

# Easter

**Acts 12:3** “And because he saw it pleased the Jews, he proceeded further to take Peter also. (Then were **the days of unleavened bread.**)” **Verse 4:** “And when he had apprehended him, he put him in prison, and delivered him to four quaternions of soldiers to keep him; intending after **Easter** to bring him forth to the people.”

The word **Easter** is only found in the Bible once in the King James Version and it was a mistranslation by the scholars. Verse 3 explains to us that the word that should be rendered for Easter is Passover; since it were the days of unleavened bread. **Luke 22:1** “Now the feast of unleavened bread drew nigh, which is called the Passover.” This can also be proven by going to the original Hebrew text. Do not let this discourage you from reading out of the KJV since it is easily reconciled within the same scripture. These things are all done by the work of the Lord. Read, **Romans 11:8-10**. Easter is claimed to be a Christian festival to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ. In reality, Easter derives from a spring goddess of fertility. The root of its name comes from the Babylonian goddess Semiramis who went under other names such as Astarte, Ishtar, Ashtaroth and Diana spoken of in the book of **Acts chapter 19**.

Today we have our people ignorantly committing idolatry by following vain traditions of men. **Mark 7:6** “He answered and said unto them, Well hath Esaias prophesied of you hypocrites, as it is written, This people honoureth me with their lips, but their heart is far from me.” **Verse 7:** “Howbeit in vain do they worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men.” **Verse 9:** “And he said unto them, Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition.” We have to remember that we can not reject the first and second commandment; to have no other gods before the most High and to not bow down and serve graven images. Have you not asked yourself where does this tradition come from of bunnies laying colorful eggs. This tradition is symbolizing fertility; the eggs and bunny is a sign of being fruitful in reproduction.

The prophets in the past taught against the worship of this Idol which Israel followed in the past. **1st Samuel 7:3** “And Samuel spake unto all the house of Israel, saying, If ye do return unto the LORD with all your hearts, then put away the strange gods and Ashtaroth from among you, and prepare your hearts unto the LORD, and serve him only: and he will deliver you out of the hand of the Philistines.” Even in the New testament we read of Paul confronting this issue. **Acts 19:26** “Moreover ye see and hear, that not alone at Ephesus, but almost throughout all Asia, this Paul hath persuaded and turned away much people, saying that they be no gods, which are made with hands:” **Verse 27:** “So that not only this our craft is in danger to be set at nought; but also that the temple of the great goddess Diana should be despised, and her magnificence should be destroyed, whom all Asia and the world worshippeth.” Today we must confront this same issue in the same fashion as our righteous forefathers by teaching our people to repent and keep the perfect laws of the most High. If the Heavenly Father had desired for us to keep this day holy he would have given us instruction out of the scriptures, instead we have learned today that it is rooted in paganism.

In researching the history of the Idol Astarte we have learned that she was called the queen of heaven and popular observances that are held today such as hot cross buns of Good Friday and the dyed eggs were also observed by the Babylonians. **Jeremiah 7:18** “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.” Today this queen of heaven is replaced by the worship of Mary whom the Catholic Church has elevated to the status of God and Christ. This is not found in scripture but in Babylonian Idolatry. **Luke 11:27** “And it came to pass, as he spake these things, a certain woman of the company lifted up her voice, and said unto him, Blessed is the womb that bare thee, and the paps which thou hast sucked.” **Verse 28:** “But he said, Yea rather, blessed are they that hear the word of God, and keep it.” Jesus Christ taught us not elevate his mother as that woman in the company tried to do. To accommodate pagans, false doctrines and traditions were created that go against the word of God. This was allegedly done in the early 6th century by Abbot Dionysius. We pray that our people repent from following this pagan day which is against Christ. **Colossians 2:8** “Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.”

## The 12 Tribes of Israel according to Ezekiel 37:16-17

- |             |              |
|-------------|--------------|
| 1. JUDAH    | 7. SIMEON    |
| 2. BENJAMIN | 8. ZEBULON   |
| 3. LEVI     | 9. REUBEN    |
| 4. EPHRAIM  | 10. NAPHTALI |
| 5. MANASSEH | 11. ASHER    |
| 6. GAD      | 12. ISSACHAR |

The 12 tribes of Israel are the descendants of slaves and the indigenous people of the Americas conquered and destroyed from 1492 until today. According to the Bible, they are scattered throughout the four corners of the earth. Read Deuteronomy 28:15-68 and II Esdras 13:40-46.

For more information contact **Rise Children of Israel** at (888) 447-1695. By email at [scribe@riseisrael.com](mailto:scribe@riseisrael.com) or send any correspondence to P.O Box 477, Bronx, N.Y. 10462.