



The Birthday of the Gods: the Winter Solstice 25 December (Paperback)

By Edited by Paul F Kisak

Createspace Independent Publishing Platform, 2017. Paperback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book ****** Print on Demand ******. It was the early Roman Catholic church that declared Jesus to be born on 25 December in order to compete financially with the numerous other celebrations that took place on 25 December to celebrate the Gods of other religions. Many modern Christmas customs have been directly influenced by such festivals, including gift-giving and merrymaking from the Roman Saturnalia, greenery, lights, and charity from the Roman New Year, and Yule logs and various foods from Germanic feasts. The Egyptian deity Horus, son to goddess Isis, was celebrated at the winter solstice. Horus was often depicted being fed by his mother, which also influenced the symbolism of the Virgin Mary with baby Christ; all occuring contemporaneously or historically. Many popular customs associated with Christmas developed independently of the commemoration of Jesus birth, with certain elements having origins in pre-Christian festivals that were celebrated around the winter solstice by pagan populations who were later converted to Christianity. These elements, including the Yule log from Yule and gift giving from Saturnalia, became syncretized into Christmas over the centuries. The prevailing atmosphere of Christmas has also continually...



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