

Happy Valentines Day!



Where the True Meaning is Hidden

Written by Rex
For the Awakening Remnant

**Walking the Ancient Path of Torah Obedience
Calling out Deception – Calling out Truth**

With her many words she caused him to yield, with her flattering lips she seduced him. He goes after her immediately, like an ox to the slaughter, like a fool to the correction of the stocks, till an arrow pierces his liver. As a bird hastens to the snare, he did not know it would cost his life. (Pro. 7:21-23)

Valentines Day

A Sweetheart's Day

Hearts, Halos, and Hidden Paganism: The Truth About Valentine's Day

Introduction

The world wraps it in roses and ribbons.

They say it's about love. About sweethearts and chocolates, kisses and cards.

But behind the red hearts and winged cherubs lies a story soaked in blood, lust, and deception.

Every February, millions unknowingly bow to a day rooted not in righteousness but in rituals of Rome — fertility rites, saint worship, and erotic gods with arrows.

This is not covenant.

This is compromise.

What began as a festival of whips and wombs was later painted over with a halo and renamed for a “saint.” But the bones beneath remain pagan. And the fragrance is still foreign fire.

YHWH does not call this love.

Before you buy the candy. Before you write the card.

Come. Let's uncover the ancient roots and ask the hard question:

What are we really celebrating when we celebrate Valentine's Day?

The Romantic Mask

Every February, the world blushes in red.

Storefronts bloom with roses. Candy hearts spill from plastic bowls.

Cupid draws his bow from every greeting card aisle,
and lovers recite scripted vows beneath paper streamers.

They say it's a day of love.

They say it's innocent, sweet, and sacred — even “Christian.”

A chance to honor romance, to celebrate affection, to indulge in a little passion.

But what is this celebration hiding behind the lace and glitter?

Is it truly about love — or is it love repackaged in the shape of something far older, far darker?

Underneath the pink balloons and candlelit dinners lies something ancient.

Not ancient like Torah. Not sacred like Covenant.

Ancient like Rome.

Ancient like ritual blood and pagan desire.

What if we peeled back the heart-shaped mask?

What if this festival, draped in silk and scripture,
was actually foreign fire dressed in red satin?

What are we really celebrating when we celebrate Valentine's Day?

The Blood Roots: Lupercalia and Pagan Fertility Worship

Before it was Valentine's Day, it was Lupercalia —
a wild, flesh-driven festival held each year from February 13 to 15 in ancient Rome.

It was not about love. It was about lust, blood, and fertility rites.

The priests of Rome — called Luperci — would gather at the mouth of the Lupercal cave,
where legend said the she-wolf nursed Romulus and Remus, the founders of the empire.
There, they would sacrifice a goat for fertility, and a dog for purification.

Then — in full ritual madness — they would slice the hides into strips,
dip them in the sacrificial blood, and whip women in the streets.

Not in hate. In ritual ecstasy.

For it was believed that a lash of the blood-soaked skin
would bless a barren womb, cure infertility, and prepare a woman for conception.

And if that wasn't vile enough — the festival included sexual lotteries.
Men drew the names of women from a jar, and the two were paired for the duration of the
festival, sometimes longer — for pleasure, not purity.

This was not covenant.
This was not set-apart.
This was a drunken orgy in honor of gods of the flesh —
Faunus, the Roman goat-god of fertility and wild nature,
and Pan, his Greek predecessor, half-beast and fully depraved.

Later, as the empire absorbed Greek mythology, Cupid — once known as Eros,
the god of erotic desire — became the patron of passion.

Not a baby angel.
But a powerful deity of seduction.

This is the seed.
This is the root.
This is the true origin of what the modern world now blushes to call "Valentine's Day."

Saint Valentine: Fact or Fiction?

The early church fathers had a dilemma:
They couldn't kill the passion of Lupercalia.
The people loved it too much — the thrill, the pleasure, the pairing, the spectacle.

So instead of purging the pagan fire,
they poured holy water on it, lit a few candles, and called it Christian.

Enter: Saint Valentine.

But who was he?

History doesn't know — because even the church records name at least three men called Valentine.
One a priest, another a bishop, and a third little more than a name on parchment.
Each of them supposedly martyred on February 14th — the exact date the Roman festival needed a “new meaning.”

Their stories are full of contradictions and legends:

One says he married young couples in secret, defying Roman law.

Another says he healed a jailer's blind daughter,
and signed his final note to her: “From your Valentine.”

It all sounds lovely — poetic even.
But there's a problem...

No Scripture. No Truth. No Torah.

No word from YHWH.
No Covenant purpose.

Just tales wrapped in martyrdom to justify the absorption of a festival rooted in blood, sex, and goat worship.

A counterfeit covering for a counterfeit celebration.

They did not remove the altar — they just changed the name of the god.

Who Turned Lupercalia into “Valentine's Day”?

Let's name names.

The Festival: Lupercalia

Date celebrated: February 13–15

Origin: Ancient Rome, predating the Empire

Purpose: Pagan fertility rites honoring Faunus (Roman nature god) and the legend of the she-wolf who suckled Rome's founders

Continued to be wildly popular even after Christianity became the empire's official religion

The Church's Dilemma: How to Kill a Pagan Festival That Wouldn't Die?

By the 4th and 5th centuries, the Church realized it could not eliminate Lupercalia — it was too deeply loved by the people. So, they followed their usual pattern: rename it, reframe it, sanctify it — and hope no one noticed.

The Church Fathers Involved

Pope Gelasius I

Lived: c. 410 – 496 CE

Role: Bishop of Rome / Pope from 492 to 496 CE

Decree: Outlawed Lupercalia in 496 CE, calling it “ungodly” — but not without replacing it

Writings: In a letter to Senator Andromachus, Gelasius mocked those who still defended Lupercalia, saying:

“If you say Lupercalia has health benefits, then why don't we let the magistrates run through the city naked?”

But rather than stop the celebration altogether, Gelasius officially elevated February 14 as the Feast of Saint Valentine — an attempt to absorb the passion of the people into something with a “holy” mask.

Church Historians & Theologians Who Helped Cement It:

Bede the Venerable (672–735 CE)

An English monk who recorded many early “saints' days”

His writings helped spread the cult of saints and solidify feast calendars across Europe

Valentine's Day begins to show up as a romantic day centuries after the fact, largely through such writers

Geoffrey Chaucer (c. 1340s–1400)

Not a church father, but a key literary figure

His poem “Parliament of Fowls” (1382) is the first known connection between Valentine’s Day and romantic love

“For this was on Seynt Valentynes day / Whan every foul cometh there to chese his make.”

In other words, the link between Valentine and romance didn’t even exist until the Middle Ages, long after the saint’s supposed martyrdom.

So Who Was the “Saint Valentine”?

There were at least three men named Valentine recorded by the Church:

Valentinus of Rome – supposedly a priest martyred under Emperor Claudius II around 270 CE

Valentinus of Terni – a bishop, possibly the same person, also said to be martyred around the same time

A third unknown Valentine – possibly martyred in North Africa, lost to legend

The truth? No one knows which (if any) of them existed as described.

All accounts were written centuries later, filled with contradictions, and designed to give Rome’s new “holy day” a face.

Bottom Line:

Pope Gelasius I replaced Lupercalia with “Saint Valentine’s Day” in 496 CE — not to honor truth, but to mask pagan fire with church incense.

Cupid: The God of Carnal Desire

He may look harmless —
a chubby-cheeked baby with dimples, wings, and a mischievous grin.
But behind the soft facade of Cupid lies a far older, far darker force:
Eros — the Greek god of lust, impulse, and unrestrained desire.

In mythology, Eros was no infant.
He was a powerful and dangerous god who wielded a bow not to inspire love —
but to ignite passion, to ensnare hearts, to overwhelm reason with raw appetite.

His arrows came in two kinds:

- Golden-tipped — to inflame erotic obsession
- Lead-tipped — to provoke repulsion and despair

He toyed with human souls. He made them burn.
Not for righteousness. Not for covenant.

But for chaos.

The Romans adopted Eros and renamed him Cupidus, from which we get “Cupid” — meaning “desire” or “yearning”.

But his essence never changed.

Only the mask he wore.

And so today, they hang him on cards,
drape him in red ribbons, and let him fly through classrooms and cathedrals alike —
a god of seduction, camouflaged as a symbol of love.

But YHWH never sent Cupid.

And Torah knows no god with arrows of lust.

Instead, the Torah teaches self-mastery...

...that love is covenant, not craving.

...that desire must bow to obedience.

...that the heart is to be circumcised, not captured.

*You shall not walk after your own heart and your own eyes, after
which you used to play the harlot. (Bemidbar / Numbers 15:39)*

V. Hearts and Idolatry: A Symbol of Human Desire

The symbol is everywhere.

On cards. On candies. On classroom walls.

A red shape — symmetrical, soft, and simple.

But it's a lie.

This “heart” is not a human heart.

It has no chambers, no veins, no function for life.

It is not the organ that pumps blood — it is an icon of passion.

Its origins are murky — but not innocent.

Some historians trace its shape to fertility symbols of the ancient world.

Others to stylized representations of the female form, used in pagan rites to stir erotic imagery.

In either case, the shape is not about love — it's about desire.

And today, we parade it as a symbol of romance.

We give it freely, draw it for strangers, print it on wrappers —
as if this flimsy image holds the weight of true love.

But YHWH never told us to give our heart away.

He told us to guard it.

Guard your heart with all diligence, for from it flow the springs of life. (Mishlei / Proverbs 4:23)

The world says, “*Follow your heart.*”

YHWH says, “*Circumcise it.*”

The world says, “*Give your heart to whomever you desire.*”

YHWH says,

Love Me with all your heart, and soul, and strength.
(D’varim / Deuteronomy 6:5)

The heart was meant to be a holy altar —not a coin tossed to Cupid.

What Does YHWH Say About These Things?

What does the One who made the heart
say about a day devoted to passion, paganism, and pretend love?

He is not silent.

He does not smile at “innocent fun” when it masks ancient filth.
He does not wink at fertility festivals redressed in roses.

He warns — do not mix the clean with the unclean.

Guard yourself, that you are not ensnared to follow them, after they are destroyed from before you, and that you do not inquire about their gods, saying, ‘How did these nations serve their gods? I also will do likewise.’ You shall not do so to YHWH your Elohim... (Devarim / Deuteronomy 12:30–31)

This is not a suggestion.

This is a command — a boundary drawn in blood.

He is set-apart — and He calls His people to be set-apart with Him.

And you shall be set-apart to Me, for I YHWH am set-apart, and I have separated you from the peoples to be Mine.
(Vayikra / Leviticus 20:26)

But the world — and the church that mirrors it —
has traded covenant love for carnal love.
They have forgotten what love really is.

YHWH’s love is not a feeling. It is not desire.

It is obedience.

For this is the love of Elohim: that we guard His Commands. And His Commands are not burdensome. (Yochanan Aleph / 1 John 5:3)

The Torah defines love as loyalty.
The world defines love as license.

And so, they worship at the altar of Cupid,
while claiming to serve the 'Elohiym of Sinai.

But He will not share His Name with another.

A Better Way: Set-Apart Love

There is a love the world does not know.
It does not sell for \$9.99 as a bargain at Kmart in a blue light special.
It does not wear red lace or chase fleeting feelings.

It is not commercialized.
It is not sexualized.
It is not ritualized.

It is Covenant.

True love is not about how you feel.
It's about who you serve.

It is the love of Avraham, who left everything behind at the voice of YHWH.
It is the love of Moshe, who turned his back on Egypt's wealth to suffer with YHWH's people.
It is the love of Ruth, who clung to Naomi and said,

"Your Elohim is my Elohim."

It is the love of obedience,
of honor,
of sacrifice,
of faithfulness.

This is the love we must teach our children and grandchildren —
not the counterfeits dripping from church calendars and chocolate boxes.

Let us raise a generation that knows the difference between:

Torah-love and man-made lust,

Covenant union and Cupid's confusion,
Holiness and hallmark idolatry.

Conclusion

They traded the purity of covenant
for the passions of Cupid.
They chose paper hearts
over circumcised ones.

But we who walk the Ancient Path
will not bow to romance dressed in ritual blood.

We will return to YHWH.

And we will love as He defines it —
in truth, in covenant, in set-apartness.

Questions to Ponder

Why does Valentine's Day require no obedience to YHWH — yet is widely embraced by the world and the church alike?

Answer: Because it was never from YHWH. It requires no holiness, no covenant, no Commandments — only participation in culture. What the world loves and the church absorbs without question is often the very thing YHWH rejects.

If YHWH commanded us not to adopt the ways of the nations (Devarim 12:30–31), why do we keep celebrating their festivals?

Answer: Because we've been taught tradition over Torah. Many have inherited customs without testing their roots. But YHWH is calling His people to come out of Babylon — to stop mixing what is set-apart with what is profane.

What does it say about our hearts when we give them away more freely to tradition than to truth?

Answer: It reveals that our hearts are unguarded. Torah commands us to guard our hearts (Mishlei 4:23), but many give theirs away to feelings, familiarity, and falsehood. A circumcised heart belongs to YHWH alone.

Can a day founded on pagan blood and sexual ritual truly be made holy by calling it "Christian"?

Answer: No. YHWH never sanctified what He once called abomination. Changing the name doesn't change the root. A festival soaked in goat blood and ritual lust cannot be redeemed by candles and cards.

If love is defined in the Torah as obedience (1 John 5:3), then what kind of love does Valentine's Day promote?

Answer: It promotes emotionalism, fleshly desire, and counterfeit love. Real love walks in covenant, honors boundaries, and reflects YHWH's character — not Cupid's.

Have we taught our children to discern between real love — covenantal love — and the emotionalism promoted by culture?

Answer: In many cases, no. Children are raised on romance, not righteousness — on fairy tales, not Torah. We must repent and retrain them to know that real love is holy, sacrificial, and guarded by Commandment.

Are we raising a generation that knows how to love YHWH with all their heart, or one that gives their heart to Cupid instead?

Answer: Sadly, much of today's generation has never even heard YHWH's definition of love. But we can change that. We can model covenant, teach truth, and cut ties with every tradition that competes with His Name.

What would it look like to return to YHWH's definition of love in our homes, marriages, and communities?

Answer: It would look like Torah at the center. Honoring our vows. Keeping His Sabbath. Speaking truth in love. It would look like purity, patience, humility, and loyalty — not lust wrapped in religion.

If the heart is meant to be guarded, not given away freely (Proverbs/Mishlei 4:23), why has the world made it a token of casual affection?

Answer: Because the world follows its own heart — not YHWH's instructions. The heart has become a symbol of emotion rather than a sanctuary of holiness. But in Scripture, the heart is the seat of thought, conviction, and will — a place to be guarded and given only to YHWH and to covenant truth.

What must we do if we've participated in these traditions without knowing the truth?

Answer: We must repent — not in shame, but in sincerity. YHWH is merciful to those who turn. Tear down the altars of tradition. Teach the truth to your children. Walk in obedience from this day forward. You are not too late — you are being called out so that you can be set apart.

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