

## *Spiritual Care Message with Prayer*

*Don't you find it interesting that the major celebrations of Christians, the spiritual significances given to major events in the life of Christ, are part of the celebrations even of those who are not His followers or worshippers? I believe it was in the smartness and shrewdness of God's enemy, Satan, that he simply adapted these to his ways with his additions and embellishment. Instead of Christmas being a world celebration of the birth of its Savior, Jesus, which it means to His followers...so much has been added to it that in many homes and establishments, it is recognizable only as a season of good will and gift giving and happy times as families and friends gather for this purpose only. And then there is Easter...on the calendar and soon to be celebrated. The enemy of the Gospel has added baby chicks and rabbits, baskets, colored eggs, jellybeans, pastel colored banners and new clothes...even an Easter Bonnet parade, once very famous in NYC, and held in other places...all these things the worldling enjoys with happiness and contentment. These holidays celebrated under Satan's influence and direction, are borrowed by him for his contribution of distraction and frenzy of fun. And he happily takes the world along with him.*

### With Prayer:

*So, "Father, what about those of us who belong to You because Jesus was born into this dark world, our holiday we call Christmas...what about those of us who are His because He redeemed His lost world through His death on the Cross, His sacrifice, His days in the grave, His resurrection from death which we call Easter? What about us? Hear our prayer, Lord Jesus. Thank you for it all, for coming into our dark world. Thank you for speaking to our hearts and minds, for causing us to know Truth. Thank you for that conviction of the Truth we are sinners. Thank you for your mercy and grace, for rescuing us when we had no thought of you...no love for you. Thank you for showing us that 'the way of the Cross leads Home' and thank you for giving us that resurrected life of Christ as new life in us...eternal and blessed. Thank you that as we celebrate Easter, it is with heart and mind in your hands. Thank you for dying on the Cross that we might live, for taking death yourself that it would lose its power over us. We thank you for life eternal...for you, dear Lord Jesus. Amen."*

(1e/April 2023)