

## Man-Made Holidays

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by Wayne Goff

There are numerous man-made religious holidays of which **Easter** is one. Perhaps we are forgetful of what Jesus said about such things. “*And in vain they worship Me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men*” (Matt. 15:9). We are to serve God in the way God prescribes. We dare not assume to do it another way!

“*But what’s wrong with it?*” someone asks. To which I reply, “*It’s your responsibility to show what is right with it!*” Brethren, do we assume that the Bible has to *specifically* condemn a thing before it is deemed to be wrong? If it is unauthorized in God’s Word, then it is **wrong**.

Easter is observed *religiously* as a celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. All true Christians rejoice over the resurrection of Jesus Christ, but we also realize that Jesus did not institute a celebration of His resurrection. We do worship God on the first day of the week, in part, because that is the day on which the Lord was raised. But more than that, the Bible does not say.

Is there anything wrong with observing Easter as a secular holiday? The answer is no. We may enjoy as a family, as an individual, or as a group of individuals, the secular version of the holiday. That is, we may exchange gifts, color eggs, hide eggs and then look for them, etc. -- with no guilt associated, so long as we do not see it as the resurrection of Jesus Christ, Colossians 3:17.

Sadly, there are now some churches of Christ who have begun celebrating man-made holidays. Now look in your Bibles and see from **where** the idea of Easter came! It is not in the Bible, except in the KJV Acts 12:4 where it was a *mistranslation* of the Greek word PASCHA referring to Passover. Since it is not in the New Testament, then it came from some other source. **Where?** Once you answer that question, then you will see who it is that men are trying to please with that event. Let me assure you that it is not God since He said nothing about it! Let’s learn to be content to worship God in the way He prescribed!

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