protestant denominations' official doctrine and Roman Catholic Church doctrine. This applies to the "Sabbath" keeping churches as well. Another point that must be made here is that Replacement Theology teaches that the Renewed Covenant (The New Testament) was made with the "church." This is not the case. The Bible states that the Renewed Covenant is made with the House of Yisrael and the House of Judah (See Jeremiah 31:31-34. In Hebrew Bibles it is Jer 31:30-33. Also, see its cross reference in Hebrews chapter 8). What the Renewed Covenant means to Yisrael is found in John 14:2: "In my Father's House there are many rooms, if it were not so I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you." What the readers of the Bible today do not understand, is this has to do with marriage.

In the first century, Jews didn't marry the way Gentiles marry today. The Jews practiced what is called "betrothal." As a matter of fact, Miriam (Mary) and Yosef,

Yahshua's parents, were betrothed. One day Yosef was walking outside and he saw a beautiful young virgin. He knew she was a virgin because she was not wearing a veil. He learned that this woman's name was "Miriam." He decided that this was the woman that he wanted to marry so he went home to his father Yaacov (Jacob) and said, "I saw the girl I want to marry." Yaacov said, "Let's go tonight and speak with her father." That night the two went off to Miriam's home and spoke with her father. Yaacov and Miriam's father began to make a covenant, a will, a testament, Bible (Greek), a contract of marriage. The Father of the Bridegroom had to purchase the Bride with a price. (In the first century, there was no Social Security. Female children were liabilities because they could not take care of the parents financially in their old age. Therefore, in the Biblical culture, brides were bought, set apart, consecrated with a price. Also, the bride price was usually very expensive so they didn't marry, divorce and remarry like we do in America today. They couldn't afford so many brides.) So Yaacov and Miriam's father began to barter with one another until they both agreed on a bride price. When they finally agreed, the covenant/testament was drawn up and Miriam was brought in. Miriam would have say in all of this. She would choose whether or not she would marry Yosef. The prospective groom would take a cup, fill it with wine, and place it in front of the prospective bride. The bride would look over the covenant and decide whether or not she would become betrothed to the groom. If she ignored the cup and did not drink it, she would be saying "no" and the covenant was ripped up and thrown out. Of course she would have to wonder when the next prospective groom might come along. However, if she picked up the cup and drank from it, she would be saying "yes" to the betrothal and coming marriage. We know that Miriam said, "Yes." When she set down the cup, it was the custom for the groom to say, "I go to prepare a place for you." The groom and his father would then leave and the bride and groom-to-be were considered "betrothed." You needed a divorce to get out of the betrothal, and in Miriam's and Yosef's case Yosef considered divorcing her over the matter of the conception of Yahshua. After the groom-to-be said, "I go to prepare a place for you" he would start making an extra room on His Father's House called "the bridal chamber." This would be the chamber where on the wedding night he would know his bride (i.e. have union with her-as the Scriptures say, "Adam knew Eve."). Yosef was a stone mason (Christian Bibles mistranslate this as "carpenter") and was quite adept at building structures like these. It was how he made his living. However, Yosef could not just throw up some lean-two that could easily fall over when the wind blew, and guickly run off to steal his bride. The Father would check the Son's work to make sure it was done properly. You see, only the Father knows when the Son will get His Bride. These bridal chambers took some time to build, and betrothal is not dating. Yosef and Miriam were not allowed to see each other until the Father said, "Get your Bride!" However, something happened. Some men came up to Yosef and said, "Hmmm Yosef, why are you building? You have broken the tradition and sinned, you have fornicated with your wife, a crime for which you both could be stoned for." Yosef said, "No, I have not been over to see Miriam." They retorted, "She is pregnant. You know that, don't you!" Yosef must have said something like, "No, I haven't been over to see Miriam. But I'm going

there now." Of course we know from the book of Genesis that when Yaacov has a son named Yosef, Yosef was a dreamer. Thus the angel Gavriel appeared to Yosef in a dream and said, "Don't divorce your bride. The child is of the Kadosh Spirit. You shall give him the name "Yahshua" (which means "salvation") because He is going to save His People from their sins." Again, betrothal is a legally binding covenant that requires a divorce to end it. Yosef married Miriam. One night about midnight, Yosef's father said, "Get your bride!" Yosef hurried and awoke his wedding party. It was midnight and it was time for them to steal the bride like a thief in the night. (The Jews did understand romance) The wedding party assembled and they went off to get the bride. When the attendant saw the home of Miriam, he gave a SHOUT. When Miriam heard the SHOUT, she had to be ready. The ram's horn (Shophar) blast was about to sound and there had to be oil ready in her lamp. Miriam of course was faithful and was ready with oil in her lamp to meet the groom. The SHOUT gave her notice to jump up and put some make-up and make herself presentable before the ram's horn blast. She had to be ready by then. Yahshua told a parable in Matthew 25:1-13. There were 10 virgins. 5 had oil in their lamps and 5 did not. At midnight a SHOUT rang out. The foolish 5 said to the wise 5, "Give us some of your oil." But the wise virgins replied, "No! There will not be enough for all of us. Go into town quickly and buy some for yourselves." But while they were off, the Bridegroom came. When the foolish ones came back, it was too late. They ran to the Bridal chamber and knocked on the door, but the Son said, "Get away from Me, for I don't know you." This is Yahshua coming for His bride Yisrael. Modern Hasidim practice betrothal with a matchmaker. See the movie, Fiddler on the Roof, Renewed Covenant (The New Testament) and what Christians wrongfully call "The L-rd's Supper" for the Lords supper was a last meal between Yahushua and His set apart ones on the evening of the 13 into the 14.; (see 1 Corinthians 11:20 do not the lords supper) Pesach is the evening of the 14th into the 15th, a wedding covenant. It is between YHVH and Yisrael (See Jeremiah 31:31-34 & Hebrews 8:8-12) Yahshua purchased us (His Bride) at a very high price. What do we get in return? Eternal Life! We must have oil in our lamps and we must be awake, watching for our bridegroom, Yahshua. All of us have a room in heaven, for our Bridegroom said, "In my Father's House there are many rooms." So when I celebrate Pesach-Passover, I pick up the cup and drink it. I am saying yes to His contract and the bride price: His Blood and Life; forgiveness of my sins! What better marriage contract could there be? So, during Pesach, I pick up the cup and drink it. It is how I say "I do" to His marriage proposal. This is also why the term "Old Testament" is wrong. It implies that the Renewed Marriage Covenant was set up in place of the whole Old Testament. What is sad is that Christians don't realize that there are many Covenants in the TaNaK-Old Testament. Thus they are saying all the covenants YHVH made before the New Covenant are abolished, or fulfilled in a way that they are no longer binding. Also, the Hebrew term for "new" really implies "renewed". This is a Renewed Covenant between YHVH and His Bride. The Church Fathers chose the titles "New" and "Old" Testaments because they wanted to convey the idea that "to the Jew YHVH gave the Law and to the church (gentiles) YHVH gave grace." Thus, they decided that the Torah of Moshe

and the Prophets were void and replaced by Yahshua (or they were fulfilled by Him in such a way that they became abolished.) Yahshua said this was not true (Matthew 5:17-20) for He hasn't fulfilled all of Torah yet. The early believers in Jerusalem called the setting aside of Torah "apostasy" (See Acts 21:17-26. See especially Acts 21:21 in Greek, "apastasian").

## Why not the ChristMass and Easter?

And article in a local newspaper once reported that Christianity was a false religion based on Mithraism with its eight day week. Upon some research, this was shown to be quite accurate. In the first century, only the Jews believed in a seven-day week. (Can you imagine the entire world but the nation of Yisrael not having a seven-day week?) Only Israel believed in Monotheism, 10 commandments, YHVH Elohim, prophets, a Messiah to come, etc. The Gentile world was polytheistic. Adultery was not a crime in that society (it still isn't one in today's Roman world). Men sacrificed animals to many elohim (in un-kosher ways), left their wives at night to have sex with shrine prostitutes, had orgies at their shrines, the upper class exposed every female baby born after the first son was born. They also practiced abortion. (This is why the Pharisees forbade entering the homes of Gentiles-they spilled blood in their dwellings. See Acts 10:28, John 18:28, and Genesis 9:5) The first century Roman world is similar to our world today. They had plays in theatres (like our modern movies) with "actors" (Greek "hypocrites") and sports (stadiums with gladiators) and many other things that were not good. Their main polytheistic religion was Mithraism. Things changed in the late first and early second century. The Roman world decided to accept a "week." This week was not a seven-day week but an eightday week. The first day of the week was "the Lord's Day" in honor of Caesar as elohim. The other seven days received the Latin names in honor of the SUN, Moon, and five known planets (elohim) at the time. When the empire was converted to "Christ" it created "Christianity" out of Mithraism, Judaism and other pagan polytheistic traditions and religions. It then changed the eight-day week to a seven-day week. At first, the day of Saturn was day one of the week. Soon, however, day one was renamed after the Sun while the day of Saturn reverted to the final day of the week. You can find these facts in an almanac. The chief elohim of Mithraism was the SUN elohim. Today it is called "Free-Masonry" and actually started in Egypt. They built pillars shaped exactly like the Washington Monument (I should say the American Masons built the Washington Monument representing the Sun-pillars). There is even a giant sun-pillar in Vatican Square today. It was brought from Egypt and set in Rome by the early polytheistic Romans. Steeples on churches come from these sun-pillars and SUN worship. Christianity took over much from Mithraism. Christianity incorporated the "Queen of Heaven" theme from Mithraism by deifying Miriam. The first step in that process was to change her Hebrew name and giving her a Gentile name (Mary). Then the theme of Madonna/mother and child was used to capture the empire's pagan desires for a mother-goddess. (Please see Jeremiah 44:15-23. The worship of the Queen of Heaven is strongly forbidden by YHVH.) The worship of

Tammuz was brought into Christianity with the Deus Sol Invictus and Saturnalia. (Tammuz's worship is also forbidden in Ezekiel 8:14-15). This birthday celebration was done on the 25th day of the 10th month. December (deka menos) literally means 10th month. While today December is the 12th month, it was originally the 10th month. SEPTember (sept=7) and OCTober (Octagon=8) were originally the seventh and eighth months. Celebrating Saturnalia and Tammuz was the pagan practice on December 25th. December 25th was a great day to celebrate Messiah's birth for two reasons: 1) The pagans celebrated it already. 2) Hanukah occurs in December and it is on the 25th day of the month of Kislev, the 10th month on the Biblical Lunar/Hebrew calendar. Thus Christmass could also be set up as a replacement of Hanukah. This is also why the Immaculate Conception is in December as well (The Immaculate Conception IS NOT THE VIRGIN BIRTH! Her mother St. Anne conceived Mary, Yahshua's mother without the stain of original sin at this time. Thus the ChristMass is the most holy day in Roman Catholicism because it is the time of Messiah's birth and the time of the Immaculate Conception of Mary, which occurs just before December 25th). The 12 Days of the ChristMass mark the time between December 25th and January 6th, known as Epiphany. Epiphany is the birthday of the elohim of light ("Epiphanos" meaning, "light" in Greek) and it is celebrated as Messiah's birthday by the Eastern Orthodox faith. This is also where the Xmas tree comes from. The elohim of the sun and the birthday of the son of the Sun elohim were celebrated by using evergreen trees. This was a tree that conquered the Deus Sol Invictus (the unconquerable Sun). (Strange that a tree can conquer an unconquerable god!) It remained green even in winter. Dec 25th is just after the solstice so now the days are getting longer. The evergreen branches were lit on fire and paraded around. This is where the lights on the Xmas trees originate. Jews could never accept these rituals in their religion/faith. To celebrate the birthday of elohim implies to Jewish people that elohim is a created being, not the Creator. Birthday celebrations are pagan in origin. (In fact, there are only three Birthday celebrations in the Bible: 1) Iyov, Job 1:4 his own day refers to their birthdays 2) a Roman named Herod who on his birthday beheaded John 3) Pharaoh King of Egypt who freed a cupbearer on his birthday but hung a baker. Birthdays in the Bible thus seem more associated with Kings putting people to death than the worship of YHVH as Creator.) To be short and sweet Easter and Lent are pagan holidays originating in Babylon. Easter ("Ishtar" in Hebrew, also known as "Eostre") is a Babylonian fertility goddess. She is worshiped with fertility symbols such as eggs, chickens, and rabbits. Modern English has scientific and medical fertility terms stemming from this elohim like "estrogen." Therefore, Easter really has nothing to do with the theme of resurrection but more to do with fertility and foreign elohim detestable to our One True Elohim. If you want to know why the Church of Rome made these holidays the holidays of "Christianity," the answer is guite simple. People in the Roman Empire were polytheists already living paganism. Most people in the empire had distaste for Monotheism and lazy Jews who rested one of every seven days. Jews also forbade sports and the eating of certain foods. (Sports had to do with nudity. For our modern word "gymnasium" comes from the Greek word "gymnos" which

means "naked.") The Jews also did not worship Caesar as elohim nor did they look forward to paying taxes to Rome to secure the "Pax Romana" (as seen by the "paying taxes to Caesar" question in the gospels). Thus, Jews were seen as "different" in the empire and thus there could be no way an empire as great as Rome would celebrate anything given by one Elohim to one nation through one prophet (Moses). The man responsible for converting the Roman Empire was not Shaul (the apostle Paul) but Constantine. Constantine is the man who declared the whole Roman Empire "Christian." Through the Council of Nicea, Constantine forbid celebrating Passover on Aviv 14th and established Easter in its place. Constantine also forbade at this council all Jewish (Biblical) customs and holidays. Constantine practiced Mithraism and the cult of Sol Invictus in addition to his "Christianity." Historical evidence shows that he wasn't even baptized until he was on his deathbed and almost all of the bishops detested him because they felt he wasn't a believer. Constantine was successful in giving the world Christianity. First of all, Christianity (with maybe the exception of New Age) is the only major Western Religion today. It is the basis for modern Western (Roman) society. In order for Constantine to champion one religion in the empire, the easiest way of doing that would be to merge all the religions into one. The best way to make Rome "Christian" was to paganize the true faith so all in the empire could easily follow. \*In numerous pagan pictorial representations, which have been found, the SUN or Mithra is portrayed as a man with a disk on the back of his head. Christian teachers re-interpreted pagan symbols in Christian ways to appeal to the masses (Justin Martyr, Dialogue with Trypho the Jew 121, ANF I, p.109) (This is where halos on angels come from-Mithraism and Sun worship!) \*The carrying in and draping of holly and evergreen plants comes to us from two places, Egypt and the Druids in England. The Mithras pagans, worshiped the evergreen trees because they were ever green, thus conquering the unconquered Sun. (See From Sabbath to Sunday, University of Rome Press, Samuel Bacchiocci) \*The word, "Easter" in Acts 12:4 of the King James Bible is a mistranslation of the Greek word, "pascha" meaning "Passover." The Passover dispute between the Western and Eastern churches of the empire was settled at the Council of Nicea in the year 325. Called into session by elohim himself, Constantine decided that the Jewish Passover of Aviv 14 was not to be kept. Easter would be kept instead on Sunday using the solar calendar instead of the Biblical lunar calendar; and that, "none here after should follow the blindness of the Jews and to this day, it is still so." (Encyclopedia Britannica, 11th ed. Pgs 828-829) \*The Oxford English Dictionary states, "Easter had a pre-Christian origin, namely the festival in honor of Eostre, the teutonic dawn goddess, and Usha the Hindu dawn goddess." This is the Astarte (Hebrew "Asherah" referred to in the Old Testament as "Ashtoreth." The name of Astarte in Nineveh, Persia, was "Ishtar."

Who can declare anything holy? Can man or the "church" descide holy days? What Kadosh DAYS did Elohim declare in the Bible? What Kadosh DAYS did the early assembly (sect of the Nazarenes) celebrate? What Kadosh DAYS does

YHVH of Yisrael desire believers in Yahshua Meshiach to celebrate today? **THE MOADIM vayiqra-Leviticus 23**