

RUSSELL SANDERS

4-18-2022

JESUS' DEATH AND RESURRECTION – LESSON 4

RESURRECTION DAY BEGINS TONIGHT

Based on our 2022 Julian Calendar and the biblical timeline, today (4-18-2022) is the third and final day of Jesus' time in the tomb (and Hades). Sundown today (Monday) begins the Jewish day of Tuesday. When we go back to the original date that corresponds to the biblical account, Jesus arose after sundown on the Jewish calendar on Saturday. This started Sunday on the Jewish timeline. Therefore, this evening at sundown begins the true Resurrection Day of Tuesday, April 19, 2022.

Yesterday's Easter Sunday is not the day of Jesus' true resurrection. Passover is different every year. Because of this, Resurrection Day only happens on a Sunday about every seven or eight years. In the 4th century the Catholic Church chose to always celebrate it on a Sunday, contrary to the biblical timeline based entirely upon the day of Passover. They took the Jewish feast out of the picture to determine this. They also chose to rename Resurrection Day after a pagan goddess Ishtar ('eesh-tar).

Let us review that paganism. Pagan gods and goddesses appear under different names according to the geographical region and ethnic culture. They are the same gods but called by different names.

The Accadian Empire (from Akkad) was an early empire in Mesopotamia. It followed the Sumerian civilization. Sumer is the earliest known civilization of mankind after the flood and the tower of Babel. The Accadians' chief goddess was Ishtar, the goddess of sex, prostitution, alcohol, and (later on) war. She was the same goddess of the ancient Sumerians named Inanna, the "Queen of the Heavens." Inanna would likely be comparable to "Mary, Queen of the Universe" (heaven), worshipped by the Roman Catholic Church.

Ishtar, and Inanna were also called Astarte. Astarte is the Greek form of Ashtart, who was one of three sexual love and fertility goddesses along with Asherah and Anath, of the Canaanite pagan pantheon (group).

The Israelites adopted the pagan Canaanite gods as their own in defiance of Jehovah. Worship of Asherah is found throughout the Old Testament. In the KJV the references to her is to the "groves." In the NIV it clearly identifies the groves in association with Asherah, a Canaanite goddess of sexual love and fertility like Ishtar (Astarte, and Inanna). References include Deuteronomy 16:21; Exodus 34:13; II Kings 17:10 and 23:7; Micah 5:14; and many others.

It is a disappointment that the Church chose the pagan fertility goddess Ishtar to associate with Jesus' resurrection.

It may be also noted that the pagan worship of praying to Mary (a graven image) as “Queen of the Universe” (the heavens) also is much like Inanna, “Queen of the Heavens” (the universe). It is practicing idolatry.

We will return our focus to Jesus’ resurrection tomorrow, Tuesday, April 19, 2022, the true day of remembering the resurrection for this year.