

## Going About It Backwards?

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by Wayne Goff

When the *King James Version* of the Bible was translated, the word “Easter” was inserted unjustifiably in **Acts 12:4**. The Greek word found is “pascha” which refers to the observance of Passover.

It is almost humorous to me to think that someone, somewhere in the translating process thought it **essential** to put the word “*Easter*” somewhere in the New Testament because the practice was prevalent in England! (Insert the phrase “panic button” here.)

Some of the greatest Greek, Hebrew and linguistic scholars translated the King James Version, and I’m quite sure **none** of them thought the word “*Easter*” belonged in the text. So my guess is that someone with political power “suggested”(?) it. What a tragedy for a beautifully translated inspired book.

Unfortunately there have been other examples of religious people *starting a practice* only to find from the Scriptures that it is not there! But once started, they always find a way to justify it. One example that comes to mind is the substitution of *sprinkling* for **baptism**. The practice began under severe emotional pressure, and continues on until now. Never mind the fact that baptism is the act of being “*buried with Him*” (**Romans 6:4; Colossians 2:12**)! It is convenient and for those who believe a child is born totally depraved, it becomes essential!

I have a file in my filing cabinet filled with interesting articles on Easter. One article written and published contains this argument:

“True, the Bible nowhere tells us to celebrate Easter. But, as mentioned earlier, it also nowhere says not to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus on this day...” (**Ralph Orr**).

**Hebrews 7:14** answers this pitiful argument. It really goes back to respecting the authority of Jesus Christ in His last will and testament (see **Hebrews 9:16-17**). Many religious people struggle mightily with obeying commands, whether from God or any one else! But perhaps someone will see the *irony* of trying to honor Jesus Christ by dishonoring His Word! “*If you love Me, keep My commandments*” (**John 14:15**). See also **John 14:21; 15:10; 1 John 5:2-3; 2 John 6**.

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