

Why Believers Should Step Away from Easter: A Scriptural Perspective

Shalom Family, let's dive into this topic together and see what the Word of Yah reveals.

Every year, millions celebrate Easter as the resurrection of Yahshua (Jesus). But a closer look at Scripture and history shows that Easter is not commanded in the Bible and is rooted in pagan traditions. As followers of Yahshua, we are called to walk in truth, not the traditions of men.

The Pagan Roots of Easter

The name “Easter” comes from Ishtar, a Babylonian goddess of fertility and the sun. Many customs associated with Easter, such as eggs, rabbits, and springtime festivals, come from pagan fertility rituals celebrating the renewal of life in spring.

- These practices were not part of Yah’s plan or Torah instructions.
- Early church history shows that “Easter” was adopted centuries after Yahshua’s resurrection as a compromise with Roman culture.

Jeremiah 10:2 – “Thus saith the Lord, Learn not the way of the heathen...”

What Scripture Actually Commands

Yahshua’s death and resurrection are central to our faith, but Scripture does not command us to celebrate them with a holiday called Easter. Instead, the Torah already provides biblical feasts that point to His work:

- Passover (Pesach): Yahshua is the Lamb of God who died for our sins (John 1:29; 1 Corinthians 5:7).
- Unleavened Bread: His burial and sinless life are fulfilled here (John 19:31).
- Firstfruits: His resurrection is celebrated here (1 Corinthians 15:20–23).

These feasts were established by Yah and observed by His disciples. They reveal the timeline of salvation and the plan of Yah, not Easter.

Good Friday and the Resurrection Day

Many celebrate Good Friday as the day Yahshua was crucified and assume He rose early Sunday morning. However, Scripture gives details that challenge that timeline.

John 19:14 tells us Yahshua was crucified on the Preparation Day of Passover (14th of Nisan). Because the Hebrew calendar is lunar-based, Passover can fall on different days of the week.

John 19:31 also tells us that the following Sabbath was a “high day,” meaning a festival Sabbath during Unleavened Bread, not necessarily the weekly Sabbath.

Yahshua Himself said He would be in the heart of the earth three days and three nights (Matthew 12:40). A Friday crucifixion and Sunday morning resurrection does not allow for this full time period.

Matthew 28:1 records that when the women arrived at the tomb toward the first day of the week, He had already risen.

While His resurrection occurred around the time of the Feast of Firstfruits, Scripture never authorizes changing Yah’s Sabbath to Sunday. The later shift to Sunday worship developed through church tradition, not a command found in Scripture.

Why Observing Easter Is Misleading

Easter shifts our focus from Yah’s Word to human traditions:

- It uses a pagan name and symbols.
- It moves around the calendar, based on the full moon and Roman calculations, not Yah’s appointed times (Leviticus 23).
- Many celebrate it without understanding the Torah-based meaning of Messiah’s death and resurrection.

Mark 7:8–9 – “For laying aside the commandment of God, ye hold the tradition of men... Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition.”

Celebrating Easter does not make one closer to Yahshua, it can even lead to confusion and compromise with pagan practices.

The Correct Focus for Believers

What Scripture emphasizes is not celebrating Easter, but remembering and following Yahshua's sacrifice and resurrection in the context of Torah.

- Know that He died for our sins (Romans 5:8).
- Know that He rose on the third day (1 Corinthians 15:4, 20).
- Keep faith in Him and His promise to return (Acts 1:11).
- Observe the biblical feasts that Yah appointed, which reveal His mission and plan of redemption.

Our faith should focus on His life, death, resurrection, and return, not on man-made holidays or traditions that change Yah's commandments.

Easter is a man-made tradition that developed long after the time of the apostles. Scripture does not command its observance, and believers are called to walk according to Yah's Word rather than human traditions.

- The idea of Good Friday is not supported by Scripture, because a Friday crucifixion does not allow for the three days and three nights Yahshua said He would be in the heart of the earth (Matthew 12:40).
- The fact that the tomb was discovered empty on the first day of the week does not authorize changing Yah's Sabbath from the seventh day.
- The resurrection occurred during the time of the Feast of Firstfruits, which points to Messiah as the "firstfruits" of the resurrection (1 Corinthians 15:20).
- Believers should seek to understand and observe the biblical feasts of Passover, Unleavened Bread, and Firstfruits, which reveal Yah's plan of redemption through Messiah.

Faith in Yahshua, obedience to Yah's Word, and anticipation of His return are what truly matter, not participation in traditions established by men.

Key Scriptures:

Jeremiah 10:2 | Mark 7:8–9 | John 1:29 | 1 Corinthians 5:7, 15:4, 15:20–23 | Romans 5:8 | Acts 1:11 | John 19:14, 31 | Matthew 12:40 | Matthew 28:1 | Leviticus 23

Until we meet again, may we continue to walk in the undeniable truth of Yah's Word.

Shalom,

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