

## THE GRAVEN IMAGES OF CHRISTMAS

Christmas is here again. The lights, the decorations, the family get-togethers, holiday shopping, holiday traffic, Christmas carols, Santa Claus, presents and of course the Christmas tree. You can't get away from it. It's here. It's in the city and in the country. It's portrayed on your streets and in your neighbor's yard. It's all over the TV, the newspaper and on the radio. It's in your local bank, the post office, the grocery store. It's a national tradition; reinforced by the lighting of the 'National Christmas Tree,' oops, I mean 'Holiday Tree.'

In the traditions of our fathers, and their fathers before them, we have grown up with this tradition from our youth. Some of our earliest memories are of Christmas; and oh, the presents. This is such a joyful time of year. This is a time of celebration and of being in the Spirit of Christmas with Christmas parties and Christmas dinners. And the most important thing about Christmas is the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ. What could be wrong with this?

This is the focus of this study. There is plenty wrong with this. What this study will show you is that Christmas is not the celebration of the birth of Christ. It is not just a fun holiday built around paganism and the worship of other gods.



Here is your spiritual Miranda warning. If you choose to not read any further, that is your choice. You are denying the truth, and you will receive your reward. If you choose to read further, you will find out the truth about Christmas and everything that is associated with it. You will want to put away, and distance yourself from this pagan practice immediately if you love the Truth. You would be wise to do so.

**“Choose you this day whom ye will serve.” *Joshua 24:15***

I would like to pose a question to you. If Christmas is a celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ, then why is there not only a description of a Christmas tree about 563 B.C., but also a description of an artificial Christmas tree in scripture from about 740 B.C.? A description of Christmas trees approximately 600 to 700 years before Christ was ever born? How can this be a celebration of His birth? I would say the timing is just a tad off. Yes it is, by 600 to 700 years.

If this is then not the celebration of His birth, then what is it? What does it represent? How are we to know? This study will show you exactly what Christmas and everything associated with it represents.

There is a reference in Ezekiel 8:17 of putting the branch to the nose. How many of you have put your nose to a branch of a Christmas tree or wreath to smell the fragrance of spruce, pine, or fir? This passage in Ezekiel is speaking about abominations. There are other references in scripture about worshiping 'gods' under every green tree. See Deuteronomy 12:2, 1 Kings 14:23, 2 Kings 16:4, 2 Kings 17:10, 2 Chronicles 28:4, Isaiah 57:5, Jeremiah 2:20, 3:6, 3:13, and Ezekiel 6:13. The verses speaking about 'under every green tree' are referring to worshiping and serving idols. The quoted passages have an inference to Christmas but they are not a very definitive description. For an irrefutable description of a Christmas tree, we will be focusing our attention on passages in Jeremiah and Isaiah.

**Hear ye the word which the LORD speaketh unto you, O house of Israel: [2] Thus saith the LORD, Learn not the way of the heathen, and be not dismayed at the signs of heaven; for the heathen are dismayed at them. [3] For the customs of the people are vain: for one cutteth a tree out of the forest, the work of the hands of the workman, with the axe[4] They deck it with silver and with gold; they fasten it with nails and with hammers, that it move not. [5] They are upright as the palm tree, but speak not: they must needs be borne, because they cannot go. Be not afraid of them; for they cannot do evil, neither also is it in them to do good.**  
*Jeremiah 10:1-5*

Now, what does that describe? That passage is most definitely describing a Christmas tree and a pretty good description at that. Let's take a closer look at these verses.

In verse 2, we are told not to learn the way of the "heathen." The word heathen is the same word used for "Gentile" in both the Old and the New Testaments.

"Heathen" and "Gentile" in the Old Testament means; *apparently from the same root as 1465 (in the sense of massing); a foreign nation; hence a Gentile....Gentile, heathen, nation, people.*<sup>1</sup>

"Heathen" and "Gentile" in the New Testament means; *a race (as of the same habit), i.e. a tribe; specially. a foreign (non-Jewish) one (usually by implication pagan)...Gentile, heathen, nation, people.*<sup>2</sup>

One must understand who is a true Jew and a true Gentile in a spiritual construct. **"....For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly...." Romans 2:29 "But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly...." Romans 2:28** The true Jew is a spiritual Jew, one that abides in Jesus Christ in the truth. It has nothing to do with the flesh, or if you were born Jewish.

This also means that **the true Gentile is also not one which is a Gentile outwardly, but one that is a Gentile inwardly.** This would be a person that does not abide in

Jesus Christ, and this would also include those that 'say' they are Christians, but abide not in the truth. They have false doctrine and are believing in a lie.

When you substitute the word "Gentile" for "heathen", to read "**Learn not the way of the Gentiles,**" this gives us a deeper understanding. In other words, what the text is getting ready to describe is something that the Gentiles do. If one does these practices, they are a spiritual Gentile, not a spiritual Jew. If they are a spiritual Gentile, they are not allowed into the kingdom of God, for only a spiritual Jew in Christ is the receiver of the promises of the New Covenant. For more on this, see "The Remnant of Israel" available from Christian Media Network.

**For the customs of the people are vain:.. Jeremiah 10:3**

Remember the definition for "Gentile" or "heathen" in the New Testament is; *a race (as of the same habit)*. **Customs** is a description of traditions or **habits** of a particular race or tribe.<sup>3</sup>

**For the customs of the people are vain: for one cutteth a tree out of the forest, the work of the hands of the workman, with the axe. Jeremiah 10:3**

Workman means; *a fabricator of any material...carpenter, craftsman, engraver, smith, mason, skillful.*<sup>4</sup> The root word for workman means; *to scratch, i.e. (by implication) to engrave, plough; hence (from the use of tools) to fabricate (of any material); figuratively to devise (in a bad sense)...*<sup>5</sup>

The work of the hands of the workman with the axe, hmm, I wonder what that is describing? This is perhaps describing a family outing to go cut the family Christmas tree? Or perhaps the growers of Christmas trees that cut the trees for shipment to the stores and Christmas tree lots.

**They deck it with silver and with gold; they fasten it with nails and with hammers, that it move not. Jeremiah 10:4**

Deck is defined as; *properly to be bright, i.e. (by implication) beautiful.....*<sup>6</sup>

The definition for "deck" fits the bill for decorating a tree with lights and bright and shiny garland, tinsel, and pretty Christmas ornaments making the tree beautiful. Fastening it with nails and hammer, that it move not sure sounds like nailing a Christmas tree stand onto it making it stand upright.

**They are upright as the palm tree, but speak not: they must needs be borne, because they cannot go. Be not afraid of them; for they cannot do evil, neither also is it in them to do good. Jeremiah 10:5**

We will take a look at this verse and exactly what it is describing a bit later. Let's skip a few verses and go to Jeremiah 10:7-10.

**Who would not fear thee, O King of nations? for to thee doth it appertain: forasmuch as among all the wise *men* of the nations, and in all their kingdoms, *there is none like unto thee.*[8] **But** they are altogether brutish and foolish: the stock is a doctrine of vanities. [9] Silver spread into plates is brought from Tarshish, and gold from Uphaz, the work of the workman, and of the hands of the founder: blue and purple is their clothing: they are all the work of cunning *men*. [10] **But** the LORD is the true God, he *is* the living God, and an everlasting king: at his wrath the earth shall tremble, and the nations shall not be able to abide his indignation. *Jeremiah 10:7-10***

Notice in verse 7 that Jeremiah is giving glory to the Lord. Then in verse 8 we see a change of direction with the word "But." He then compares the subject matter in verses 8 and 9 in contrast to the Lord. Verse 10 then changes direction with the word "But" again. And then compares the Lord to what was spoken about in verses 8 and 9.

**But the LORD is the true God, he *is* the living God, and an everlasting king: at his wrath the earth shall tremble, and the nations shall not be able to abide his indignation. *Jeremiah 10:10***

Verse 10 is describing the Lord, comparing Him to the subject matter in verses 8 and 9. Notice that it says "**But the Lord is the true God.**" If this is compared in contrast to verses 8 and 9, and it states that the Lord is a true God, then verses 8 and 9 are speaking about a 'false god.' "He is a living God" would be in contrast to a 'dead God.' This gives us our first real clue to what the Christmas tree is all about. It is the customs of the heathen to make a god to worship and pay homage. The customs of the heathen worship a false god and a dead god.

**But they are altogether brutish and foolish: the stock *is* a doctrine of vanities. *Jeremiah 10:8***

Who is the "they" in this verse that this is speaking about? We would have to refer to the previous verses which are speaking about the Christmas tree. These people that this verse is referring to are the people that have the customs of the Christmas tree. Verse 8 states that they are "**brutish and foolish.**"

Brutish is defined as; *to kindle, i.e. consume (by fire or by eating); brutish...waste.*<sup>7</sup>

In the dictionary brutish is an *adjective; of or like a brute, savage, gross, stupid, etc.*<sup>8</sup>

Looking up brute in the dictionary, we find brute defined as - *[senseless, irrational] 1. Lacking the ability to reason; as a brute beast...*<sup>9</sup>

This may bring to your attention to that which is located in 2 Peter 2:12 “**But these, as natural brute beasts, made to be taken and destroyed, speak evil of the things that they understand not; and shall utterly perish in their own corruption.”**

Brute from in this verse means; *irrational: - brute, unreasonable*.<sup>10</sup>

Those that are brutish are made to be taken and destroyed and shall utterly perish. Utterly perish is the destruction of both soul and body. How are they destroyed? These are the branches that are cut off in Romans 11:22, and burned in Isaiah 27:10, 11. They are the tares in Matthew 13:30 that are gathered and burned. Now go back to the definition for brutish. “*to kindle, i.e. consume (by fire or by eating); brutish, waste.*” Those that are brutish will be consumed by fire and destroyed.

This is not sounding too good at this point. What about those that are foolish? Foolish is defined as; *properly to be fat, i.e. (fig.) silly: - be foolish*.<sup>11</sup>

This brings to mind the wise and the foolish virgins. When the foolish virgins didn't have enough oil to keep their lamps lit, they went to buy some oil. They came back too late. They knocked on the door saying “**Lord, let us in.**” These foolish virgins knew Him as Lord. The Lord answered back and said “**I don't know you.**” (Matthew 25:1-13).

To be brutish and foolish is not a good thing. The Lord does not know one who is foolish and the brutish are taken and destroyed.

**But they are altogether brutish and foolish: the stock is a doctrine of vanities.**  
*Jeremiah 10:8*

This really begins to get interesting. The word stock in the above verse means; *a tree (from its firmness); hence wood...*<sup>12</sup> The definition is a tree, that being wood. We can substitute the word ‘tree’ for ‘stock.’ The tree is a doctrine of vanities. But what tree are we talking about here? **The Christmas tree is a doctrine of vanities.**

Vanities is defined as; *emptiness or vanity; figuratively something transitory and unsatisfactory...*<sup>13</sup>

The under-definition of the word vanities means; *to be vain in act, word, or expectation; spec. to lead astray...*<sup>14</sup>

The word vain used in Jeremiah 10:3 “**For the customs of the people are vain...**” is the same word as in Jeremiah 10:8 for “vanities.”

By the above definitions we can see that the doctrine of the Christmas tree is “emptiness,” it is “transitory and unsatisfactory,” and the doctrine of the Christmas tree “will lead astray.” Leading astray is leading one away from the truth. The Christmas tree,

and everything associated with it will lead a person away from the truth of God and into the doctrine of devils.

When a person is led away from the truth, they are led somewhere else. They go into lies. There can only be either a truth or a lie. There is no lie that is of the truth (1 John 2:21). Anything that makes a lie will not be allowed into the temple of God (Revelation 21:27). This is why the Lord does not know the foolish virgins. For one to enter into the temple, the Lord must know you.

**Silver spread into plates is brought from Tarshish, and gold from Uphaz, the work of the workman, and of the hands of the founder: blue and purple is their clothing: they are all the work of cunning men. Jeremiah 10:9**

In this verse, we again find the workman that was in Jeremiah 10:3. Now a founder is added. The word founder means; *to fuse (metal)...founder, goldsmith,...*<sup>15</sup> This is describing a metalworker; someone that builds or shapes metal.

The workman and the founder are referred to as “cunning men.” Cunning is defined as; *wise (i.e. intelligent, skillful or artful)...*<sup>16</sup>

We have the definition of cunning as being wise. **“Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools.” Romans 1:22** They are brutish and foolish. The workman and the founder are also good at what they do. They are “skillful or artful.” They are true craftsmen.

Skipping down a few more verses, we find the same language as in the previous verses just discussed.

**Every man is brutish in his knowledge: every founder is confounded by the graven image: for his molten image *is* falsehood, and *there* is no breath in them. [15] They are vanity, *and* the work of errors: in the time of their visitation they shall perish. [16] The portion of Jacob *is* not like them: for he is the former of all *things*; and Israel *is* the rod of his inheritance: The LORD of hosts *is* his name. Jeremiah 10:14-16**

Again, this is speaking about “**every man is brutish in his knowledge.”** The word knowledge means; *knowledge: - cunning, [ig] norantly, know (-ledge), [un] awares (wittingly)*.<sup>17</sup> This is a direct reference back to the word “cunning.” These words and definitions are going around in circles and connecting with each other. And remember, we are still discussing the “customs of the people,” and their Christmas trees.

The founder again shows up in this verse. But the “**founder is confounded by the graven image.”** That really doesn’t sound good at all. Before we go there, let’s look at

the word confounded. It is defined as; *to be ashamed, confused, or disappointed; also (as failing), to dry up (as water), or wither (as herbage): be ashamed...*<sup>18</sup>

The founder is ashamed, confused, or disappointed. Those definitions don't really seem to be on point. However, if you continue in the definitions, you will find "*also (as failing), to dry up (as water), or wither (as herbage).*" If we go back to 2 Peter 2:12 that speaks about the brute beasts, the brute beasts are described as "wells without water" (2 Peter 2:17). They are **dry wells**. Jesus Christ is the fountain of living waters. These brute beasts in 2 Peter 2:12 are not abiding in Jesus Christ. We also know that the brute beasts are withered. A person that does not abide in Jesus Christ (in the truth) becomes **withered** and are subsequently burned (John 15:6).

This seems like a more fitting definition of confounded. Another possible interpretation is in the future. During the tribulation they are confounded, ashamed, confused or disappointed by the graven image. They are confounded by the "**graven image.**" Graven image is defined as; *an idol; - carved (graven) image.*<sup>19</sup>

There you have it. The graven image is an idol, plain and simple. It is either made of wood or stone or even cast from metal as we will see shortly. That is what the scripture says. And what is this graven image referring to? It is referring to the Christmas tree. If you look at the definition of graven image, it says "*an idol; - carved (graven) image.*" But how does this describe a Christmas tree?

All we have to do is look at the root word for graven image. It means; *to carve, whether wood or stone: - grave, hew.*<sup>20</sup> It means to carve or (en) grave wood or stone. Notice the last word in the definition, hew. In the dictionary hew means to chop or cut with an ax, knife, etc.<sup>21</sup>

Remember the work of the workman with the axe in Jeremiah 10:3. "**...for one cutteth a tree out of the forest, the work of the hands of the workman, with the axe.**" The word axe in that verse has as one of its definitions; hew.<sup>22</sup>

**Every man is brutish in his knowledge: every founder is confounded by the graven image: for his molten image is falsehood, and there is no breath in them.**  
*Jeremiah 10:14*

The word molten means; *a libation; also a cast idol...*<sup>23</sup>

In the dictionary we find that the word libation is; the ritual of pouring wine or oil upon the ground, or upon a victim for sacrifice in honor of a god; the liquid poured out...<sup>24</sup>

The pouring out of a liquid (molten metal) occurs when an idol is cast. It is also in honor of a god that this is done.

Verse 14 tells us that the molten image that is made by the founder is a graven image and is falsehood. Falsehood is defined as; *an untruth; by implication a sham... without a cause, deceit (-ful), false (-hood, -ly), feignedly, liar, + lie, lying, vain (thing), wrongfully.*<sup>25</sup>

The under-definition means; *to cheat, i.e. be untrue (usually in words): - fail, deal falsely, lie.*<sup>26</sup>

The graven image that is cast is false and is a lie. It is honoring a god. It is not honoring the True God of Israel. But this is talking about a graven image that is cast by a founder. This isn't talking about a Christmas tree that is cut by an axe. These verses are telling you what a founder does. The workman cuts a tree. The founder casts an idol. In upcoming verses, you will see where this fits in. First, let's continue in Jeremiah 10:15.

**They are vanity, and the work of errors: in the time of their visitation they shall perish.** *Jeremiah 10:15*

In this verse, we have the word vanity pop up again. Again, this is the same word, used in Jeremiah 10:3 and Jeremiah 10:8. The word errors means; *a fraud: - error.*<sup>27</sup>

This definition goes right hand in hand with the definition for the word "falsehood." The verse then goes on to state that "**in the time of their visitation they shall perish.**" When is "their visitation?" This would be referring to the Tribulation. In the Tribulation this god, along with all of the other gods will perish. They are destroyed; both the gods and those that worship them.

**The portion of Jacob is not like them: for he is the former of all things; and Israel is the rod of his inheritance: The LORD of hosts is his name.** *Jeremiah 10:16*

In Jeremiah 10:16, we have a change of direction that occurs. "**The portion of Jacob is not like them**" is stating that whoever this "portion of Jacob" is, they do not do the things that the previous verses were speaking about. Who is the "portion of Jacob?"

Portion is defined as; *properly smoothness (of the tongue); also an allotment: - flattery, inheritance...*<sup>28</sup> The under-definition means; *to be smooth (as smooth stones used for lots) to apportion or separate...*<sup>29</sup>

Smoothness of the tongue reminds me of that verse in Revelation "**And in their mouth was found no guile: for they are without fault before the throne of God.**" *Revelation 14:5* No deceit is found in their mouth. The truth comes out of them. And they are found "without fault." In contrast to the ones in Jeremiah 10:14, 15 which are in falsehood and errors.

These people spoken about in Revelation 14:5 are the 144,000.<sup>30</sup> They are the **'Remnant of Israel.'** They are a separate group of people set apart from all others. The definition for portion fits this group. An allotment is a certain amount. The 144,000 would fit that. They are separated from all others. Separate is another definition of portion. The 144,000 has an inheritance, yet another definition of portion. This is the "Remnant of Israel."

This would also be a future description of the Multitude<sup>31</sup> when they come out of the falsehood and lies. They will throw away their idols like a menstruous cloth.

**Ye shall defile also the covering of thy graven images of silver, and the ornament of thy molten images of gold: thou shalt cast them away as a menstruous cloth; thou shalt say unto it, Get thee hence. *Isaiah 30:22***

Now, we will see where this founder fits into all of this.

**The workman melteth a graven image, and the goldsmith spreadeth it over with gold, and casteth silver chains. *Isaiah 40:19***

The workman melts a graven image is a bit confusing. It almost sounds like the workman is melting the graven image down. It is not saying that at all. It is actually referring to 'casting' a graven image. The word melteth in verse 19 is the root definition of the word molten used in Jeremiah 10:14 and means; *to pour out, especially a libation, or to cast (metal)...*<sup>32</sup>

But this would be describing a founder, not a workman. Why does it say "The workman?" Let's look at the definition of the "workman" again. A workman is; *a fabricator of any material...carpenter, craftsman, engraver, smith, mason, skillful.*<sup>33</sup>

Notice that one of the definitions for workman is a craftsman, also engraver and a smith. A craftsman can work with wood, stone, or metal. So a workman that makes a graven image can be either a person that works with wood or a founder that works with metal. But a founder only works with metal.

Jeremiah 10:14 was describing the work of the founder, not the tree cutter (workman with the axe). Jeremiah 10:14 ties in with Jeremiah 10:8, "**the stock (tree) is a doctrine of vanities.**" It changes in Jeremiah 10:9 from speaking about the "workman, with the axe." to the founder that casts a graven image. How are these two linked to a Christmas tree? It's very simple. The "workman, with the axe." is referring to a "cut" Christmas tree. The "founder" that melts (casts) a graven image is referring to the maker or fabricator of an 'artificial tree.' An artificial tree? Yes, an artificial Christmas tree. It's in the scriptures.

**The workman melteth a graven image, and the goldsmith spreadeth it over with gold, and casteth silver chains. [20] He that is so impoverished that he hath no oblation chooseth a tree that will not rot; he seeketh unto him a cunning workman to prepare a graven image, *that shall not be moved.* *Isaiah 40:19, 20***

A person that is so impoverished that he has no oblation chooses a tree that will not rot. Now what is a tree that will not rot? That would be an artificial tree. Let's take a closer look at this verse. We also find in verse 19 the spreading of gold and casting silver chains. That's an exact description of "**they deck it with gold and silver**" in Jeremiah 10:4.

Impoverished has two definitions attributed to it. The first definition means; *to cut, i.e. damage; also to grow (causatively make)poor: - endanger, impoverish.*<sup>34</sup>

This word is an indication that an "impoverished" person is "cut" or "damaged" probably in a financial sense; causatively to "make poor." This is a person that doesn't have a lot of money and can't give an oblation.

The second definition means; *to shut up; by implication, to surrender:--stop, give over.*<sup>35</sup> This definition tells us that this person can be shut up perhaps indicating that they have no money. It also says that they surrender, stop or give over. The under-definition to this word will clarify this.

This under-definition of the word impoverished means; *...the idea of temporary purchase; to hire...*<sup>36</sup> Now this is getting us closer to what this word has to do with what an impoverished person is. There is one more under-definition that will tie this together. It means; *... (through the common idea of planning implied in a bargain); to purchase:--buy, prepare.*<sup>37</sup>

An impoverished person is a person that does not have a lot of money and therefore looks for a more prudent way to get what they desire. They purchase something that is a bargain and prepare it.

Oblation means; *a present (as offered up), especially in sacrifice and tribute...*<sup>38</sup>

This person doesn't have enough money due to financial constraints, they cannot sacrifice (oblation) the money that it costs for a cut Christmas tree every year. Financially, it is more prudent for them to purchase an artificial tree that they can use year after year. An artificial tree that will not "rot."

Rot means; *to decay (as by worm eating): - rot.*<sup>39</sup> An artificial Christmas tree will not rot like a cut Christmas tree. It stays in their garage or attic until the next time that they pull it out and deck it with gold and silver.

Who would have ever thought that there was a description of an artificial Christmas tree, let alone a cut Christmas tree in the Bible? The time of Isaiah was about 700 to 740 B.C. A full 140 to 180 years before Jeremiah. It is Isaiah that is describing the artificial Christmas tree. Jeremiah described the cut Christmas tree. This means that if the artificial Christmas tree was being cast or made at that time, the cut tree had to already be in existence. This form of worship goes back a long ways. Centuries before Christ was even born. Do you still want to say the Christmas is a celebration of Jesus Christ?

The Lord declares that both the cut tree and the artificial tree are graven images. If the Christmas tree is a graven image, also known as an idol; then every thing associated with the Christmas tree is an extension of that idol (graven image).

Back in Isaiah 40:20 **“He seeketh unto him a cunning workman to prepare a graven image, that shall not be moved.”** This word “cunning” shows up again. This is the same word used in Jeremiah 10:9 **“The work of the workman, and of the hands of the founder: blue and purple is their clothing: they are all the work of cunning men.”**

We know that graven images are bad. What does the Lord declare about graven images?

**And God spake all these words, saying, [2] I *am* the LORD thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. [3] Thou shalt have no other gods before me. [4] Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness *of any thing* that *is* in heaven above, or that *is* in the earth beneath, or that *is* in the water under the earth: [5] Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God *am* a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth *generation* of them that hate me; [6] And showing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments. *Exodus 20:1-6***

This is one of the 10 Commandments. The Christmas tree is a blatant violation of this law. Oh, but that’s right. We’re under grace, right? You’d better read your bible. Those that love the Lord will keep His commandments. Those that love the Lord will abide in Christ in truth. The Lord states that those that make graven images, bow down to them or serve them hate the Lord.

If one is in a ‘lie’ or ‘falsehood’ or ‘errors,’ then that person is not in the truth and is not abiding in Christ. That person is therefore not covered under His grace and is under the law. Those that love the Lord will not do these things.

To really solidify the statements about Christmas trees and everything associated with Christmas to be the worship of strange 'gods,' we go back to that verse in Jeremiah 10:5.

**They are upright as the palm tree, but speak not: they must needs be borne, because they cannot go. Be not afraid of them; for they cannot do evil, neither also is it in them to do good. Jeremiah 10:5**

This verse is a bit murky. What exactly is this verse speaking about? Is this speaking about the Christmas tree? It must be, for it follows "**For the customs of the people are vain: for one cutteth a tree out of the forest, the work of the hands of the workman, with the axe[4] They deck it with silver and with gold; they fasten it with nails and with hammers, that it move not.**" Jeremiah 10:3, 4

There are clues that we can pull from this verse. Whatever it is speaking about has these characteristics. They are upright, they don't speak, they have to be lifted and carried (borne means lifted up), they don't do evil or good. What is this describing? This is giving an exact description of what we will be finding in these next passages.

**They lavish gold out of the bag, and weigh silver in the balance, and hire a goldsmith; and he maketh it a god: they fall down, yea, they worship.[7] They bear him upon the shoulder, they carry him, and set him in his place, and he standeth; from his place shall he not remove: yea, one shall cry unto him, yet can he not answer, nor save him out of his trouble. Isaiah 46:6, 7**

These verses are speaking about someone making a god, falling down and worshiping it. Verse 7 then describes the attributes of the 'god' that is made. An interesting item of note; in verse 6, the "goldsmith" that is hired is the same word used for "founder" in Jeremiah 10:14. Also notice that gold and silver show up together just as with the Christmas trees, both cut and artificial.

The attributes of this "god" that they make is that this "god" has to be carried and set in his place. He stands where he has been set and cannot move from that place. He cannot answer back or save anyone. Let's do a comparison to Jeremiah 10:5.

**They are upright as the palm tree, but speak not: they must needs be borne, because they cannot go. Be not afraid of them; for they cannot do evil, neither also is it in them to do good. Jeremiah 10:5**

**They lavish gold out of the bag, and weigh silver in the balance, and hire a goldsmith; and he maketh it a god: they fall down, yea, they worship.[7] They bear him upon the shoulder, they carry him, and set him in his place, and he standeth;**

**from his place shall he not remove: yea, *one* shall cry unto him, yet can he not answer, nor save him out of his trouble. Isaiah 46:6, 7**

“They *are* upright as the palm tree” compares to “set him in his place, and he standeth.”

“They must needs be borne (lifted up),” compares to “They bear him up on the shoulder, they carry him.”

“Because they cannot go.” compares to “from his place shall he not remove.”

“But speak not:” compares to “one shall cry unto him, yet can he not answer.”

That is 4 out of the 6 items listed in Jeremiah 10:5. Those are exactly the same attributes of the description of the Christmas tree. But, what about “for they cannot do evil, neither also is it in them to do good?” This can be found in the next passage.

**That they may see, and know, and consider, and understand together, that the hand of the LORD hath done this, and the Holy One of Israel hath created it. Produce your cause, saith the LORD; bring forth your strong *reasons*, saith the King of Jacob. [22] Let them bring *them* forth, and show us what shall happen: let them show the former things, what they *be*, that we may consider them, and know the latter end of them; or declare us things for to come. [23] Show the things that are to come hereafter, that we may know that ye *are* gods: yea, do good, or do evil, that we may be dismayed, and behold *it* together. [24] Behold, ye *are* of nothing, and your work of nought: an abomination *is he that* chooseth you. Isaiah 41:20-24**

Prior to these verses beginning in Isaiah 41:20-24, the Lord is speaking about the creation and the things that He has created. There is a common theme that runs through these previously quoted passages. The verses surrounding the passages in Jeremiah 10, Isaiah 46:6, 7, and Isaiah 41:20-24, have four elements of a pattern within them.

The Lord will speak about Himself and how exalted He is, i.e. “And there is no god beside me.” Secondly, He will speak about the gods, or idols, or graven images compared to Himself, declaring that they are nothing, or vanity, and how they will be destroyed. Thirdly, there is always a mention of the “**Remnant of Israel**” being a separated group from the people that do these things and refers to protection for the Remnant. Fourthly, there is always some reference to judgement. Specifically, the tribulation, i.e. “the bruit is come,” “the whirlwind,” “in the time of their visitation they shall perish.” This is an interesting pattern to note on this theme.

In Isaiah 41:20, the Lord is speaking in a taunting manner. He is saying to these gods, 'let's see you do something. Show us the future, show us the past, show us these things that we may know that you are gods. Do good or evil. If we see you do evil, then we'll see it and then we'll know that you are gods.' Then in verse 24, the Lord says "**Behold, ye are of nothing, and your work of nought: an abomination is he that chooseth you.**"

It is not possible for gods to do good or evil because they are nothing. They don't exist. There are demons and devils and they do exist. But this is referring to graven images and idols representing gods. The idols and graven images/gods are nothing, and a work of nought.

Let's compare this to the last two items in Jeremiah 10:5 to either do good or do evil. "**Be not afraid of them; for they cannot do evil, neither also is it in them to do good**" compares to Isaiah 41:23 "**that we may know that ye are gods: yea, do good, or do evil,**" The people are asking the gods to do good or evil so that they can know that they exist. The Lord states in Jeremiah 10:5 that they cannot do evil or good. Why? Because they are nothing and are a work of nought.

That matches the last 2 of the 6 attributes of the Christmas tree listed in Jeremiah 10:5. Now it is very clear that these attributes are describing a god, but it is used in conjunction with the Christmas tree. The Christmas tree is the graven image of a god. It is an idol of a god. The Christmas tree is a representation of this god. On one layer the description of the Christmas tree in Jeremiah 10:5 is a physical description of the graven image. On another layer the description in Jeremiah 10:5 is a spiritual description of this god and this god is represented by Christmas, the Christmas tree and everything associated with it.

The person that participated in this act is an abomination to the Lord. Look again at Isaiah 41:20 "**Behold, ye are of nothing, and your work of nought: an abomination is he that chooseth you.**"

Abomination is defined as;...*something disgusting...idolatry...idol....*<sup>40</sup>

The description in Jeremiah 10:5 is a description of a god. The graven image that represents this god is the Christmas tree. A person that chooses a god is an abomination to the Lord. A person that chooses a Christmas tree (graven image of a god) is an abomination. When you allow and cling onto Christmas, you are holding onto graven images of a god and you are an abomination in the eyes of the Lord.

Go back to Isaiah 40:20 "**He *that is so impoverished that he hath no oblation chooseth a tree that will not rot.***" This person chooses a tree (artificial) that will not

rot. Verse 19 states that this is a graven image. This person is an abomination in the Lord's eyes.

This is why the "brute beasts" are destroyed. This is why the "foolish" virgins are not known to the Lord. They are involved in a practice of idolatry and setting up graven images in homage to their god.

Anything that worketh abominations will not be allowed into the temple of God described in Revelation 21:27. The word "worketh" is defined as; *...to make or do...*<sup>41</sup>

The under-definition means; *to "practice", i.e. perform repeatedly or habitually (thus differing from 4160, which prop. refers to a single act)...*<sup>42</sup> This is an exact description of customs or the habits of the people and throw in the traditions of men.

**Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; 1Peter 1:18**

Is it possible that this verse is speaking about the tradition of Christmas? It has silver and gold that are deemed corruptible. Could this be the silver and the gold that are made into gods; the silver and the gold that decks the tree (false god)? It also refers to vain conversation learned from the traditions of your fathers. The stock is a doctrine of vanities. The word vain in this verse has as some of its definitions; *vanity, idol*.<sup>43</sup>

Speaking about and teaching the tradition of the Christmas tree is vain conversation. The word conversation has as one of its definitions; *behavior*.<sup>44</sup>

These false gods will not redeem you. The following of false gods is an abomination. The only one that saves is Jesus Christ and one must be in the Truth to be covered by that saving grace. A person in Truth cannot be following lies.

We have yet another verse in Isaiah. **So the carpenter encouraged the goldsmith, and he that smootheth *with* the hammer him that smote the anvil, saying, It is ready for the soldering: and he fastened it with nails, that it should not be moved. [8] But thou, Israel, art my servant, Jacob whom I have chosen, the seed of Abraham my friend. *Isaiah 41:7-9***

In these verses, we have a reiteration of a graven image. Interestingly, this has the same language as the descriptions of the Christmas tree. The "carpenter" is the same word for "workman." The word "goldsmith" is the same word for "founder." **Isaiah 41:7 "And he fastened it with nails, that it should not be moved."** matches exactly with Jeremiah 10:4 "they fasten it with nails and with hammers, that it move not." That comparison is just about word for word. And this connects with Isaiah 40:20 "**He**

seeketh unto him a cunning workman to prepare a graven image, that shall not be moved.”

Verse 8 then has the “**Remnant of Israel.**” This theme runs through all of these passages. Let’s now take a look at a verse that speaks about graven images.

**A drought *is* upon her waters; and they shall be dried up: for it *is* the land of graven images, and they are mad upon *their* idols. Jeremiah 50:38**

This verse is located in the famous chapters of Jeremiah 50 and 51 which are dealing with the judgement and destruction of Babylon. Let’s take a close look at this verse. “**A drought *is* upon her waters; and they shall be dried up.**” This could be referencing an actual physical drought, but more fittingly, this is probably speaking about a spiritual ‘drying up.’ Since Jesus Christ is the fountain of living waters, then those without Christ do not have this living water. Remember in 2 Peter 2:12, the wells without water (dry wells)? The land of graven images does not have Jesus Christ as their Savior. The god that they worship is not the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. They do not have the “Fountain of living waters.”

And why are Babylon’s waters dried up? “**For it is the land of graven images, and they are mad upon *their* idols.**”

The word mad is defined as; *to be clear (originally of sound, but usually of color); to shine, hence to make a show, to boast, and thus to be (clamorously) foolish; to rave; causatively to celebrate...45*

Can you see the celebration of Christmas in this definition? There are things that are shining, and the adorning of the Christmas tree. Homes and business across this country, and the world, that are making a show of it; boasting of how nice your tree looks, or how nice your house looks all decorated up for the Holidays. Raving about how beautiful everything is at Christmastime. And of course the celebrations that go on in honor of the season. Yes, “**they are mad upon their idols.**”

There is an interesting bit of information that gives us a description of **Santa Claus** when you look up the word idols. Its definition means; *fright; concretely an idol (as a bugbear)...idol...46*

This definition does have idol within it at the end of the definitions. But, I thought it odd that the first definition would be fright. Why fright? What does that have to do with an idol? You will be amazed when you find out. Concretely the definition means “*an idol (as a bugbear).*” What is **a bugbear**?

The dictionary gives us a huge clue:

**Bugbear**; - 1. An imaginary hobgoblin or terror designed to frighten children into good conduct...<sup>47</sup>

**“An imaginary hobgoblin or terror described to frighten children into good conduct.”** What could this possibly be referring to? Try Santa Claus. What were we told as a child? You’d better watch out. You’d better not cry. Santa will know if you’ve been naughty or nice. If you’re good, Santa will bring you lots of presents. If you’re bad, Santa will put a lump of coal in your stocking and you won’t get anything nice. This is exactly describing a bugbear; frightening a child into good behavior by threatening them that if they’re bad, they won’t get any presents from Santa Claus. Yes, **“They are mad upon their idols.”**

There is a verse in Jeremiah 51:45 that warns His people to come out of Babylon. **“My people, go ye out of the midst of her, and deliver ye every man his soul from the fierce anger of the LORD.”** 2 verses later we read this.

**Therefore, behold, the days come, that I will do judgment upon the graven images of Babylon: and her whole land shall be confounded, and all her slain shall fall in the midst of her. *Jeremiah 51:47***

Now is the time to come out of Babylon. **“For her sins have reached unto heaven, and God hath remembered her iniquities.”** *Revelation 18:5* Time is running out. We need to get our hearts right with the LORD. We need to renounce the hidden works of darkness and remove the idols from our lives immediately

And watch out for the Christmas parties and eating Christmas dinner at the folk’s house. Could it be possible that you are eating food sacrificed to idols? Think about it because you are!

Let me put forth a metaphor for the Christmas tree. One goes out and puts forth some money (an oblation, sacrifice) and purchases a tree, whether it is a cut tree or an artificial tree. He carries it home and sets it in its place and affixes it so that it won’t fall over by placing a tree stand upon it. He then adorns it and makes it beautiful with the Christmas lights, bulbs, gold garland, and silver tinsel. He makes it shine.

He goes out and puts forth more money (oblations, sacrifices) to buy gifts. He brings them home and wraps them with pretty paper and pretty ribbons and bows. He then walks up to the tree and bows down before it, giving it a gift. Now, he gives it a gift, for he doesn’t take that gift back, a different gift comes back in its place.

When it comes time to open the presents, he again bows down to the tree and receives a gift from the tree. Maybe an even better one than he gave it. When the time for the

tree is over, he removes the tree from its place and begins to look forward to the next time that he can set up his tree.

The Christmas tree is a graven image or an idol. It is representative of a god; a god of this world that has been here a long time. It is an abomination, not only the act or deed, but also the person that does it. The people that practice these traditions or customs of the heathen will find themselves under the judgement of God via the 'tribulation.'

There is also another aspect of Christmas that you may not be aware of. **“The Pagan-Christian Connection Exposed”** is a book written **by Michael Rood**. Michael has researched the ancient pagan practices that have been adopted by the Christian church. This is quoted with permission on pages 79, 80.

“Welcome to the Pagan Party

Let's look at one of these pagan traditions that have destroyed the lives of innumerable Christians who thought that they were following the Messiah.

We read in the scroll of Ruth that Elimelech and his family left Bethlehem during a drought and sojourned east of Israel in the land of Moab. The Moabites were worshippers of Chemosh, the pagan god of prosperity. It was the same cast-iron, pot bellied god that their kindred, the Ammonites, worshipped by the name of Molech. Both gods wore the Phrygian cap - the official headwear of both Tammuz in Babylon, and later, Mithra in Rome.

At the time of the Winter Solstice, December 25<sup>th</sup> on the ancient calendar, they had a public child mass [*mass* meaning “sacrifice”]. The priest stoked the iron image of the enthroned Chemosh with wood and burning pitch, turning their pot-bellied god into a cherry red furnace. The people made long lists of their desires, and recited them to the god of prosperity just before they put their infant children into the re-hot lap of their god with his Phrygian cap. As the babies were incinerated in the December 25<sup>th</sup> child mass, the people were assured that their sacrifice would be rewarded in the coming year.”<sup>48</sup>

We can find confirmation of the people causing their sons and daughters to pass through the fire to Molech in the following verse.

**And they built the high places of Baal, which are in the valley of the son of Hinnom, to cause their sons and their daughters to pass through the fire unto Molech; which I commanded them not, neither came it into my mind, that they should do this abomination, to cause Judah to sin. *Jeremiah 32:35***

This must be speaking about some heathen nation or tribe of people that do these things. Not so. This verse is referring to the children of Israel and the children of Judah. This verse is true to this day.

**Because of all the evil of the children of Israel and of the children of Judah, which they have done to provoke me to anger, they, their kings, their princes, their priests, and their prophets, and the men of Judah, and the inhabitants of Jerusalem. [33] And they have turned unto me the back, and not the face: though I taught them, rising up early and teaching them, yet they have not hearkened to receive instruction. [34] But they set their abominations in the house, which is called by my name, to defile it. Jeremiah 32:32-34**

The house that he is which is called by the name because of these pagan from our youth in the were before us. The and everything that is is alive and well in the churches have a Christmas altar? How many churches church? They are bringing name of Molech into the have brought an which is called by the name defile the house of the Lord.



referring to is the church of the Lord. It is defiled practices that were taught traditions of our fathers that Christmas tree, Santa Claus associated with Christmas church today. How many tree in their foyer or by the bring Santa Claus into the the ancient god by the house of the Lord. They abomination into the house of the Lord. In so doing they

Parents take their children to go see Santa Claus. They sit their kids on his lap to tell him of all of the things that they want. This bears a striking resemblance to the aforementioned practices. When the parents take their children and sit him or her in Santa's lap, they are causing their children to pass through the fire, rejecting the commandment of God, holding to their traditions and they are committing an abomination in the eyes of the Lord.

If you are reading this and have not yet come out of this pagan practice, **Now** is the time. It does not matter if it is Christmas time or not. It could be the 3<sup>rd</sup> of May, or the 10<sup>th</sup> of July. Take the box out of your attic full of Christmas decorations and get them out of your house. Throw away the wrapping paper and bows. Throw away that artificial Christmas tree if you have one. Throw away the Christmas cards and stockings. Clean the leaven out of your house. And most importantly clean the leaven out of your heart. Take Christmas out of your life. Don't give them away to family or friends. You are just passing along idols that have your fingerprints on them. Don't sell them for now you are

profiting off of the sale of idols. Destroy them and trash them! That is where they belong.

Inform those close to you that you will no longer be celebrating Christmas and you have now renounced this pagan practice and ask for the forgiveness from the Lord and for Him to cleanse you from this sin.

Once you take this step, you will realize how disgusted you will become towards the whole idea of Christmas. It is not until you come to the outside of it, that you realize how pagan it really is. Then you can see it for what it really is. It is the worshiping of other gods.

Originally written: The 13<sup>th</sup> day of the 10<sup>th</sup> month/December 14th, 2005

Edited and revised: The 28th day of the 11th month/December 26th, 2008

Written by Sue Patterson

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End Notes:

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1. Strong's 1471
2. Strong's 1484
3. Strong's 1484
4. Strong's 2796
5. Strong's 2790
6. Strong's 3302
7. Strong's 1197
8. Webster's New World Dictionary
9. Webster's New World Dictionary
10. Strong's 249
11. Strong's 3688
12. Strong's 6086
13. Strong's 1892
14. Strong's 1891
15. Strong's 6884
16. Strong's 2450
17. Strong's 1847
18. Strong's 3001
19. Strong's 6459
20. Strong's 6458
21. Webster's New World Dictionary
22. Strong's 4621

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23. Strong's 5262
  24. Webster's New World Dictionary
  25. Strong's 8267
  26. Strong's 8266
  27. Strong's 8595
  28. Strong's 2506
  29. Strong's 2505
  30. "The 144,000 and the Multitude" written by Sue Patterson
  31. "The 144,000 and the Multitude" written by Sue Patterson
  32. Strong's 5258
  33. Strong's 2796
  34. Strong's 5533
  35. Strong's 5534
  36. Strong's 7936
  37. Strong's 3739
  38. Strong's 8641
  - <sup>39</sup>. Strong's 7537
  - <sup>40</sup>. Strong's 8441
  
  - <sup>42</sup>. Strong's 4238
  - <sup>43</sup>. Strong's 3152
  - <sup>44</sup>. Strong's 391
  - <sup>45</sup>. Strong's 1984
  - <sup>46</sup>. Strong's 367
  - <sup>47</sup>. Webster's New World Dictionary
  - <sup>48</sup>. ["The Pagan-Christian Connection Exposed"](#) by Michael Rood.



Threshing Floor Ministry Websites:

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