

What Does Deuteronomy 12 tell us?

①

1. utterly destroy the name, altars, pillars, and every place the nations serve their gods. (12:2-3)

- Burn the Asherim with fire.

Note: 1. in the psalms the wicked will be burned with fire.

2. Rabbinic literature the wicked and their gods are tested in fire and both go to Hell (gehena)

3. in Revelation, the earth and everything not of God (all fallen creation) is reserved for fire.

4. utter destruction, the way of the nations have no place with God's chosen people.

2. we are not to serve our God the way the nations served their gods (12:4)

3. Seek the Lord God and His ways (12:5-7) (12:10-12)

4. Do not do what our opinions tell us. we are to obey God and His word.

7. You may slaughter the animal in your own place (homes) But do not drink the blood (12:15-21)

- there was a cultural custom to drink the life blood of the sacrificed animal.

11. Do not even inquire after their gods to ask how they served their gods.

12. Repeat #3

13. Do not add to or take away from these words (12:32)

Not Biblical (things that are commonly stated) (2)

1. God has reclaimed the time or day
2. I don't use this to worship the Lord, we have changed the meaning of these things.

* According to Deuteronomy 12, God doesn't ask to change or reclaim but to utterly destroy the very memory of these things, and to serve Him the way He wants us to serve Him.

→ this is one example of what God thinks, the children of Israel struggled with these things throughout history (examine the Book of Judges).

→ all throughout the history of Israel they cycled between bringing in the neighboring nations' pagan practices and returning to the Lord's ways.

→ In the NT we see the same thing in the early church, 1 Corinthians 6, some of the believers were still joining themselves to the temple prostitutes (Aphroditae).

* we have to decide in our lives to what extent we are willing to allow these things into our lives and into the way that we serve God?

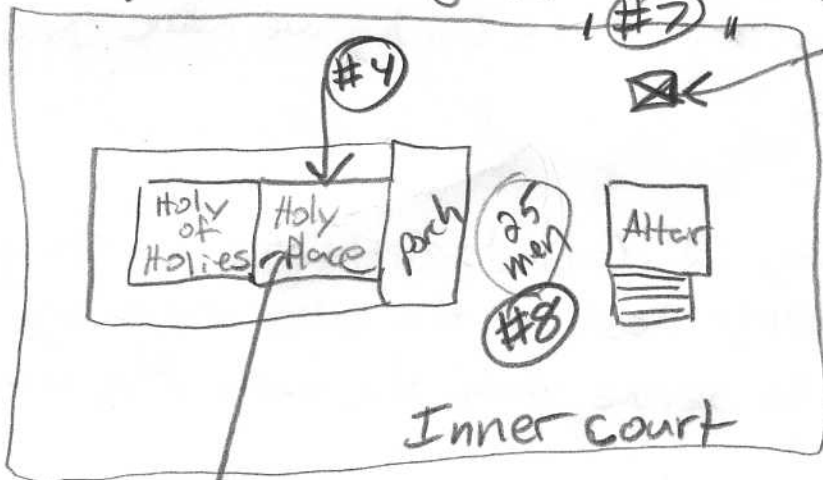
should we serve God and praise Jesus' resurrection with the "Easter" holiday?

→ Let's study this further looking at Ezekiel 8.

Ezekiel 8

3

Layout of original Tabernacle

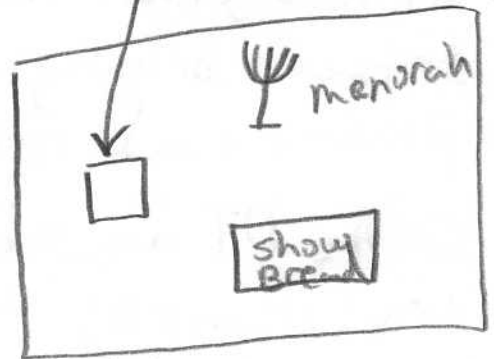


70 elders offering incense to the Lord. (#5)

this is the only place they could have offered incense at the altar of incense.

Questions

1. What are the people of Israel doing that is an abomination to the Lord?
2. Why do they have an idol in the temple?
3. What is the weeping of Tammuz?
4. What is meant by all of the clean and unclean animals and creeping things being carved into the walls of the temple?
→ mixing of the sacred and profane ...



Holy place

Origin of the fertility religions

The Bible Genesis 10:8-9

Noah's grandson Cush and his wife Semiramis and son Nimrod.

- Both are mentioned in the Bible.
(Genesis 10:8-9, 1 chronicles 1:10, Micah 5:6)

↑
Nimrod - a mighty warrior and the founder of Babylon.

The legend

Nimrod and Semiramis

- Nimrod was called Tammuz
 - Semiramis was called Ishtar
- } Babylonian

Many cultures share this legend

1. Babylon (Tammuz and Ishtar)
2. Egyptians (Osiris and Isis)
3. Syrians (Bel and Astarte)
4. Canaanite (Baal and Ashoreth)
5. Greek/Roman (Attis and Aphrodite/Cybele/Venus/Cupid)



↑
the Corinthians in the Bible

The first False Messiah (the anti-christ) (5)

Everything
is connected

- Bacchanalia and Liberalia
 - festivals of drunkenness and sexual promiscuity in honor of the gods Bacchus and Liber which is called St. Patrick's Day
- Ishtar (Easter) in honor of the Queen of Heaven Nimrod-Tammuz, the god that would die and rise again each year (spring time when the days would get longer.)
- Lupercalia
 - Festival of fornication in honor of the god Lupercus, connected to Nimrod-Tammuz known as Valentine's Day
- Saturnalia and Yule
 - honoring the pagan god of Saturn and the Celtic horned god, the birthday of Nimrod-Tammuz known to have occurred on December 25 Christmas (Note the "Yule" time log on the fire...)

* The Blood of Christ does not cleanse pagan idols,
Christ's blood cleanses only people! *