

SNARES OF VALENTINE

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God bless you,

Oluwatobi S. Adewuyi
Coordinator

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God bless you!

Topic:
SNARES OF VALENTINE
Bible Text: Colossians 2:8

Prayer

Let us pray.

Dear Lord, we thank You for Your loving kindness. We pray that Your grace and love will continue to radiate over us. We pray that You'd forgive us our sins and be our teacher tonight, in Jesus Christ's name we have prayed.

Introduction

We welcome the new brethren in our midst in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. This is a Bible study ministry where we teach the true gospel of Christ. Our doctrine is purely biblical, as we rely on it as the highest authority to which every man's motive is judged. God bless you.

Study

Please follow carefully.

By this time on Friday, that is, on the 14th of February, many would have been rounding up the activities that were planned for that day, while some would just be starting what was planned. But what should be the plans of the children of God for that day? Before this can be well answered, we have to get an understanding of what that day means to a lot of people and its origin. Valentine's Day is generally believed to be a day that we show love to our loved ones, and as the Bible says that God is love... It won't be wrong for Christians to partake in it, right? Since I won't be doing **Val** on the altar of immorality, would it be

wrong for me to say **Happy Val** or **Would you be my Val**? Does it really matter if I take myself out on that day in the name of Val?

Please, I would like you to follow this teaching carefully.

Before we go into our Bible text, I would like us to know the origin of Valentine. Valentine was the name of a person in the ancient Roman Empire. Although there are a lot of accounts given as to who he is, in most, if not all, of these accounts, we can see some similarities, which would be pointed out as this lecture goes on. Here is one of the accounts of who St. Valentine is:

First Man Called Valentine But who was the original Valentine? What does the name **Valentine** mean? Valentine comes from the Latin **Valentinus**, which derives from **valens**— “to be strong, powerful, mighty.” The Bible describes a man with a similar title:

"And Cush begat Nimrod: he began to be a mighty one in the earth. He was a mighty hunter before the Lord: wherefore it is said, Even as Nimrod the mighty hunter before the Lord" (**Genesis 10:8-9**).

And Cush begat Nimrod: he began to be a mighty one in the earth. [9] He was a mighty hunter before the Lord: wherefore it is said, Even as Nimrod the mighty hunter before the Lord. He was said to have hunted with bow and arrow. As mentioned, the Romans celebrated **Lupercalia** to honor the hunter god **Lupercus**. To the Greeks, from whom the Romans had copied most of their mythology, Lupercus was known as **Pan**, the god of light. The Phoenicians worshipped the same deity as Baal, the sun god. Baal was one of many names or titles for Nimrod, a mighty hunter, especially of wolves. He was also the founder and first lord of Babel (**Genesis 10:10-12**). Defying God, Nimrod was

the originator of the Babylonian Mystery Religion, whose mythologies have been copied by the Egyptians, the Greeks, the Romans, and a multitude of other ancient peoples. Under different names or titles—Pan, Lupercus, Saturn, Osiris—Nimrod is the strongman and hunter-warrior god of the ancients. But what does the heart symbol have to do with a day honoring Nimrod/Valentine? The title **Baal** means “lord” or “master” and is mentioned throughout the Bible as the god of pagans. God warned His people not to worship or even tolerate the ways of Baal (Nimrod). In ancient Chaldean (the language of the Babylonians), **bal**, which is similar to **Baal**, meant “heart.” This is where the Valentine heart symbol originated.

Now, notice the name **Cupid**. It comes from the Latin verb **cupere**, meaning “to desire.” Cupid was the son of Venus, the Roman goddess of beauty and love. Also known as **Eros** in ancient Greece, he was the son of Aphrodite. According to myth, he was responsible for impregnating numerous goddesses and mortals. Cupid was a child-like archer (remember, Nimrod was a skilled archer). Mythology describes Cupid as having both a cruel and happy personality. He would use his invisible arrows, tipped with gold, to strike unsuspecting men and women, causing them to fall madly in love. He did not do this for their benefit but to drive them crazy with intense passion, to make their lives miserable, and to laugh at the results.

Many of the gods of the Egyptians, Greeks, Romans, Assyrians, and others were modeled after one man—Nimrod. But what does this have to do with us today? Why should we be concerned with what happened in the past? For better understanding of tonight's teaching, I would send some picture images to aid it. We could see from the above that Nimrod, who was a great hunter, hunted with bow and arrows and bore Baal. I believe we know what Baal is. You remember the story of Elijah and the prophets of Baal,

right? Baal, a god of the pagans, and **bal**, a synonym of Baal, means “heart”—this is where the Valentine heart symbol originated from. Cupid, as mentioned above, is the son of Venus, the Roman goddess of beauty and love, a child-like archer. Looking at that image, you would see the love (heart) at the edge of the arrow... which brought about this. Now, let's see part of what Wikipedia says about Valentine's Day: **Valentine's Day, also called Saint Valentine's Day or the Feast of Saint Valentine, is celebrated annually on February 14. Originating as a Western Christian feast day honoring one or two early saints named Valentine, the day is recognized as a significant cultural, religious, and commercial celebration of romance and romantic love in many regions around the world.**

Please do not forget the origin—Nimrod (**Baal**), also **Valentinus**, which is what Wikipedia confirms to be a day of honoring one of the two early saints. And please, which church is known for honoring saints? The Bible says in: **1 Corinthians 1:2 (KJV)** "**Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints..**" It is seen here that we are all saints, inasmuch as we are sanctified. The Catholic Church is a typical example of a church that honors saints. And the Bible also says that we should worship God through Christ Jesus, not through any saint. This means that any church that encourages the honoring of saints is not the Church of God. It is unscriptural. And the tradition in honor of **St. Valentine** was started from the Catholic Church... So, what does the Bible say about this?

This leads us to our Bible text for today: **Colossians 2:8 (KJV)** "**Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.**" We have seen that the root of Valentine's Day is paganism. God has been warning His children—even until now—not to partake in paganism. He wants

us to be different from the world. That is why we are being warned to **beware**. Please note that **the tradition of men** is anything that is being taken in high esteem by men without any solid root of authorization from the Bible. In fact, Valentine's Day is seen as a day to share **lust**, which is believed to be **love** among unbelievers (**pagans**), especially among youths... Why is it that it is during this period that fornication goes on a rampage? If truly it is meant to celebrate God because He is love, then do you think it is only on a particular day that you are meant to show love to people around you? Of course not. We are to depict the evidence of Christ's love to everyone all the days of our lives. In fact, Valentine's Day is seen as a day to share lust, which is believed to be love among unbelievers (pagans), especially among youths.

What does Cupid love have to do with the word of God? Traditions of men! It's so painful that many of us participate in many things which we do not bother to know their origin, inasmuch as they look pleasing to our knowledge. No, it does not work that way in Christendom. We only do what God approves. Imagine a day that a god is believed to fire arrows of lust into the lives of the opposite sex being celebrated by Christians? There are a lot of practices that are in the world currently that came from the Catholic Church which are very unscriptural.

We have to flee from these practices because they are the traditions of men, such as Christmas, Easter (Ishtar), Valentine, Halloween, and many others. We have to be spiritually alert as God hates idolatry, and He does not want us to be part of these things at all. Therefore, Babylonian practices should not be our lifestyle. The Bible says in **Revelation 18:4**, "**And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues.**"

Many churches now organize Valentine programs. It's just like organizing Baal programs, where youths would come and dance and dance—it is unscriptural. In some accounts about Valentine's Day, it is said that the names of young ladies would be written in different papers, rolled, then scattered for young men to pick from. And whoever you pick would be your Valentine throughout that year, and it is that person you'd be having sex with throughout the year. Fornicating all in the name of Valentine... Do you now see where the question of "Will you be my Val?" comes from? The Bible warns us strictly against fornication, but this Valentine tradition upholds it so much. Please do not be anybody's Valentine. Don't let the devil take advantage of you... philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ. Anything that does not point you to Christ, do not partake in them... They are the devil's deceit.

When little boys and girls draw each other's names in a lottery and send Valentine cards and gifts to each other, declaring their "love," they are learning the first stages of intimate relations that the Creator God designed specifically for emotionally mature adults. Instead of embracing the carefree innocence of youth, growing up without the headaches and heartaches of adulthood (finding a job, paying bills, marriage, raising a family, etc.), children today are taught to lust after each other. They are caught up in a daily drama of **"If you love me, you'd sleep with me," "I'm pregnant," "It's not mine," "She had an abortion."** By the time they reach adulthood, virtually every shred of innocence, sincerity, and moral decency has been stripped from them.

Listen to this. Anything you do in the name of Valentine is paganism. If someone invites you to a Valentine service and you go there, you have joined in their pagan worship. Even if you go out with your wife for Valentine shopping (I mean tagging it a Valentine outing), you have participated in paganism. Why not just call it shopping? If someone tells you, "**Happy Val,**" please tell the person instantly, "**I don't do Val.**" The person might start making jest of you or say you don't know what is going on... Please, tell the person that you agree because you have determined to live for Christ and not to please people. Anything that is given to you in the name of Valentine should be rejected—except it is reframed as just a gift.

But at the same time, I want you to know that there is nothing as expensive as a thing given for free. Have a pure heart, live holy, please the Lord only, and let others see the light of the gospel. Don't feel lonely. If your friends are going out for Valentine and you have told them but they refuse to hear, don't feel depressed. Take your Bible and talk with the Holy Spirit. Don't behave like the world, you are different from them.

DO NOT BE ANYBODY'S VALENTINE. We can go out to evangelize to souls on the 14th, which many know as Valentine's Day. Let's tell the world about the love Christ has for us as He came to die for us. Let's win souls.

QUESTION

You talked about not celebrating Easter and Christmas, why?

Answer

Easter and Christmas also have pagan origins like Valentine and were brought into the church by the Catholic Church. Each of them has deep teachings to be taught, so I might not be able to go deeply into them tonight.

But will you do so later when the time comes?

By God's grace, sir. Easter and Christmas are not biblical celebrations; they originated from pagan traditions and were later adopted into Christianity by the Roman Catholic Church.

1. Christmas – December 25th was originally a pagan festival called **Saturnalia**, which honored the Roman god Saturn. The date was chosen to align with the winter solstice and the birthday of the sun god, Mithra. The Bible does not mention the exact birth date of Jesus, nor does it command believers to celebrate His birth. Instead, we are to focus on His life, death, and resurrection.

2. Easter (Ishtar) – **The word Easter is linked to Ishtar**, a Babylonian fertility goddess. Many Easter traditions, such as eggs and rabbits, are symbols of fertility and have nothing to do with Christ's resurrection. The true biblical event is the Passover, which Jesus and His disciples observed, not Easter. Both of these celebrations were introduced as a way to merge pagan customs with Christianity, which is against God's command to avoid the traditions of men (**Colossians 2:8**). True worship is based on what God has commanded, not what has been adopted from the world. Instead of celebrating these holidays, believers should focus on living a Christ-centered life daily and remembering His sacrifice in the way He instructed—through obedience, holiness, and spreading the gospel.

Answer:

a) If not, then who is at fault? The primary responsibility lies with the parents, guardians, and society at large. Many children are exposed to worldly influences from a young age through the media, peer pressure, and even the education system. Parents who fail to instill godly values, monitor their children's

associations, or provide proper guidance contribute to these issues. The church also plays a role in not teaching biblical principles strongly enough to counteract the world's deception.

b) If yes, why? If a child willingly engages in ungodly relationships despite receiving proper biblical teachings and guidance, then they bear responsibility for their choices. The Bible warns that we are accountable for our actions (**Ecclesiastes 12:14**). However, children are easily influenced, which is why it is crucial to train them in the way of the Lord (**Proverbs 22:6**) so they do not depart from it when they grow older. Ultimately, while external influences play a role, individuals must choose whom they will follow—Christ or the world.

Answer:

Sir, Looking at this biblically, anything that happens to a child, the parents would give account for it, even if the children will also receive punishment for their wrongs. But the parents of a child have much to do. The Bible says in **Proverbs 22:6**, "**Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.**" He will not depart from it. It is the duty of a parent to train their children to be how the Lord wants. If you train them in the ways of the Lord, they will not depart from it.

QUESTION:

The fact that someone goes to church and hasn't given his life to Christ, does it make him a Christian?

Answer:

No, sir. What makes someone a Christian is beyond going to church. A Christian is someone who believes, has confessed Christ, and is living his life to please Him.

The word **Christian** itself surfaced in the book of **Acts 11:26 (KJV):**"And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch."They were called Christians because they were doing everything like Christ (**Christ-like**). So, anybody who goes to church and does not behave like Christ inside and outside the church is not a Christian.

The End

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Invitation

If you know that you are still living in sin and you are ready to repent and begin to live your life in strict obedience to God so that you can overcome every sin in your life to make heaven, please place your right hand on your chest and say this prayer with your mouth.

Say,

"Lord Jesus, I accept You as my personal Lord and Savior. I believe that You died for me and took away my sins so that I will not face the penalty of them. I surrender my life to You today, and I make a decision to obey and follow You. Come into my life now and accept me as Your child. Thank You for saving me, in Jesus Christ's name I pray, Amen."

Congratulations, now you are saved. If you prayed this short prayer, please WhatsApp +2347067511039 and let me know that you have just been saved. I want to have a word with you. God bless you!

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