

Easter errors

Easter is a non-Biblical, pagan name and celebration.

Easter predates Christianity and was a widely observed pagan celebration of fertility and the sun's rebirth. It can be traced back to Babylonian times. The Babylonians believed an old fable about an egg of wondrous size which had supposedly fallen from heaven. The goddess Astarte (Easter) was hatched from the egg. So the egg came to symbolise the goddess Easter. The 40 days abstinence of Lent was also first observed by the Babylonians. From Babylon the customs spread to later pagan cultures around the globe. The ancient Egyptians held a 40 day Lenten fast in commemoration of Isis. The Persians and Chinese would decorate eggs. And the egg became a sacred emblem of the pagan Druids.

[How can any so-called Christian church celebrate a blatantly pagan festival?](#)

Easter is the name of a pagan god! Ishtar - another name for Semiramis, the Babylonian goddess - was pronounced the way we pronounce Easter today. Other variants include Oстера and Astarte. The Anglo-Saxons called her Eostre. They introduced the hare (the Easter Rabbit) as a further fertility symbol. The word 'Easter' does appear once in the King James Version of the Bible but some consider this a mistranslation of the Greek '*pascha*' which is translated as '*passover*' in the other 28 places where it occurs in the New Testament. In the Bible God says:

*"...make no mention of the name of other gods, neither let it be heard out of thy mouth."
(Exodus 23:13).*

[So how can any so-called Christian church celebrate a blatantly pagan festival which bears the very title of a pagan god?](#)

Some argue that Easter is no longer a pagan celebration but a Christian one – a time to remember the Resurrection. But nowhere in the Bible are we asked to celebrate Easter. The early church did not celebrate it. The Apostles did not celebrate it. In the entire New Testament there is not even a hint that we should set aside a day to commemorate Christ's resurrection. So how did it get into the church? When the Roman Emperor Constantine proclaimed Christianity the official religion of the Empire, the old pagan traditions were deeply ingrained in the hearts of the people. The Roman Catholic Church failed to halt many of the pagan traditions and instead adopted them and incorporated them into its liturgy. Lent was added by the Catholic Church in the 6th century as a time of penitence and fasting before the Easter celebration. By contrast Easter was not observed by the Protestant churches in the majority of the American States until the latter part of the 19th century.

The whole concept of Easter; the Lenten fasting, eggs, rabbits etc. were borrowed from pagan spring and sun worship ceremonies. The Catholic Church and many protestant churches have added this pagan celebration despite God's instruction:

*"See that you do all I command you: do not add to it or take away from it"
(Deuteronomy 12:32)*

[How can any so-called Christian church celebrate a blatantly pagan festival which bears the very title of a pagan god - when it is instructed not to?](#)