

SHOCKING TRUTH ABOUT CHRISTMAS Pt. 9: GREEN TREES, CHRISTMAS TREES, IDOLATRY

Here's an interesting tidbit: In my research back in 2014, I found an article on a school that was going to get rid of the Christmas play and all things to do with it. Then the community came against the school and so they determined that Christmas has no Christian roots and so they allowed it to stay. However, no Bible reading or prayer were allowed.

We've been looking particularly at pagan worship of sacred green trees connected to their deities. We've talked about Babylon, Egypt, the Persians, and the Norse people, their gods and sacred evergreen trees. Let's continue looking at the greenery, green trees and how that evolved into today's Christmas tree.

GREENERY, GREEN TREES / CHRISTMAS TREES

Long before the advent of Christianity, plants and trees that remained green all year had a special meaning for people in the winter. Just as people today decorate their homes during the festive season with pine, spruce, and fir trees, ancient peoples hung evergreen boughs over their doors and windows. In many countries it was believed that evergreens would keep away witches, ghosts, evil spirits, and illness. *Look at that, superstition and witchcraft.*

In the Northern hemisphere, the shortest day and longest night of the year falls on December 21 or December 22 and is called the winter solstice. Many ancient people believed that the sun was a god and that winter came every year because the sun god had become sick and weak. They celebrated the solstice because it meant that at last the sun god would begin to get well. Evergreen boughs reminded them of all the green plants that would grow again when the sun god was strong and summer would return.

Early Romans marked the solstice with a feast called the Saturnalia in honor of Saturn, the god of agriculture. The Romans knew that the solstice meant that soon farms and orchards would be green and fruitful. To mark the occasion, they decorated their homes and temples with evergreen boughs. In Northern Europe the mysterious Druids, the priests of the ancient Celts, also decorated their temples with evergreen boughs as a symbol of everlasting life. The fierce Vikings

in Scandinavia thought that evergreens were the special plant of the sun god, Balder.

Most 19th-century Americans found Christmas trees an oddity. The first record of one being on display was in the 1830s by the German settlers of Pennsylvania, although trees had been a tradition in many German homes much earlier. The Pennsylvania German settlements had community trees as early as 1747. But, as late as the 1840s Christmas trees were seen as pagan symbols and not accepted by most Americans.

It is not surprising that, like many other festive Christmas customs, the tree was adopted so late in America. To the New England Puritans, Christmas was sacrilege. The pilgrims's second governor, William Bradford, wrote that he tried hard to stamp out "pagan mockery" of the observance, penalizing any frivolity. The influential Oliver Cromwell preached against "the heathen traditions" of Christmas carols, decorated trees, and any joyful expression that desecrated "that sacred event." In 1659, the General Court of Massachusetts enacted a law making any observance of December 25 (other than a church service) a penal offense; people were fined for hanging decorations. That stern solemnity continued until the 19th century, when the influx of German and Irish immigrants undermined the Puritan legacy.

We already learned that the Germanic people worshiped Odin and Thor among other false gods at winter solstice. German immigrants are credited for bringing Christmas trees into this country.

The real origin of Christmas goes back to ancient Babylon. It is bound up in the organized apostasy with which satan has gripped and deceived the world these many centuries! In Egypt, it was always believed that the son of Isis (Egyptian name for "Queen of Heaven") was born December 25th. Paganism celebrated this famous birthday over most of the known world for centuries before the birth of Christ. Bibletools.org

Decorating green trees has evolved over time and gotten way more advanced with modern day lights and ornaments but this practice still came from pagan worship.

Trees and groves have been objects of worship through many centuries and many cultures. It has been believed that trees contain sacred energy and represented gods and goddesses of pagan religions. Many of the winter solstice celebrations such as Mithra, Yalda, Yule, Saturnalia, Christmas and Hanukkah all have similar practices and traditions involving a tree. Within the Scriptures you will often find tree worship associated with the fertility goddess Asherah.

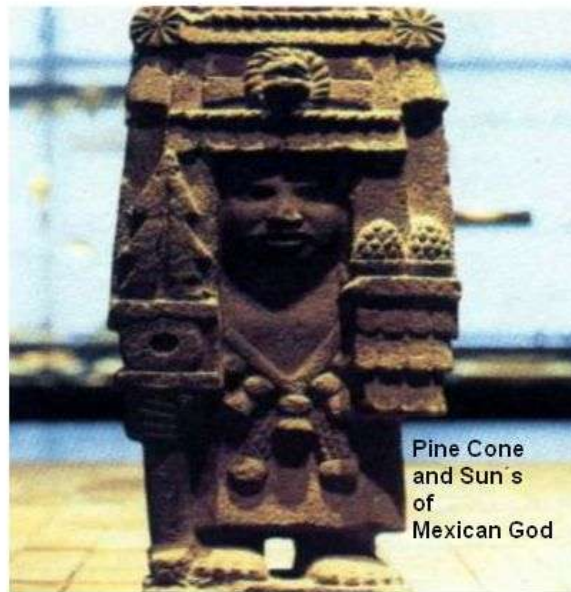


The actual literal tree and its actual literal practice. Top L: Yalda tree, ancient Persia 2000 BC. Top R: Modern Iran Solstice Trees – celebrating the birth of the sun. Bottom: Ancient Iranian Winter Celebration.



Relief carving at Persepolis, ceremonial capital of the Achaemenid Empire, depicting Mithra and an evergreen tree.

Relief carving at Persepolis, ceremonial capital of the Achaemenid Empire, depicting Mithra and an evergreen tree. Mithra was their sun god and the tree was his sacred tree.



Pine Cone and Sun's of Mexican God

Mexican Sun God: Fir tree or Evergreen tree (Today's Christmas tree).

Mexican sun god:he's holding a fir tree or evergreen tree (today's Christmas tree). That is one of his symbols and his sacred tree.

This series would not be complete if I did not address the verses in Jeremiah chapter 10.

Jeremiah 10:1-8 - Hear ye the word which the LORD speaketh unto you, O house of Israel: Thus saith 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. They *are* upright as the palm tree, but speak not: they must needs be borne, because they cannot go. Be not afraid of them; for they cannot do evil, neither also *is it* in them to do good. Forasmuch as *there is* none like unto thee, O LORD; thou *art* great, and thy name *is* great in might. Who would not fear thee, O King of nations? for to thee doth it appertain: forasmuch as among all the wise *men* of the nations, and in all their kingdoms, *there is* none like unto thee. But they are altogether brutish and foolish: the stock *is* a doctrine of vanities.

When He says not to learn the way of the heathen, He is addressing idolatry. We are not to have anything to do with the things that the heathens, the nations, the pagans used and did in worship of their gods. He then says not to be dismayed at the signs of heaven. How many times have I repeated that the pagans believed the sun was dying in winter and they were bringing their worship and offerings and sacrifices hoping for the sun to revive again and bring fertility to the land, animals and people. We are told because the days grew shorter and darker that they believed the sun god was dying. They were dismayed as the sky stayed darker and it got colder. God warned His children not to worry about what the celestial bodies in the sky did and certainly not to try and read the future by studying the stars.

Once we get past that it seems like these passages could be describing the modern day Christmas tree. The workman cutting down a tree in the forest with an ax and then decorating it with silver and gold and fixing it so that it doesn't move. But I have come to believe that these passages are more about making carved images from trees which are idols.

However, there are a few things that are not clear in these passages. The passage I just read ended by saying that the stock is a doctrine of vanities. There was obviously pagan teaching about worshiping wooden idols carved from trees and

there was the teaching from Asherah / Semiramis about worshiping the green tree in reverence of Nimrod / baal and herself.



This is research from online: Literal Hebrew: They are tied up / encircled / surrounded like the Palm's Trunk. The top row shows how the modern Christmas tree is wrapped and encircled with ribbons, chains and lights and next to that several tree bases are shown that have natural encircling or wrapping around them. They go on to say – How is this “talking about a large wooden idol”? The bottom row they say – the practice of “encircling” the serpent's tree is as old as recorded history. They show different trees used in idolatry, the first tree, worshipers have wrapped the base, the next one show them placing beads on the tree and the next one is the cypress tree used in Persian worship as a sacred tree.

Where they say the Hebrew says they are tied up or encircled like the palm's trunk doesn't make sense if they were just chopping down trees to carve images into. Why bother talking about the trunk being encircled at all? My Hebrew interlinear Bible says they are rounded like posts. Something is being conveyed there and I'm not sure we are getting the gist of it today.

King James Bible

They *are* upright as the palm tree, but speak not: they must needs be borne, because they cannot go. Be not afraid of them; for they cannot do evil, neither also *is it* in them to do good.

New Living Translation

Their gods are like helpless scarecrows in a cucumber field! They cannot speak, and they need to be carried because they cannot walk. Do not be afraid of such gods, for they can neither harm you nor do you any good."

Look at verse 5: KJV says

They are upright as the palm tree, but speak not / Then the NLT says Their gods are like helpless scarecrows in a cucumber field! That's not even a close translation.

Jeremiah 10:9-16 - Silver spread into plates is brought from Tarshish, and gold from Uphaz, the work of the workman, and of the hands of the founder: blue and purple *is* their clothing: they *are* all the work of cunning *men*. But the LORD *is* the true God, He *is* the living God, and an Everlasting King: at His wrath the earth shall tremble, and the nations shall not be able to abide His indignation. Thus shall ye say unto them, The gods that have not made the heavens and the earth, *even* they shall perish from the earth, and from under these heavens. He hath made the earth by His power, He hath established the world by His wisdom, and hath stretched out the heavens by His discretion. When He uttereth His voice, *there is* a multitude of waters in the heavens, and He causeth the vapours to ascend from the ends of the earth; He maketh lightnings with rain, and bringeth forth the wind out of His treasures. Every man is brutish in *his* knowledge: every founder is confounded by the graven image: for his molten image *is* falsehood, and *there is* no breath in them. They *are* vanity, *and* the work of errors: in the time of their visitation they shall perish. The portion of Jacob *is* not like them: for He *is* the former of all *things*; and Israel *is* the rod of His inheritance: The LORD of hosts *is* His name.

This part of that chapter is what changed my mind about the Christmas tree being described here or that is the green Nimrod - baal / Asherah tree. What Jeremiah is

dealing with seems to be when they would cut down trees and have them carved into idols.

The founders, gravers, craftsmen are foolish for making these idols. They have no breath or power in them. V. 16 tells us that the God of Israel is not an idol and that He made all things – The LORD of hosts is His name!

I will add that it is frustrating that the Bible does such a good job pointing out that these carved and graven images have not breath, cannot talk, cannot walk, cannot do anything bad or good. But here's the thing, when someone makes one, or pays for one, owns one and sets it up and honors it, prays to it and brings offerings to it and worships it – then they are making the connection to the fallen angels in the spirit realm who will move and react and answer back in that person's life. This is idolatry against God.

New Living Translation

They bring beaten sheets of silver from Tarshish and gold from Uphaz, and they give these materials to skillful craftsmen who make their idols. Then they dress these gods in royal blue and purple robes made by expert tailors.

NLT – v.9: They bring beaten sheets of silver from Tarshish and gold from Uphaz, and they give these materials to skillful craftsmen who make their idols. Then they dress these gods in royal blue and purple robes made by expert tailors.

This was not decorating a green tree with gold and silver balls or ornaments. But rather putting gold and silver onto a carved or graven image and then even dressing it in godly – divine colors.

So I am not standing on this passage of Scripture when I tell you that the green trees that most of us had brought into our homes at some point are an abomination to God. Rather I am standing on God forbidding the pagan practice all through the Old Testament. **(Deut.12:2-3, 1 Kings 14:22-24, Deut.16:21)**



The pagan origins of the Christmas tree:
The tree was brought into the house so the wood spirits would be kept warm during the cold winter months. Food and treats were hung on the branches for the spirits to eat. Bells were hung on the limbs to chime when an appreciative spirit was present. A five pointed star, pentagon, representing the five elements was placed atop the tree.

This was from a pagan site on FB: The pagan origins of the Christmas tree: The tree was brought into the house so the wood spirits would be kept warm during the cold winter months. Food and treats were hung on the branches for the spirits to eat. Bells were hung on the limbs to chime when an appreciative spirit was present. A five pointed star, pentagram, representing the five elements was placed atop the tree. *That's not the star of Bethlehem but the pentagram of the witches. The five elemental spirits that witches use in their spell work and witchcraft are: spirit – not The Holy Spirit, earth, wind, fire and water.*

Notice they said if a spirit appreciated the treats and food on the tree there was a bell they could ring. Bells and chimes are a big part of pagan worship. Think about the famous line from the classic Christmas movie "It's a Wonderful Life", every time a bell rings an angel gets it's wings. The ringing of bells is linked to fallen angels, not holy angels.



Pagans believed the powerful spirit of nature or the “green man” took shelter in the evergreen during the darkest part of the year.



The green man links to Osiris because they both represent a dying and rising god tied to the earth’s annual renewal. His green skin depicts that he is a vegetation god.



"The early Christians discouraged the use of evergreen decorations in Christian homes because their display had long been associated with heathen festivals." – Campbell

Ancient cultures worshipped evergreen trees as symbols of life, rebirth, and immortality, especially during winter. This worship was common among pagans in Northern Europe, where they decorated their homes with evergreen boughs for the winter solstice, and in ancient Egypt, China, and the Hebrew traditions, where evergreens represented eternal life and resurrection. The practice was later adopted and transformed into the modern Christmas tree tradition.

Examples of evergreen worship

- **Northern European Pagans:** The Celts, Vikings, and Germanic tribes saw evergreens as a source of life and hope during the long, dark winters. They would hang boughs in their homes as a reminder that the sun would return and to symbolize eternal life.
- **Ancient Egyptians:** Egyptians viewed the evergreen as a symbol of resurrection and eternal life.
- **Hebrews:** The ancient Hebrews also used evergreens to symbolize eternal life.
- **Germanic Tribes:** Some Germanic tribes, like the Saxons, viewed the trees as symbols of life and hope, and decorated trees for their winter festivals, sometimes honoring gods like Odin (Woden).
- **Hinduism:** In India, trees, including evergreens like the peepul, are considered sacred and are associated with deities and spirits. 🌿

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L: Nimrod deified: Ancient Nineveh Artifact – Circa 2000 BC Nimrod’s Birthday – December 25th R: They are highlighting Nimrod and Santa trees 1.They both have long beards 2. Reindeer associated with both 3. They are both holding green trees / Christmas tree. The green tree worship tied to false gods has been around since ancient times.



"On each anniversary of his birth (Dec 25) Nimrod would visit the evergreen tree and leave gifts upon it."

--The Plain Truth About Christmas
by David J. Stewart | December 24th, 2005

The Nimrod Tree – "On each anniversary of his birth, December 25th, Nimrod would visit the evergreen tree and leave gifts upon it." --The Plain Truth About Christmas by David J. Stewart He did this so as to appear generous and benevolent to his worshippers.

IDOLATRY

(READ JEREMIAH 2:20, 3:6, 3:13, 10:3-4, 16:19)

*O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree,
Your branches green delight us!
They are green when summer days are bright,
They are green when winter snow is white.
O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree,
Your branches green delight us!*

*O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree,
You give us so much pleasure!
How oft at Christmas tide the sight,
O green fir tree, gives us delight!
O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree,
You give us so much pleasure!*

*O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree
Forever true your colour,
Your boughs so green in summertime
Stay bravely green in wintertime.
O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree
Forever true your colour,*

*O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree
You fill my heart with music,
Reminding me on Christmas Day
To think of you and then be gay,
O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree
You fill my heart with music,*



Listen to the words of this song and think about all that I have already taught about the worship of green trees and how God forbids His children to have anything to do with it:

O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,
your branches green delight us!
They are green when summer days are bright,
They are green when winter snow is white.
O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,
Your branches green delight us!
O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,
You give us so much pleasure!
How oft at Christmas tide the sight,
O green fir tree, gives us delight!
O Christmas tree, O Christmas,
You give us so much pleasure!
O Christmas Tree, O Christmas tree
Forever true your color.
Your boughs so green in summertime
Stay bravely green in wintertime.

O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree
Forever true your color.
O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree
You fill my heart with music.
Reminding me on Christmas Day
To think of you and then be gay.
O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree
You fill my heart with music.

Ancient Romans celebrated their winter solstice festival, Saturnalia, around 510 BCE by decorating their temples and homes with evergreen boughs to symbolize life and rebirth. This practice was also observed by other pagan cultures, such as the ancient Egyptians and the Celts, who used evergreens to represent eternal life and fertility during the winter solstice.

- **Ancient Romans:** Celebrated Saturnalia around the winter solstice, decorating their homes and temples with evergreen branches to honor the god Saturn and signify the coming rebirth of crops.
- **Ancient Egyptians:** Decorated their homes with green palms and papyrus reeds to symbolize the triumph of life over death when the sun god Ra began to recover during the solstice.
- **Druids:** Believed trees held a sacred and symbolic significance, adorning sacred trees with mistletoe and lights.
- **Nordic cultures and Vikings:** Considered evergreens a symbol of the sun god's unique plant.

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Nordic cultures and Vikings: Considered evergreens a symbol of the sun god's unique plant.

I pray The Holy Spirit is ministering to you through this series. We are to hate sin the way God does. **(Psalm 97:10)**

Jeremiah 2:20 - For of old time I have broken thy yoke, *and* burst thy bands; and thou saidst, I will not transgress; when upon every high hill and under every green tree thou wanderest, playing the harlot.

New Living Translation

"Long ago I broke the yoke that oppressed you and tore away the chains of your slavery, but still you said, 'I will not serve you.' On every hill and under every green tree, you have prostituted yourselves by bowing down to idols.

Jeremiah 3:6 - The LORD said also unto me in the days of Josiah the king, Hast thou seen *that* which backsliding Israel hath done? she is gone up upon every high mountain and under every green tree, and there hath played the harlot.

New Living Translation

During the reign of King Josiah, the LORD said to me, "Have you seen what fickle Israel has done? Like a wife who commits adultery, Israel has worshiped other gods on every hill and under every green tree.

No matter how you slice it the green trees are part of worship of other gods, it is their system of worship and does not honor Jesus in any way.

CLOSING



Neither shalt
thou bring an
abomination
into thine
house, lest
thou be a
cursed thing
like it: but
thou shalt
utterly detest
it, and thou
shalt utterly
abhor it; for it
is a cursed
thing.
Deut.7:26

[truth at threeheartchurch.org](http://truth.at.threeheartchurch.org)

Deut.7:26 – Neither shalt thou bring an abomination into thine house, lest thou be a cursed thing like it: but thou shalt utterly detest it, and thou shalt utterly abhor it; for it is a cursed thing.

Remember how God said not to have a green tree by His altar. He forbade it because of the things the pagans did in worshiping them and fertility rituals and the false gods tied to them. Your home has a spiritual altar that is being served. It is either for God or the devil. It is determined by the god that the head of the household serves. So if you are a Christian home, you have no business having a Christmas tree in your home – it is a cursed thing to God.

PRAYER

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