"And I heard another voice from heaven saying, "Come out of her, my people, lest you share in her sins, and lest you receive of her plagues." ~ Revelation 18:4 (NKJV)

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ,

As I have said before, but bears repeating, the *body of Christ* must examine why we believe what we believe and be prepared to back it up with Scripture based on the **whole** counsel of God's Word.

Satan is doing his job very well and tragically many people in the *body of Christ* have been deceived by his antics which have not changed since the beginning of time. As such, more than ever before what a lost and dying world needs most of all, other than the saving knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, is for Christians to take a STAND on the uncompromised, unadulterated Word of God based on the <u>whole</u> counsel of His Word! For it is getting very difficult to distinguish the difference between the Church and the world more and more.

Furthermore, the line of demarcation is being drawn and in this hour God is calling His faithful remnant out of "spiritual" Babylon lest we share in her sins and receive her plagues based on Revelation 18:4 above.

Moreover, God is looking for those who will worship Him in spirit and in truth based on John 4:23 which says, "But the hour is coming, and NOW IS, when the TRUE worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and TRUTH; for the Father is seeking such to worship Him."

Therefore, are you ready for the truth based on God's Word concerning <u>our</u> favorite holidays which are based on the traditions of men and what we have inherited from our ancestors and early church fathers?

If so, please take the time to educate yourselves concerning these holidays that many in *the body of Christ* are not only embracing, but also celebrating due to our ignorance of the **whole** counsel of God's Word, understanding our true identity in Jesus Christ and understanding our Hebraic roots in Christianity. Notice that I did not says "Jewish" roots in Christianity for God is NOT calling us to practice Judaism. Please educate yourselves with these excellent teachings by Jim Staley based on what God's Word really says about these holidays that we embrace and celebrate.

Should Christians Celebrate Any Version of Halloween? - Passion For Truth Ministries

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CE\_bPQVytiE

Jim Staley - Truth or Tradition - Should Christians Celebrate Christmas and Easter? (FULL)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PNuIz63zBjM

Page 1 "Truth or Tradition?" It Is Time to Return To God's Truth Based on His Word!" by Donna M. Rogers, founder of Angel of Love and Light Ministries www.angeloffaith777.com

Again, due to our ignorance of the **whole** counsel of God's Word and not understanding our Hebraic roots in Christianity, many people in the *body of Christ* are unknowingly worshipping the "sun" god Baal by **practicing** some of the traditions of men such as Halloween, Easter and Christmas, which are pagan celebrations whose origins was rooted in worshipping the false sun god Baal who was born on December 25th!

As such, this was a partial fulfillment of Daniel 7:25 which came to pass when Constantine changed God's times and seasons and God's laws during the *Council of Nicaea* in 325 AD! In addition, most denominations still follow this apostasy because of the Protestant Reformation and denominations thereof were birthed from the Roman Catholic Church!

After the Holy Spirit revealed God's truth to me and substantiating it by His Word, I for one had to repent and ask God for His forgiveness for my participation in these holidays due to my ignorance of His Word and blindly following what I had been taught all my life concerning these things. One of the things that I have always asked the Lord for is that I wanted to know **only** His truth. And, sometimes learning the truth is very painful because then we are faced with a choice to make and we will be held accountable for our decision. There is some truth to the statement, "Ignorance is bliss."

I have known the truth about these holidays for at least several years, but I justified continuing in them in my mind and in my heart because their pagan origins was <u>NOT</u> why I was celebrating them! I was still celebrating Christmas with my family because it was so important to me to carry on the tradition with my family even though I knew Jesus was not born during this time of year and it never had anything to do with the birth of Jesus. Yet, like many of you, for years I was proclaiming "Keep Christ in Christmas" too.

However, the truth is that Jesus Christ was NEVER the reason for Christmas, although Baal's birthday is indeed December 25<sup>th</sup>. Yet, we all keep pretending that it is to celebrate Jesus' birth as a baby in a manger when the three wise men (I don't know who came up with three wise men for the Bible does not tell us how many there were) came and worshipped Him and gave Him gifts. Yet, God's Word says that the wise men came to Jesus' HOUSE when He was a SMALL CHILD. Therefore, Jesus was **not** a baby or lying in a manger when they came to worship Him! Yet, year after year we enact this story in churches all across the world which is NOT based on the account in the Bible.

Moreover, I continued to witness to children during Halloween by handing out gospel tracks as well because I felt like many of you do--that this was an opportune time to witness to the lost who come right to our door!

What is the morale of this story? We can all have good intentions but still be wrong and deceived if what we are doing doesn't line up with God's Word!

Therefore, the Lord was merciful to me for quite a while because He knows that we have believed a lie all of our life and it is a process to break entirely free from these things which so easily pulls on our emotions and threatens the traditions that we have established with our families for as long as we can remember.

Page 2 "Truth or Tradition?" It Is Time to Return To God's Truth Based on His Word!" by Donna M. Rogers, founder of Angel of Love and Light Ministries www.angeloffaith777.com

Last, year hardly any children came to my door during Halloween so I decided that is it. I will not hand out gospel tracks any longer and will NOT participate in Halloween any longer whatsoever! The true meaning to repent is to change one's mind concerning a matter, and this is what I did. Whew—that was easy!

Yet, imagine my surprise and my dismay when I had reached the decision about Halloween by myself, and I never dreamed what the Lord would ask me to do next!

It was during my early morning walk with the Lord that I do each day, He finally asked me if I was willing to NOT celebrate Christmas anymore and to stand in the gap for the *body of Christ* because He is moving us back to His times and His seasons and to being the church which is depicted in the *Book of Acts*.

Oh No! Not my beloved Christmas too! Needless to say I had a total melt down last year during the Christmas season when for the first time I told my family what the Lord had asked me and why I had to comply. Then my husband, my son and I watched Jim Staley's video titled Truth or Tradition together and my husband and son said, "That is it! We are not celebrating Christmas anymore!" They reacted much better than I did because I always loved the essence of Christmas when during this one time a year everyone seems to be more loving and exhibit the "fruit of the Spirit" like we are supposed to do every day.

Moreover, Christmas is a time to spend precious time with our families and friends as we embrace the traditions which have become so important to us. Not to mention the fact, that I always went way out at Christmas with the beautiful decorations I had handmade and spent a small fortune on. I had one big Christmas tree to hold all the hand-made ornaments, my children made for me and that we made together plus my gorgeous angel tree that was simply breathtaking as well. And, the outside of my house was decked out to the max complete with as many lights that I could put up without burning down my house and I even had a seven foot blow up Grinch as well since the show *How the Grinch Who Stole Christmas* was always my favorite Christmas show! Can you tell that I really loved Christmas?

However, because the Lord asked me to honor Him by giving up Christmas and to begin to practice all His Holy Convocation/Feasts instead, I complied because obedience is better than sacrifice. I am still acclimating to learning and adhering to all His feasts, including His true Sabbath Day, which to say the least is a major adjustment for all of us. Our two older daughters still celebrate Christmas even though they know the truth and told me they respect my convictions on this matter.

In addition, I have since received a revelation from the Holy Spirit concerning what the morale of the story of the *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* was related to me which is this. Even though the Grinch stole Christmas from the inhabitants of "Whoville" they still had joy in their hearts and sang with praise and thanksgiving because they still had what mattered most—each other.

In other words, when they lost all their "stuff" -their material possessions, they still had joy because true joy comes from within rather than from the temporal things of this world which shall shortly pass away! Therefore, as believers in Jesus Christ we must ask ourselves this question. Does our joy and happiness come from the things of this world that we possess and is based on what we do; or, do we derive our joy and sense of self-

Page 3 "Truth or Tradition?" It Is Time to Return To God's Truth Based on His Word!" by Donna M. Rogers, founder of Angel of Love and Light Ministries www.angeloffaith777.com

worth by knowing on an intimate personal basis our heavenly Father and our Redeemer—Jesus Christ? Because anything that we build on a foundation other than Jesus Christ will NOT stand! So we might as well get used to this mindset now!

Therefore, while at first we may mourn the loss of our beloved traditions, we will still have what is most important—God and each other without all the trappings.

And, as the apostle Paul says to us in Romans 14:17-18, "... for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but RIGHTEOUSNESS and PEACE and JOY in THE HOLY SPIRIT. For he who serves Christ in these things is acceptable to God and approved by men."

As such, we will have the joy of the Lord, which is our strength, and we will have His righteousness and peace for being obedient to His Word and the leading of the Holy Spirit because more than anything else we want to please and be acceptable to God first and foremost rather than men. Oftentimes when you take a stand for God and His Word you will NOT have the approval of men! However, as long as we WALK in His righteousness, His peace, and His joy we will "win" the approval of men because they will want what we have!

So if you are currently taking a STAND for God and His Word and are open to being teachable concerning these things which have not been followed by the majority of people in the *body of Christ*, know that it will take us a while to learn about His holy convocations/feasts and then we shall have great joy when we celebrate them with our friends and families. But most of all we will derive the greatest pleasure when we know beyond a shadow of doubt that we are walking with the God that we say that we serve according to His laws, statues, commandments, ordinances, and judgments while enjoying the pleasure of His company above all else.

In the meanwhile, until the rest of the *body of Christ* learns His truth and worships God based on how He wants us to worship Him, as for me and my household we will serve the Lord without compromise. After all, how could I NOT honor and obey the One who has captivated my heart and given me so much to be thankful for despite the pain I felt of having my whole world turned upside down—this is <u>not</u> the only thing He has required me to give up that most in the *body of Christ* still practice! So I have complied even though I had tears in my eyes and have said, "Yes, Lord, not my will but your will must prevail."

Did my flesh like this? NO! Not at all! It has been a very difficult walk that God has required of me to walk through in order to stand in the gap for the *body of Christ* and to practice what I preach. And, no one loved Christmas more than I did and enjoyed the traditions that my family and I created together over the years during the holiday season. But the bottom line for me is that I love the Lord more than anything or anyone else for I have learned that nothing can compare to the hope I have in Him!

In addition, I learned another important truth through this whole ordeal of not celebrating Christmas last year which is this. When I did not decorate the outside of my house last year for the first time ever, one of my neighbors stopped me and asked me if I was okay. He said I must have been seriously ill not to have decorated for Christmas! The first lesson I learned is this. Our neighbors, family and friends pay attention to everything we do whether we realize it or not!

Page 4 "Truth or Tradition?" It Is Time to Return To God's Truth Based on His Word!" by Donna M. Rogers, founder of Angel of Love and Light Ministries www.angeloffaith777.com

Therefore, I used this moment as an opportunity to witness to him about what God's Word really says concerning these things and he candidly shared with me that his brother shared the same things with his family and because of this they do not do much with this one brother anymore because of it and it has caused strife and alienation to occur in the family toward this brother.

So I was led to ask him if his love for his brother is greater than allowing their different beliefs to cause division and a loss of their relationship with one another. When you choose to really love someone you love them despite their shortcomings and what they say or do! Anyone who is a parent knows that our love for our children is the closest thing to we will ever get to loving others as Jesus Christ has loved us! I could tell my neighbor was thinking about the truth of this statement which I pose to you my sisters and brothers in Christ.

Why is it that we allow the love we have for each other to die and turn into bitterness, resentment, and even hatred just because we disagree with someone who does not share "our" convictions or because they are at a different level of revelation in their walk with God?

Unfortunately this is exactly what is happening in the *body of Christ!* But do you know what? I have had to learn to endure being misunderstood by others in the *body of Christ*, even at the cost of being persecuted and rejected by some of my own friends and family for taking a STAND for God's uncompromised, unadulterated Word once I learned the truth of what His Word actually says!

However, this is what we <u>must</u> all learn to do despite being ridiculed, persecuted, and rejected because this is what our Savior did for us and we must be willing to drink from His cup of suffering in order to share in His glory!

Moreover, His truth must prevail and ONLY His Truth! For <u>His</u> truth is our shield and buckler as proclaimed by Psalm 91:3-4 which says, "Surely He shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler And from the perilous pestilence. He shall cover you with His feathers, And under His wings you shall take refuge; <u>HIS</u> TRUTH shall be your shield and buckler."

God's Truth is all the matters! Speaking of His truth...

Another point I need to bring up at this time is this fact. Many in the *body of Christ* have been falsely taught that Jesus did away with God's law when He died on the cross when this is absolutely false. What Jesus Christ did away with is the curse that we would reap for NOT keeping the *letter of the law*—for the wages of sin and transgressions against God is death!

Moreover, listen to what God's Word says about His law based on Psalm 19:7-11 below. As a matter of fact, Proverbs 28:9 (NKJV) proclaims, "One who turns away his ear from **HEARING THE LAW**, Even HIS PRAYER is AN ABOMINATION."

"The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul; The testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple; The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; The commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes; The fear of the LORD is

Page 5 "Truth or Tradition?" It Is Time to Return To God's Truth Based on His Word!" by Donna M. Rogers, founder of Angel of Love and Light Ministries <a href="https://www.angeloffaith777.com">www.angeloffaith777.com</a>

clean, enduring forever; The judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, Yea, than much fine gold; Sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. Moreover BY THEM Your servant is warned, And IN KEEPING THEM there is great reward." ~ Psalm 19:7-11 (NKJV)

Please understand that I am NOT saying that we must keep God's law to **BECOME** saved! However, once we BECOME saved by our faith in Jesus Christ, we will keep God's laws because we love Him and want to please the One we serve with all our heart, mind, soul and strength.

Moreover, we are a Holy Nation, a Royal Priesthood which is to live Holy because the God we serve is Holy and Jesus Christ is coming back for a bride WITHOUT spot or blemish! In addition, God has NOT called us to be like the world. Rather, He has called us to be consecrated—set apart from the world and to NOT follow the pagan practices of those nations who do NOT know Him or His covenants or to mix what is Holy with what is unholy and say that we are doing it for Him.

Therefore, since many people in the *body of Christ* have been taught that Jesus Christ has done away with God's law, instead of the curse that we would reap from not being obedient to the *letter of the law*, many have turned their ear from hearing God's Law established in the Old Testament under His servant Moses to their own peril based on Proverbs 28:9 above.

As God's sons and daughters and sisters and brothers of Jesus Christ, or Yeshua, His Hebrew name, we are to worship God the Father, and God the Son, in Spirit and in Truth. As such, because Yahweh and Yeshua (Jesus) are one and the <u>same</u> God, yet two distinct Persons in the Godhead, the same is true for all of God's commandments as well, including those found in the Torah. Moreover, Jesus in Matthew 28:20 commanded us to **observe** *ALL* things that *I* have commanded you as we disciple all the nations and carry out *The Great Commission!* 

Moreover, under the New Covenant, Yahweh has now written <u>His</u> Laws, which are the terms and conditions of keeping His covenant that He first established through Moses, on His people's minds and hearts rather than on two tablets of stone based on Jeremiah 31:31-34 and Hebrews 8:7-12.

Again, Jesus ratified (**confirmed**) the old covenant Yahweh first established through His servant Moses with His blood as He hung on the cross at Calvary. Therefore, Jesus became the mediator of the New Covenant through His death, resurrection, and ascension into heaven as our Great High Priest.

Therefore, when Jesus "confirmed" the old covenant Yahweh established through His servant Moses, He did so to strengthen it, <u>not</u> to abolish it, because the Hebrew word for "confirmed" is the Hebrew word: "gâbar" which literally means "he shall make strong."

Page 6 "Truth or Tradition?" It Is Time to Return To God's Truth Based on His Word!" by Donna M. Rogers, founder of Angel of Love and Light Ministries www.angeloffaith777.com

Moreover, under the New Covenant we have hopefully received the *baptismal of the Holy Spirit*! It is the Holy Spirit who leads us into ALL truth and gives us God's grace to keep His laws, statues, commandments, ordinances, and judgments which will be evidenced by our words we speak and our actions.

God's Word is very clear in that we will know those whose are truly His by their fruit! As such, when we cannot for the most part distinguish the difference between the *body of Christ* and those who are of the world, our heavenly Father is very grieved indeed!

In addition, Jesus Christ says to us, His disciples, in John 14:15, "<u>If</u> you love me, <u>obey</u> My commandments." When Jesus said this during His earthly ministry, the New Testament wasn't written yet and He, His disciples, including the apostle Paul taught strictly from the Torah and the *Book of the Prophets*!

Therefore, where do you think Yahweh's laws came from in the first place? They came from *the Word* who became the *Son of Man* in the flesh that we call Jesus Christ or Yeshua! Jesus the living Torah who is God and was with Yahweh, our heavenly Father, from the foundation of the world! So do you really believe that Jesus Christ came to do away with the law that He established <u>before</u> the foundation of the world as *the Word* like we are taught in Christendom?

Why do you think Jesus says to us in John 13:34 below that He is giving us a <u>NEW</u> commandment? Does this negate all of God's other commandments listed at the front of the Bible which was written for ALL His covenant people—the *children of Israel* which includes both the Jews from the *House of Judah* and those of us who were FORMERLY Gentiles from the *House of Israel* (Jacob/Joseph/Ephraim) who have now been grafted into the commonwealth of Israel by our faith in Jesus Christ. For there is ONLY <u>one</u> *body of Christ* under the headship of Jesus Christ!

"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another; as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all will know that you are My disciples, if YOU have love for one another." ~ John 13:34 (NKJV)

Jesus knew that **if** we would just keep this new commandment then we would be keeping the essence and purpose of the *Book of the Covenant* and the *Book of the Law* written by His servant Moses, which is nothing more than our heavenly Father's instructions and guidance for all His children because He loves us so much and wants to keep us under the umbrella of His protection, providence, and provision.

Therefore, God has already given us His holidays, which are His Holy days, that He wants His people to celebrate instead of us embracing the traditions of men and pagan practices celebrating the sun god, primarily Baal, which by the way, Halloween, Christmas and Easter originated from that we inherited from the early church fathers (namely Constantine) in lieu of forsaking Yahweh's seven (7) holy convocations which are God's appointed seasons that He has set aside to meet with His people.

Page 7 "Truth or Tradition?" It Is Time to Return To God's Truth Based on His Word!" by Donna M. Rogers, founder of Angel of Love and Light Ministries www.angeloffaith777.com

Moreover, the word "seasons" in the Hebrew is the word "mô'êd" which means an appointment, that is, a fixed time or season; specifically a festival; conventionally a year; by implication, an assembly (as convened for a definite purpose).

Notice that in Leviticus 23:1-2 below that the Lord specifically says that these are His feasts; therefore, where does it say that these feast/holy convocations are just for the Jews from the *House of Judah* to proclaim, observe, and practice?

And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, "Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: 'The feasts of the LORD, which you shall proclaim to be holy convocations, these are My feasts." ~ Leviticus 23:1-2 (NKJV)

What does all this that I am sharing with you today mean? It means if we are NOT standing on God's truth based on the <u>whole</u> counsel of His Word, then we have nothing to stand on and the enemy will defeat us and we will come out from under the umbrella of His protection, providence and provision because WE are breaking covenant with Him!

Satan will then have the legal ground to kill, steal, and destroy everything that Jesus Christ died to give us! Jesus emphatically says to us in John 10:10 (NKJV), "The thief [Satan] does NOT come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly."

Therefore, please take the time to watch these videos by Jim Staley and search God's Word and ask the Holy Spirit to reveal ONLY God's truth to you, so that you shall know His truth and be set free from the deception of the enemy! After all, Jesus Christ who is our Savior, our Healer, and our Deliverer said to us in John 8:31-32 (NKJV), "<u>IF</u> you abide in <u>MY</u> WORD, you are <u>MY</u> DISCIPLES indeed. And you shall KNOW THE TRUTH, and the truth shall make you free."

And, Jesus also said to us in Matthew 7:13-14, "Enter by the narrow gate; FOR WIDE IS THE GATE AND BROAD IS THE WAY THAT LEADS TO DESTRUCTION, and THERE ARE MANY WHO GO IN BY IT. Because narrow is the gate and difficult is the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it."

In summary, if most of the people in world who do NOT know God or have NOT accepted Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior celebrates Halloween, Christmas and Easter, which they do, this alone should alert us to the fact that we have left the narrow path which leads to life, because this path is difficult, full of trouble, distress and afflictions. Hence, few find it or travel on the narrow path which leads to life.

As such, if the majority of people in the world are celebrating these holidays and entering into the wide gate which leads to destruction, is it possible that we must repent and return back to the ONLY path which leads to life and to the gospel which was once delivered to the saints before it is too late to make course correction for all of eternity?

Page 8 "Truth or Tradition?" It Is Time to Return To God's Truth Based on His Word!" by Donna M. Rogers, founder of Angel of Love and Light Ministries www.angeloffaith777.com