

FAT TUESDAY & ASH WEDNESDAY'S LENT

(40 DAYS MOURNING/WEEPING FOR TAMMUZ)



While 40-day periods are common in scripture, search the scriptures diligently from the Old Testament to the New and you will find no mention of Israelites (or so-called Christians) observing an annual period of 40 days abstinence from certain foods and vices preceding the Feast of Passover. Yet most of the **Christian (Catholic) world observes a 40-day period called Lent**, which immediately follows the Festival of Fat Tuesday (called **Mari Gras or the Festival of Lupercalia**) and precedes the Festival of Easter Sunday. **The celebration of**

Lent developed from the pagan celebration of Babylon's Queen Semiramis mourning for 40 days over the death of Tammuz (Ezek 8:14) before his alleged resurrection—another of Satan's mythical counterfeits. The word festival means "flesh rising" and the lewd acts of Mardi Gras or Fat Tuesday is a testament to the flesh rising. Ash Wednesday was established as the first day of Lent by Pop St. Gregory the Great between 590 and 605 AD.

Mardi Gras immediately follows Christmas and is a time of gross debauchery when people 'get in all their sinning' in preparation of fasting for Lent. Hence the name "**Fat Tuesday**". It began when Queen Ishtar's son, Tammuz, was killed by a wild boar. **Queen Ishtar (Semiramis)** told the people that Tammuz was now ascended to his father, Baal (also known as Nimrod), and that the two of them would be with the worshippers in the sacred candle or lamp flame as Father, Son and Spirit. Ishtar, who was now worshipped as the "Mother of God and Queen of Heaven", continued to build her mystery religion. The queen told the worshippers that when Tammuz was killed by the wild pig, some of his blood fell on the stump of an evergreen tree, and the stump grew into a full new tree overnight. This made the evergreen tree sacred by the blood of Tammuz. **She also proclaimed a forty day period of time of sorrow each year prior to the anniversary of the death of Tammuz. During this time, no meat was to be eaten.** Worshippers were to meditate upon the sacred mysteries of Baal and Tammuz, and to make the sign of the cross "+" in front of their hearts as they worshipped. They also ate sacred cakes with the marking of a "+" or cross on the top (hot-cross buns).



**The Catholic Fact Book,
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Deedy, published by Thomas More Press, page 360.

*“Lent is the period of six and one half weeks from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday. During Lent, for 40 days, excluding Sundays, fasting is recommended for all Catholics according to the laws of fast. **This is reminiscent of the 40 days of our Lord’s unbroken fast (Mt. 4:3-4).** The entire period of Lent is also a time of spiritual preparation for the passion, death, and resurrection of Christ. It is observed as a time of penitence other than fasting, and as a time of prayer. The Liturgy of the Church reflects the significance of this period of spiritual preparation: each day has a special Mass assigned to it; those Masses date back to the seventh and eighth centuries; there are no feasts observed on Sundays; purple vestments are the daily color...”*

Source: The Catholic Encyclopedia, revised and updated, edited by Robert Broderick, copyright 1987, published by Thomas Nelson Publishers

“The reasons for celebrating our major feasts when we do are many and varied. In general, however, it is true that many of them have at least an indirect connection with the pre-Christian [pagan] feasts celebrated about the same time of year- feasts centering around the harvest, the rebirth of the sun at the winter solstice (now Dec. 21, but Dec. 25 in the old Julian calendar), the renewal of nature in spring, and so on”.

Source: Gieseler, vol.ii.p.42, Note. Cited in *The Two Babylons* by Alexander Hislop, page 104.

*“Many Christians had already reserved a period prior to Easter for fasting, confession, and schooling candidates for baptism on Easter Eve. But the time frame was never fixed, rules never finalized. Different groups of Christians followed different customs—some fasted for several days, others several weeks. Some observed a total fast for exactly forty days (minus the Lord’s day, Sunday), **a feast called *Quadragesima*, which would evolve into Lent”.***

Thus, by mid-fourth century, the duration of **Lent – the word itself means “lengthening spring days,”** from the Indo-European *Langat- tin*, ‘long’ + ‘day’ – became more or less fixed at forty days, less Sundays; the time frame did not become official, though, until the eighth century.

I Kings 11:4-6

“When Solomon was old, his wives turned his heart away after other gods; and his heart was not wholly devoted to Yahweh his God, as the heart of David his father had been. For Solomon went after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Sidonians...Solomon did what was evil in the sight of Yahweh, and did not follow Yahweh fully, as David his father had done”.

So, how did the high places become established in Israel? We read that Solomon’s heart was turned aside by his wives whom he loved. These wives were idolaters, many of them foreigners, and they wanted to continue to worship the gods and goddesses they had known from childhood. Solomon acquiesced to the pressure of his wives’ desires and built high places of worship for them.

So the 40 days of Lent is connected with the Babylonian goddess Ashtoreth/ Astarte/ Ishtar (the origin of the word Easter), and the worship of Tammuz. Unlike Lent, both of these can be found in scripture:

Ezek 8:14 “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**”.

Ezek 8:15 “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”.

Ezek 8:16 “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**”.

2 Ki 23:5 “And he [King Josiah] put down the idolatrous priests, whom the kings of Judah had ordained to burn incense in the high places in the cities of Judah, and in the places round about Jerusalem; them also that burned incense unto Baal, **to the sun**, and to the moon, and to the planets, and to all the host of heaven”.

2Ki 23:11 “And he [King Josiah] took away the horses that the kings of Judah had given **to the sun**, at the entering in of the house of the LORD by the chamber of Nathanmelech the chamberlain, which was in the suburbs, and burned the chariots **of the sun** with fire”.

2 Ki 23:12 “And the altars that were on the top of the upper chamber of Ahaz, which the kings of Judah had made, and the altars which Manasseh had made in the two courts of the house of the LORD, did the king beat down, and brake them down from thence, and cast the dust of them into the brook Kidron”.

2 Ki 23:13 “And the high places that were before Jerusalem, which were on the right hand of the mount of corruption, which Solomon the king of Israel had builded for **Ashtoreth** the abomination of the Zidonians, and for Chemosh the abomination of the Moabites, and for Milcom the abomination of the children of Ammon, did the king defile.

Baal, Tammuz, Ashtoreth, Astarte, Ishtar and Isis are all connected with pagan sun worship. Note that Lent is a moveable observance, connected to and preceding the festival of Easter. **Easter is celebrated on a day specified only by the Roman Catholic Church, and not the Bible, and is fixed based on the sun and the Spring or Vernal equinox.**

Mystic Egg of Astarte

(Ishtar Egg)

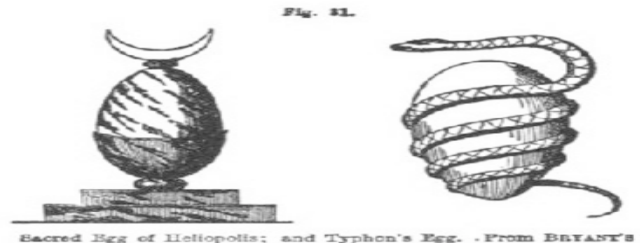
This same goddess Ashtoreth, for whom Solomon built a high place, is also called Ishtar, from which we get our word Easter. The church also has a high place erected to her. Every year the church



celebrates a holiday (not a holy day) that bears the name of the pagan goddess of fertility whose original was Semiramis, and who is known by a profusion of other names.

Sacred Egg of Heliopolis

Heliopolis is a city of Egypt where Semiramis was known by the name Isis. As mentioned, Semiramis was a moon



goddess, and therefore we see an image of the moon atop her sacred egg. The mystery religions teach that Semiramis was herself immaculately conceived and was lowered from the heavens to the earth in a giant egg. This egg came to rest in the waters of the Euphrates river. Eggs are also symbols of fertility, and as Semiramis was also a fertility goddess the symbol of the egg became thoroughly associated with her worship. Those who

knew Semiramis under the name of Ishtar spoke of **Ishtar's egg, from which we get our current Easter egg.**

Hot Cross Buns

Another tradition of Easter that is clearly pagan is that of hot cross buns. These buns were initially made in memory of Tammuz, the son of Semiramis, who suffered an early death from being injured by the tusk of a boar. There were forty days of weeping for Tammuz leading up to the Ishtar celebration, which now finds its correspondence in the Catholic Church's forty days of **Lent**, which is a time of mourning.



Ashes applied to the forehead on Ash Wednesday

You will not find the people of God in either the Old or New Testament being commanded to observe such a practice as this, but we do find that pagan practices entered into Israel where the women of the nation mourned for Tammuz. The symbol of Tammuz was the Tau, or the cross. It is the same symbol seen on hot crossed buns. It is this symbol of mourning for Tammuz that is practiced among millions of Christians on Ash Wednesday. The



women involved with the mystery religions would bake buns for Tammuz (originally called bouns). These were either marked with the sign of a horn, or possibly a tusk or with the letter T for Tammuz.

The sign of the cross on their chest is derived from the worship of Tammuz. It is this same symbol that the priest makes on the forehead of processing Christians on Ash Wednesday.

Another name for Nimrod, whom Tammuz is said to be a reincarnation of, is Woden. The day of the week we call Wednesday is named after Woden. It was handed down to us as Woden's Day, and in English it became Wednesday. It is on Woden's day, as one commemorates the death of Tammuz, killed by a wild boar, that ashes are applied to the forehead as a symbol of mourning for this pagan deity. The practice of eating ham at Christmas and Easter also derives back to the veneration of Nimrod and Tammuz. As it was a boar that killed Tammuz, people would slay a boar and serve this meat during these 'holy day' seasons.

Jeremiah 7:18

“The children gather wood, and the fathers kindle the fire, and the women knead dough to make cakes for the queen of heaven; and they pour out drink offerings to other gods in order to spite Me.”

We read in Ezekiel that the women of Israel were **weeping for Tammuz**. The Israelites also offered oblations to the Queen of Heaven (Semiramis) and her son Tammuz, as is seen in the above verse from Jeremiah, and elsewhere.

Jeremiah 44:16-19

“As for the message that you have spoken to us in the name of Yahweh, we are not going to listen to you! But rather we will certainly carry out every word that has proceeded from our mouths, **by burning sacrifices to the queen of heaven and pouring out drink offerings to her**, just as we ourselves, our forefathers, our kings and our princes did in the cities of Judah and in the streets of Jerusalem; for then we had plenty of food and were well off and saw no misfortune. But since we stopped burning sacrifices to the queen of heaven and pouring out drink offerings to her, we have lacked everything and have met our end by the sword and by famine. **And, “said the women, “when we were burning sacrifices to the queen of heaven and were pouring out drink offerings to her, was it without our husbands that we made for her sacrificial cakes in her image and poured out drink offerings to her?”**”

The pagan traditions of the mystery religions have even been passed down to our children as they sing the little song that speaks of hot cross buns.

Hot cross buns
Hot cross buns
One a penny
Two a penny
Hot cross buns
If you have no daughters
Give them to your sons
One a penny
Two a penny
Hot cross buns

By offering oblations of



liquid and foods to Semiramis and Tammuz the people were asking for the gift of fertility. This fertility was petitioned from the goddess by offering drinks and cakes in order that their crops, livestock, and their own families might be blessed with abundance.

Lest we condemn Solomon, the true believers should consider that the same pressure is exerted upon them today to maintain the celebration of pagan festivals (**holidays**). Our children and spouses may love the traditions that they have grown up with, and they may express their desires very passionately to maintain an observance of the things they love. But, how many saints are willing to stand fast and choose a course other than the one Solomon chose? Had he followed the laws of YHWH and refused foreign wives, and then so many of them (multiplying wives), he would have been protected from this paganism that he was already told would turn his heart away. When Yahweh reveals the truth of these practices and makes His will known, than the believer is brought to the test.

Come out of the sinful and corrupt practices of a religious system that has embraced all the mixture of Babylon. Come out of confusion, and be separate, for we serve a holy Elohim (GOD).

“Wherefore, we come out from among them, and be ye separate,” says YHWH, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you.” II Corinthians 6:17

FAT TUESDAY & ASH WEDNESDAY’S LENT – PART 2

Springtime pagan celebrations are the roots of modern day Mardi Gras. Ancient Greek and Roman festivals involved sacrifice, drunkenness, lewdness, immoral sex and revelry. In the parade of the pagans, false gods are worshiped by exalting an image above the assembly just like you see in the Mardi Gras parade. Pagan priests were accompanied by the idol and shower the crowds with spring flowers, herbs, grain and coins. Both good fortunes, spells, and curses were shouted during the old pagan parade and are done in the same way today, including the prayers to the idol god to grant favor and blessings. **One example of the pagan gods is Pan.** It represents the spirit of the wild things and is represented as a half Goat, half man incarnation. He is also the satanic Goat of Mendez, which represents lust.



Every year, New Orleans shuts down and throws the party of parties.



Mardi Gras reflects and defines the cultural traditions of New Orleans and is spreading throughout the world fast. The city's largest celebration, Mardi Gras, has been called "the greatest free show on Earth". The first official New Orleans Mardi Gras began in 1837. The first day of



the Carnival season is always January 6th (which is twelve days after Christmas). This is called the Twelfth Night (Kings Night) and marks the beginning of the private masked balls that are held until Mardi Gras Day. The Mardi Gras parades consist of floats holding the krewe members, who

throw **doubloons, beads and other items** to the people lining the streets. Many "parade-goers" either wear a costume or purple, green and gold when attending the parades, and scream "**Throw me somethin' Mister!**" to the krewe members on the floats. Marching bands and celebrities on floats are also included in the parades. Mardi Gras Day (which is always on Fat Tuesday) is the last greatest day of the carnival season.



Did you know that many of the symbols that Christians use in their worship to Yahshua, so-called Jesus, are used in the Mardi Gras celebration? The Christ-mass tree is left standing from Christmas by many people but redecorated with Mardi Gras colors and symbols. The many symbols they use come from Halloween and Easter. **Fat Tuesday is the day before Lent, (Ash Wednesday) which is the Catholic Church's 40-day fast before Easter.** This Carnival can run as long as two month's depending on their 'Christian' church calendar. This ties in with the Catholic belief that so-called Jesus (Yahshua) was baptized on January 6th, which is called the Feast of the Holy Theophany (Epiphany) of our Lord and Savior. The Feast supposedly commemorates the Baptism of Christ and what is called the divine revelation of the Holy Trinity.



They teach that at the Baptism of Christ, all three Persons of the Holy Trinity – Father, Son and Holy Spirit – were made manifest. Thus, the name of the Feast is Epiphany, meaning manifestation, or Theophany, meaning manifestation of God. This feast is man-made doctrine from antiquity (including the so-called three persons of the trinity). In fact, January 6th was designated as the festival day of

The United Congregation of Israel

Epiphany because this day was the birthday of Aeon, Greek patron god of Alexandria. The Gnostics had designated Christ as one of the Aeons in their ever-growing system of pagan gods, and the Catholic Church adopted this day to appease the Gnostics.



Included in this Mardi Gras celebration is the King Cake which gets its origins from the Epiphany, celebrated in European countries which they believe marks the coming of the wise men who brought gifts to the Christ child. Epiphany is also called “Little Christmas on the Twelfth Night”, and is celebrated twelve nights after Christmas, hence the song, ‘The 12 Days of Christmas’. People from all over the world celebrate Epiphany by exchanging gifts and feasting.

Popular during the Mardi Gras season, a King Cake is a ring cake decorated with sweet purple, gold and green frosting. In every King Cake there is a little

plastic baby supposedly to represent the baby Jesus. This is, infect, a graven image or idol. The person who bites into the piece of King Cake with the baby gets to buy the King Cake for the next King Cake party, which is the next day. This process continues throughout the entire 12 days of Christmas.



Another aspect of Mardi Gras is the nudity and the orgies that ate the main attraction for many. Sex is free in the most absolute way one can imagine.

There is even such a thing called the Bourbon Street Awards presented by Oz New Orleans and sponsored by Bud Light as one of the highlights of the carnival. The gay crowd loves Mardi Gras because during this ancient festival called “Lupercalia”, nudity, drunkenness and sex is very much a part of the activities. The word ‘Luper’ means to be naked. This worldwide festival is the epitome of “flesh rising”. Unfortunately, we are commanded to mortify all unlawful deeds of the flesh.

“For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do **mortify** the deeds of the body, ye shall live”.

Romans 8:13

