



# HOE BLY JY STAANDE MET SULKE MAANDE?

'N VERGELYKING TUSSEN DIE VERWARRENDE OORSPRONG VAN ONS  
MAANDE EN DIE DUIDELIKHEID VAN DIE SKRIF

# **DIE ROMEINSE OORSPRONG: 6 GODE, 1 DIKTATOR, 1 KEISER EN 4 NOMMERS**

- **Januarie: Janus, Romeinse god van Oorgang en Tyd (Transition)**
- **Februarie: Februus, Romeinse god van Suiwering (Purification)**
- **Maart: Mars, Romeinse god van Oorlog (War)**
- **April: Aphrilis, kenteken maand van Venus, godin van Vrugbaarheid (Fertility)**
- **Mei: Maia, Greek godin van die Aarde (Earth), Romeinse “Bona Dea” (The Good Goddess)**
- **Junie: Juno, Romeinse godin van die Huwelik en Vernuwning (Marriage and Renewal)**
- **Julie: Julius Ceaser, Romeinse Diktator (Roman Dictator) en bekend vir sy “Julian Calendar”**
- **Augustus: Augustus Caesar, eerste Romeinse Keiser (First Roman Ceaser)**
- **September: Septem (Latyns vir 7), 7<sup>de</sup> maand van die ou Romeinse kalender**
- **Oktober: Octo (Latyns vir 8), 8<sup>ste</sup> maand van die ou Romeinse kalender**
- **November: Novem (Latyns vir 9), 9<sup>de</sup> maand van die ou Romeinse kalender**
- **Desember: Decem (Latyns vir 10), 10<sup>de</sup> maand van die ou Romeinse kalender**

# THE GODS AND GODDESSES OF ANCIENT ROME

❑ Despite the presence of monotheistic religions within the empire, such as Judaism and early Christianity, Romans honored multiple deities.

❑ They believed that these deities served a role in founding the Roman civilization and that they helped shape the events of people's lives on a daily basis.

❑ While the Roman state recognized main gods and goddesses ... families worshipping at home also put special emphasis on the deities of their choosing.

❑ The Romans gods were seen as caring little about the morality of the people ... their chief concern was being paid tribute through specific rituals.

❖ Ons kan nie die Romeinse oorsprong van ons maand-name ontken of wegvens nie. Selfs al gebruik ons nie self hierdie name nie, is ons deel van 'n samelewing waarin hierdie name en die gees daaragter, deeglik ingeprent is.

❖ Om in so 'n samelewing as volgelinge van Yahweh te kan oorleef, behoort ons kennis te neem van die moderne gestaltes van hierdie Romeinse patroon, en dit dan weerstaan met die patroon van die Woord van Yahweh.



# JANUS, DIE GOD MET TWEE GESIGTE



- ❑ He was in control of all forms of transition – beginnings and endings, entrances, exits, and passageways.
- ❑ He was called the doorkeeper of the heavens.
- ❑ His two heads meant that he could see forwards and backwards and inside and outside simultaneously without turning around.
- ❑ His image may even be found in some modern-day churches, like the ceiling of Waltham Abbey in Essex, England.

🕯 Opb 3:8 Ek ken jou werke. Kyk, Ek het voor jou 'n geopende deur gegee, en niemand kan dit sluit nie, want jy het min krag en jy het my woord bewaar en my Naam nie verloën nie.



# FEBRUUS DIE SUIWERAAR WAT NIE WERKLIK KAN SUIWER NIE

- ❑ During the purification festival called “Februa” Roman priests used to beat barren women with a goatskin thong in order to make them fertile.
- ❑ These priests, called Luperci (“brothers of the wolf”), sacrificed goats and dogs to avert evil spirits and to release health and fertility.
- ❑ Februa is also called “Lupercalia”, a feast with a strong sexual undertone and forerunner of the modern Valentine’s day.
- ❑ Unlike other Roman feasts, the celebrations of this feast seem to have been directed to an unknown deity.

🕯 Hand 17:23 Want terwyl ek rondgegaan en julle plekke van aanbidding aanskou het, het ek ook 'n altaar gevind waarop geskryf is: Aan 'n onbekende magtige. Hom dan wat julle vereer sonder om Hom te ken, verkondig ek aan julle.



# MARS, VADER VAN ROME MAAR NIE VAN ONS NIE

- ❑ Mars represented military power and was seen as father of the Roman people, due to the fact that he was the (mythological) father of Romulus (the “Father” of Rome) and Remus.
- ❑ Mars was the son of Jupiter and Juno and is believed to have been born on the 1<sup>st</sup> of March, the month that was previously the first month of the year.
- ❑ The Spear of Mars, which represents the spear and shield of Mars, is also the symbol for the planet Mars and Male gender.
- ❑ In mythology Venus and Mars was in an adulterous relationship that was often romanticized because of the symbolic “union” between love and war.

☞ Joh 14:27 Vrede laat Ek vir julle na, my vrede gee Ek aan julle; nie soos die wêreld gee, gee Ek aan julle nie. Laat julle hart nie ontsteld word en bang wees nie.



# APHRILIS, VRUGBAARHEID SONDER DIE VRUG VAN DIE GEES

- ❑ Aprilis or Aphrilis was sacred to the goddess Venus, her Veneralia feast being held on the first day, and the name was probably derived from Aphrodite, the equivalent Greek goddess.
  - ❑ The name Aprilis is related to the Latyn word aperire, ("to open") and refers to the "opening" or blooming of fruits and flowers and the opening of the wombs during this month.
  - ❑ On one of the ancient feasts of this month common girls and prostitutes came to Venus to offer myrtle and mint and to ask for beauty, favour, charm and wit, in return.
- 🕯 Ps 1:1-3 Geseënd is die man wat nie wandel in die raad van die afvallige nie ... wat behae vind in die Torah van Yahweh ... hy sal wees soos 'n boom wat geplant is by waterstrome, wat sy vrugte gee op sy tyd.



# MAIORES, OUDSTES SONDER WYSHEID

- ❑ The name of the month of May is related to the Greek goddess Maya and her Roman equivalent Bona Dea, but is also a wordplay on the Latyn word “Maiores” meaning “elders”.
- ❑ Bona Dea was the Roman goddess known for the mysterious, woman-only rituals held in her name. Her identity was kept secret to men, and some guessed that she was identical to the nature-goddess Fauna, who could prophesy the fates of women.
- ❑ In the Catholic tradition Bona Dea is connected to “the Celestial Virgin”, “Great Mother of the gods”, and the deification of “the Virgin Mary”, the mother of Y’shua.

🕯 Ps 119:24-30 U getuienisse is my verlustiging, my raadsmanne ... leer my u insettinge ... Laat my die weg van u bevele verstaan, dat ek u wonders kan oordink ... rig my op na u woord ... Ek het die weg van waarheid verkies.



# JUNO, GEEN GOEIE VOORBEELD VIR DIE JEUG

❑ The name of the month of June is related to the Roman goddess Juno, but is also a wordplay on the Latin word “Iuniores” meaning “young ones” – making this month a twin of the previous month, meaning “elders”.

❑ Juno was the goddess of Love and Marriage (the one supposed to make marriages “young” again) but not much of an example for earthly marriages as she was both the wife and sister of Jupiter, the chief Roman god.

❑ Together with Jupiter and Minerva she was part of the Capitoline Triad, one of many ancient “trinities” that formed the backdrop of the later Christian doctrine of the Trinity.

🕯 Ps 119:9 Waarmee sal die jongeling sy pad suiwer hou? Deur dit te hou na u woord.



# JULIUS, GROOT MAN VERDWERG DEUR DIE GODE IN SY FAMILIE

- ❑ Gaius Julius Ceaser was born in 100 B.C. and became a dictator and military general who played an important role in the demise of the Roman Republic and the rise of the Roman Empire.
- ❑ The Julius family clan claimed to be the offspring of Iulus (or Julius), son of Aeneas, Prince of Troy and (mythological) son of Venus. According to legend, Aeneas was also a forefather of Romulus en Remus.
- ❑ The legendary parents of the twin brothers Romulus and Remus were Rhea Silvia and Mars, Roman god of War. Rhea Silvia was later imprisoned by her uncle and rescued by, and married to, Tiberinus, the god of the Tiber river.

☞ Dan 11:36 En die koning sal doen net wat hy wil en homself verhef en hom groot hou bo enige magtige, en teen die El van die elohiem sal hy wonderbaarlike dinge praat; en hy sal voorspoedig wees, totdat die gramskap ten einde is ... wat vas besluit is, sal uitgevoer word.



# AUGUSTUS, TYDGENOOT VAN Y'SHUA DIE MESSIAS

- ❑ (Gaius Octavius Ceaser) Augustus, nephew of Julius, first emperor of the Roman Empire (27 BC to 14 AD), is regarded as one of the most effective and controversial leaders in human history.
- ❑ The sixth month was renamed August in his honor in 8 BC. It is said Augustus chose the month because it was the time of several of his great triumphs, including the conquest of Egypt.
- ❑ After the death of Julius Caesar, the Roman Senate recognized him as a divinity. He was therefore referred to as Divus Iulius ("the divine Julius"), and his adopted son Octavius called himself Divi filius ("son of the deified one, son of the god").

🕯️ Luk 1:32 Hy (Y'shua) sal groot wees en die Seun van die Allerhoogste genoem word; en Yahweh Elohiem sal aan Hom die troon van sy vader Dawied gee.

A gift exchange dictated by a calendar is not a message of love but a ritual of obligation.

# KERSFEES, MISPLAASTE MISTER ERE VAN DIE MESSIAS

❑ The facts are that Xmas is not a Biblical feast, 25 Dec was an important date on the Roman calendar, not the birth date of the Messiah and it is impossible to put Messiah back into something that He was never part of before.

❑ The word Christmas comes from Middle English Cristemasse, which in turn comes from Old English Cristes-messe, literally meaning Christ's Mass.

❑ Ironically, the word "mass" may come from the Heb. word "matza" referring to Unleavened Bread which developed into "Easter" and the "Eucharist" and were later (confusingly) carried into Christmas.

❑ "Mass" may be related to the old English "messe, masse", meaning "to send, to let go" as in "dismissal", perhaps with the intended idea that Messiah was sent to earth.

🕯 Joh 14:15 As julle My lief het, bewaar my gebooie. Joh 15:10 As julle my gebooie bewaar, sal julle in my liefde bly, net soos Ek die gebooie van my Vader bewaar en in sy liefde bly.