

# FALSE WORSHIP – IDOLS



1 John 4:4, 5:21

**“You are of God, little children, and have overcome *them*, because He who is in you is greater than *he* who is in the world.”**

**“Little children, keep yourselves from idols”**



## The Book of Jubilees 11:2-6

“the sons of Noah began to war on each other, to take captive and to slay each other, and to shed the blood of men on the earth, and to eat blood, and to build strong cities, and walls, and towers, and individuals (began) to exalt themselves above the nation, 3 and to found the beginnings of kingdoms, and to go to war people against people, and nation against nation, and city against city, and all (began) to do evil, and to acquire arms, and to teach their sons war, and they began to capture cities, and to sell male and female slaves. 3. And 'Ūr, the son of Kêšêd, 4 built the city of 'Arâ 5 of the Chaldees, and called its name after his own name and the name of his father. 4. And they made for themselves molten images, and they worshipped each the idol, the molten image which they had made for themselves, and they began to make graven images and unclean simulacra, and malignant spirits assisted and seduced (them) into committing transgression and uncleanness. 5. And the prince Mastêmâ exerted himself to do all this, and he sent forth other spirits, those which were put under his hand, to do all manner of wrong and sin, and all manner of transgression, to corrupt and destroy, and to shed blood upon the earth. 1 6. For this reason he called the name of Sêrôh, Serug, for every one turned to do all manner of sin and transgression.”

R.H. Charles



*Mayan sacrifice*





**Isaiah 46:9-10**

***Dead Idols & the Living God***

**“Remember the former things of old,  
For I *am* God, and *there is* no other;  
I *am* God, and *there is* none like Me,  
<sup>10</sup> Declaring the end from the beginning,  
And from ancient times *things* that are not yet done”**

**Psalm 135: 15-18**

**“The idols of the nations are silver and gold, the work of men’s hands. They have mouths, but they do not speak. Eyes they have, but they do not see; They have ears, but they do not hear; Nor is there any breath in their mouths. Those who make them are like them. So is everyone who trusts in them.**



## Exodus 20

And God spoke all these words, saying:

2 “I *am* the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of [a]bondage.

3 “You *shall* have no other gods before Me.

4 “You shall not make for yourself a carved image—any likeness of *anything* that *is* in heaven above, or that *is* in the earth beneath, or that *is* in the water under the earth; 5 you shall not bow down to them nor [b]serve them. For I, the Lord your God, *am* a jealous God, visiting[c] the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth *generations* of those who hate Me, 6 but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.

## Exodus 23:13

“And in all that I have said to you, be circumspect and make no mention of the name of other gods, nor let it be heard from your mouth.”















**1 John 4:1**

**Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God;  
because many false prophets have gone out into the world.**



***Elijah vs The prophets of Baal***





Bohemian Grove

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moloch>

### Leviticus 18:21

**<sup>21</sup> And you shall not let any of your descendants pass through *the fire* to Molech, nor shall you profane the name of your God: I *am* the LORD.**

<https://www.livescience.com/62108-ancient-child-sacrifices-found.html>

<https://www.cnn.com/2018/02/02/world/chichen-itza-maya-tunnel-cenote/index.html>

<http://www.latimes.com/world/mexico-americas/la-fg-peru-sacrifice-20180427-story.html>

<http://allthatsinteresting.com/human-sacrifice>

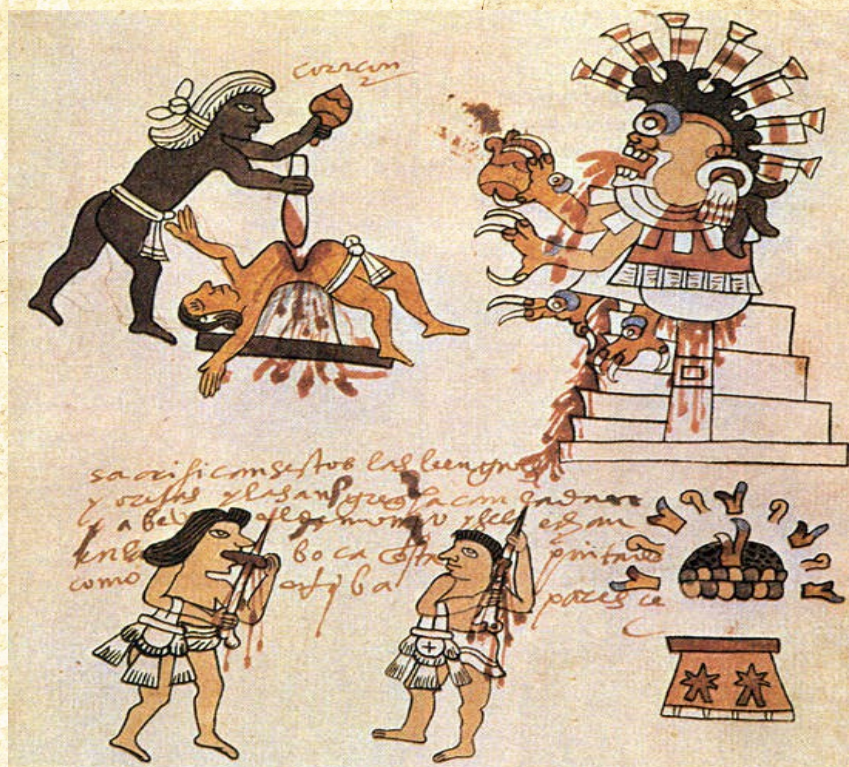


## Genesis 13:13

**“But the men of Sodom were exceedingly wicked and sinful against the LORD.”**

סֹדֹם Gr. Σόδομα, *Sodom* (“burning,” “conflagration,” as being built on a bituminous soil, and being perhaps on this account liable to frequent fires; comp. that part of Phrygia which was called *κατακεκαυμένη*, [This insinuation about the frequency of fires may be an attempt to account for the destruction by natural causes; no one who believes in the word of God can do this;]) pr. n. of a city in the valley of Siddim, which was destroyed, together with three others, in the time of Abraham, and submerged in the Dead Sea, Gen. 10:19; 13:10; 18:20; Isa. 1:9. *Vines of Sodom* (which appear to have been degenerate; compare as to the apples of Sodom, Jos. Bell. Jud. IV. 8, § 4), Deu. 32:32, furnish an image of a degenerate condition; compare the opp. Jerem. 2:21; *judges of Sodom* mean unjust judges of corrupt morals, Isa. 1:10.

עֲמֹרָה *Gomorrha* (LXX. Γομόρρα), pr. n. (perhaps i. q. *عمارة* “culture,” “habitation” [“prob. depression”]), one of the four cities in the valley of Siddim, which were sunk in the Dead Sea, which is commonly mentioned together with Sodom, Genesis 10:19; 13:10.





## Wisdom of Solomon 12:3-6

**“For it was they will to destroy by the hands of our fathers both those old inhabitants of thy holy land, 4 Whom thou hatedst for doing most odious works of witchcrafts, and wicked sacrifices; And also those merciless murderers of children, and devourers of man’s flesh, and the feasts of blood, With their priests out of the midst of their idolatrous crew, and the parents, that killed with their own hands souls destitute of help:**



## PSALM 106:35-39

**They did not destroy the peoples  
as the Lord had commanded them,  
35 but they mingled with the nations  
and adopted their customs.  
36 They worshiped their idols,  
which became a snare to them.  
37 They sacrificed their sons  
and their daughters to false gods.  
38 They shed innocent blood,  
the blood of their sons and daughters,  
whom they sacrificed to the idols of Canaan,  
and the land was desecrated by their blood.  
39 They defiled themselves by what they did;  
by their deeds they prostituted themselves.**





**"They were possibly offering the gods the most important thing they had as a society, and the most important thing is children because they represent the future," said Gabriel Prieto, an archaeology professor at Peru's National University of Trujillo, who has led the excavation, along with John Verano of Tulane University.**

**Archaeologists in northern Peru say they have found evidence of what could be the world's largest case of child sacrifice.**

**Matthew 7:14-20 New King James Version (NKJV)**

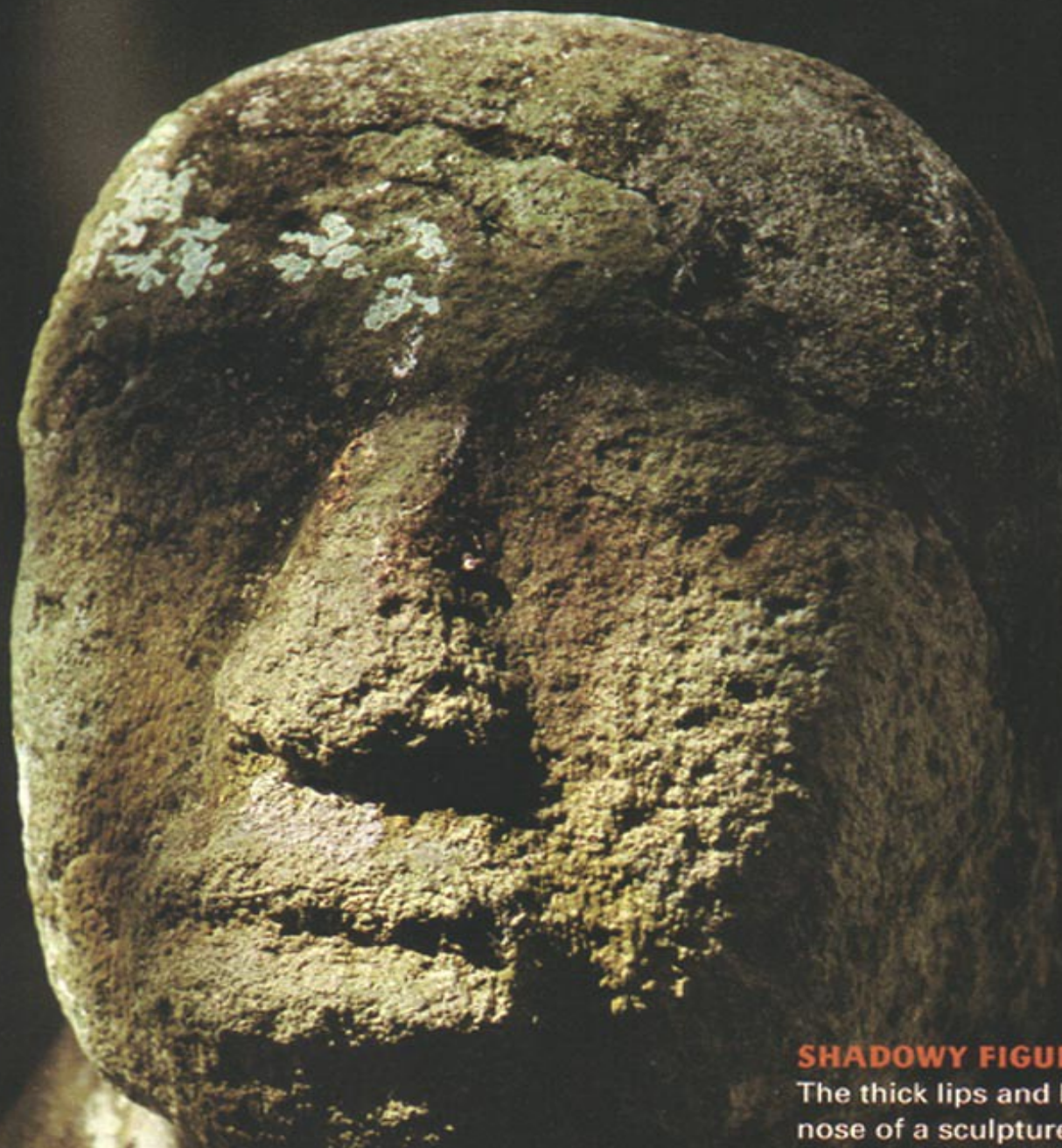
**14 [a]Because narrow *is* the gate and [b]difficult *is* the way which leads to life, and there are few who find it.**

**You Will Know Them by Their Fruits**

**15 "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. 16 You will know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes from thornbushes or figs from thistles? 17 Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. 18 A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor *can* a bad tree bear good fruit. 19 Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 20 Therefore by their fruits you will know them.**



**BEFORE THE MAYA CAME THE  
OLMEC CULTURE, WHICH LEFT BEHIND  
CURIOUSLY ROTUND STATUARY.**



**SHADOWY FIGURE**

The thick lips and broad nose of a sculpture found among the coffee trees reflect the influence of Olmec culture. The Olmec, who preceded the Maya, flourished between 1200 and 400 B.C., spreading their traditions from southeastern Mexico to become the "mother culture" of Mesoamerican civilizations.





His hand grips a severed head, his fanged mouth snarls, and the decapitator god evokes the fearsome wrath of the Moche, a culture that ruled Peru's north coast a millennium before the Inca. In a remote complex of pyramid ruins known as El Brujo—the Wizard—archaeologists have found a trove of ceramics, reliefs, and bones that tell a bloody tale.


# PERUVIAN TEMPLES OF





DOOM





**THE MOCHE DID NOT LEAVE  
A WRITTEN LANGUAGE,  
BUT THEIR ARTWORK  
PORTRAYS A VIBRANT—  
AND VIOLENT—CULTURE.**

"Beware all who enter" could have been the message of the decapitator god, a head-taking deity worshipped by the Moche. Shown here as part man part spider, his grim visage guards the door to a recently excavated and once sacred room in Huaca Cao Viejo, El Brujo's largest pyramid. Digging in the Moche Valley in 1899, German archaeologist Max Uhle was the first to realize that the region held graves and ruins of a people then unknown to historians. Later named for the valley, the Moche reigned from about A.D. 100 to 800.





## THEY WHO WERE ABOUT TO DIE

For prisoners of the Moche, Huaca Cao Viejo's elaborate art (below) was likely among the last sights they saw. Naked, bleeding, and bound with nooses, they were led into the ceremonial plaza. Perhaps they heard the Pacific surf rolling onto the beach in the distance; perhaps all they heard was the pounding of their own hearts. Once inside they witnessed one of history's most gruesome sacrificial rites (following pages). A Moche priest adorned in gold slit their throats one by one. Those in line who didn't turn away or faint saw a priestess catch the blood in a golden goblet for the priest to drink. Scholars know about these ceremonies by studying Moche artwork, like the frieze of naked prisoners (above) discovered on Huaca Cao Viejo's plaza wall. Bones of sacrifice victims—incorporated into the frieze and buried under the plaza floor—show evidence of extreme torture before the grisly executions. Still debated: Were the prisoners locals or foreigners captured in battle?

ART BY JON FOSTER  
FOLLOWING PAGE 51









**2002 World Book Encyclopedia.**

**By 400 B.C., the Olmec's sophisticated artistic style had spread over much of Middle America, from central Mexico to El Salvador. Some scholars have also recognized Olmec influences in the artwork and religious practices of many later Middle American cultures, including those of the Maya and the Aztec.**

**The Maya frequently offered their own blood, which they spattered on pieces of bark paper. They practiced some human sacrifice, such as throwing victims into deep wells or killing them at the funerals of great leaders. Sacrifices and offerings accompanied by prayers were a main part of the Inca religious ceremonies. Crops and animals, mainly llamas, were sacrificed to keep the good will of the gods. Human sacrifices were made under special circumstances. Most people considered it an honor to be chosen for sacrifice.**

**Human sacrifice played a vital role in the major ceremonies. Priests slashed open the chest of a living victim and tore out the heart. The Aztec believed that the gods needed human hearts and blood to remain strong. Worshipers sometimes ate portions of a victim's body. They may have thought that the dead person's strength and bravery passed to anyone who ate the flesh. Most victims were prisoners of war or slaves. But the Aztec also sacrificed children to the god Tlaloc.**

**The Aztec fought not only to enlarge their territory but also to take captives for sacrifice to the gods. Human sacrifice was a major part of the Aztec religion. Only the Aztec and the Inca had full-time armies. In other tribes, warriors went back to hunting or farming after their battles. Some tribes, particularly the Northwest tribes and the Iroquois, made slaves of their captives. The Witoto and Tupinamba tribes of the Tropical Forest tortured war captives and then ate them. But the victims were not eaten as a source of food. The Indians believed the dead person's strength and bravery would be passed on to the person who ate the flesh.**

**[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Human\\_sacrifice](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Human_sacrifice)**



## The Etruscans



The Etruscans were an ancient people who lived in what is now known as Tuscany. They were farmers and traders who made business transactions with both Greece and Carthage. Aside from farming and trading, the Etruscans relied on minerals to fuel their economy.

For many years, scholars were unwilling to accept the fact that the Etruscans did engage in the practice of human sacrifice. But when archaeologists at the University of Milan unearthed important evidence in Tarquinia, Italy, it was proven conclusively that the Etruscans did indeed practice human sacrificial killings. The archaeologists discovered several remains of sacrificed adults, infants, and children who were either foreign, ill, or of low social ranking. Aside from human remains, the archaeologists also discovered a sacred building, a stone altar, and “a ritual deposit of secular power” that included a trumpet, an axe, and a shield.



## The Carthaginians



Carthaginian society is paradoxical in that it was one of the wealthiest and most powerful civilizations in the ancient world, and yet it engaged in some rituals that even its “barbaric” contemporaries considered horrifying. This included infant sacrificial killings — many experts believe that the offering of babies to gain the favor of the gods helped the Carthaginians control their increasing population. They also believe that infant sacrifice was deliberately done by wealthy Carthaginian parents to keep their wealth intact. It's estimated that from 800 B.C. until 146 B.C., when the Romans conquered Carthage, about 20,000 babies were sacrificed. However, not all experts believe that the Carthaginians did in fact engage in infant sacrifice. They contend that discovered infant remains had instead died of natural causes.



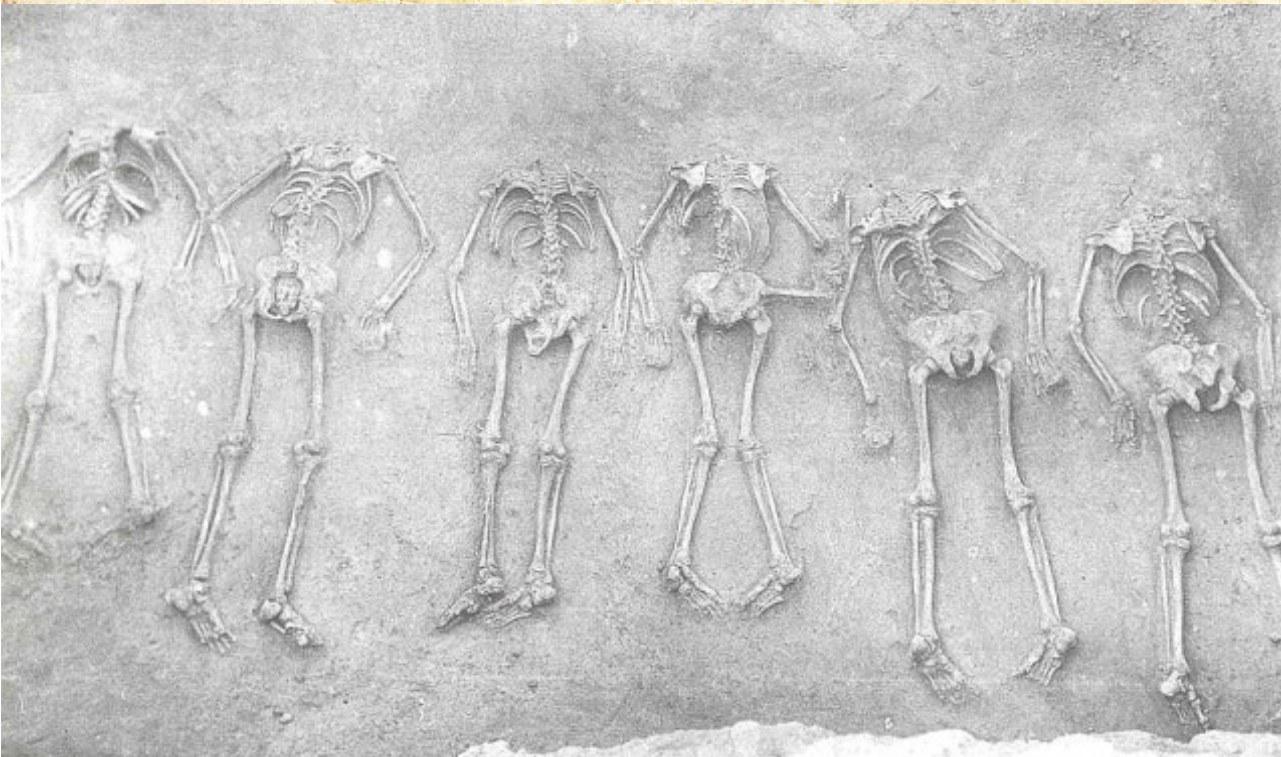


Many scholars firmly believe that the ancient Israelites performed a “burnt offering of children” in the name of an ancient Canaanite god named Moloch. Not all of ancient Israel practiced this ritual — experts believe it was only practiced by an Israelite cult that dedicated their lives to worshiping Moloch, and that the ritual had a Canaanite origin.

Some scholars don’t agree with this, contending that Moloch never existed in ancient Israelite society. For these scholars, the word mlk from which the word Moloch was derived doesn’t mean “god,” but rather “sacrifice.” As such, sacrifices may have been made in a more general sense, or perhaps not at all. Scholars can’t agree on the matter, and the debate continues to this day.



## The Chinese

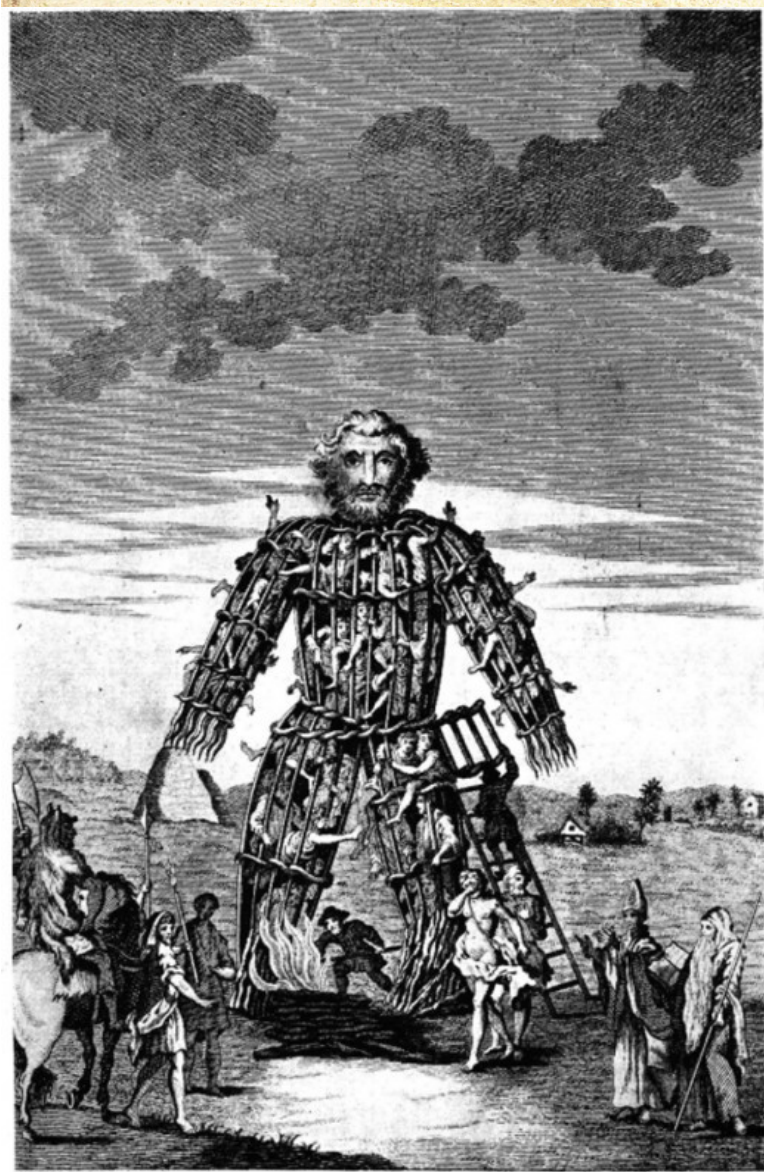


The practice of human sacrifice was very common in ancient China, particularly during the Shang Dynasty—the first Chinese dynasty with written records. In fact, archaeological evidence suggests that human sacrifice was practiced on a grand scale during the Shang dynasty. The purpose was twofold: political control and religious communication.

Experts believe that there were three types of human sacrifice practiced by the Shang. In pit sacrifices, young men were sacrificed. Their bodies were dismembered and they were buried without their personal possessions. In foundation sacrifices, children and babies were used. Archaeological evidences show that these human sacrifices experienced violent deaths, and they too were buried without possessions. Finally, in internment sacrifices, young girls were sacrificed. Unlike the first two, they were buried in the standard burial position and their bodies were kept intact.



## The Celts



The Celts practiced human sacrificial killings as part of their religious rituals, and there's extensive evidence to prove it. There are the written works of Roman and Greek historians, Irish texts written during medieval times, and recent archaeological evidence. Strabo, a Greek geographer and philosopher, discussed the Celtic ritual of human sacrifice in his book, *Geography*. He said, "they [the Celts] would strike a man who had been consecrated for sacrifice in the back with a sword, and make prophecies based on his death-spasms; and they would not sacrifice without the presence of the Druids."

Furthermore, he mentioned the wicker man, and how the Celts used it for sacrifice.

"They would construct a huge figure of straw and wood, and having thrown cattle and all manner of wild animals and humans into it, they would make a burnt offering of the whole thing."

Many scholars doubt the veracity of Strabo's accounts, as well as other Greek and Roman historians, primarily because their works were filled with political propaganda. However, the discovery of a male body in Lindow bog proved once and for all that the Celts did engage in human sacrifice to some degree. The Lindow man is said to have been "strangled, hit on the head, and had his throat cut, in quick order, then surrendered to the bog."



## The Hawaiians



The ancient Hawaiians believed that by sacrificing humans they could gain the favor of Ku, the god of war and defense, and achieve victory in their battles. Sacrifices were held in temples called Heiau. The people used were captives, particularly chiefs from other tribes, who would be “hung upside down on wooden racks.” The priest would be anointed with sweat collected from the sacrifice. Then the sacrifice would be beaten repeatedly until their flesh became smooth. Finally, they would be eviscerated. The **ritual** didn’t end there, though. Once disemboweled, the flesh would be either “cooked or eaten raw” by the priest and the chief of the tribe.



## The Mesopotamians

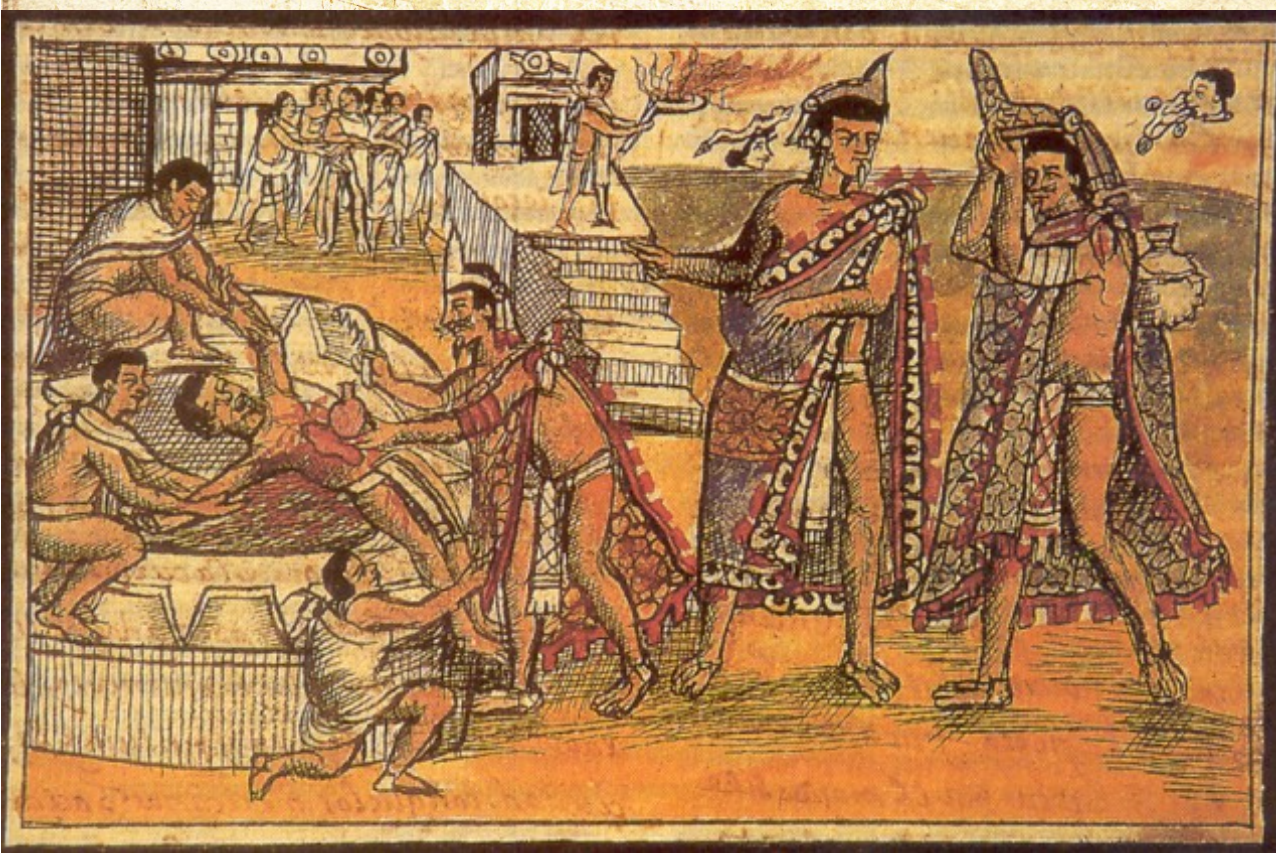


The **Mesopotamians** practiced **human sacrifice** as part of the burial rituals of their royal and elite families. Palace attendants, warriors, and handmaidens were sacrificed for the purpose of accompanying their masters into the afterlife. After they had been killed their bodies were put in a systematic, decorative order. The warriors would have their weapons at their sides, while the handmaidens would be adorned with headdresses.

For many years, experts believed that these sacrifices were killed with poison. However, new examinations show that their deaths were much more brutal — they were stabbed through the head with a pike, a painful but quick death.



# The Aztecs



**Aztec society** would offer **human lives** in order to keep the sun from dying. The Aztecs strongly believed that human blood was “sacred life force” and that the god of the sun, Huitzilopochtli, needed it for nourishment and appeasement.

The **Aztecs** performed brutal and gruesome human sacrificial killings of both volunteers and members of other tribes who were captured during war. In one type of ritual, the sacrifices would be required to walk up the stairs of the temple. When they reached the top a priest would open their stomachs, cutting from their throats down to their bellies. The priest would then offer the heart to the gods, while the bodies would be dismembered at the bottom of the temple. Estimates of the scope of these sacrifices are fiercely debated, a problem compounded by the fact that few neutral sources are available.



## The Egyptians



Many Egyptologists believe that the **ancient Egyptians** practiced both human sacrifice. Though there are some experts who disagree with this, sacrificial tombs found in Abydos prove that the ancient Egyptians did engage in at least some ritual retainer sacrifice, where the servants of pharaohs or other key figures would be killed so they could continue to serve in the afterlife. Renowned Egyptologist George Reisener suggested that the tombs of King Djer and King Aha were filled with servants who were sacrificed by being **buried alive** with their tools. Reisener also hypothesized that the wife of King Djer was buried alive with his body. However, these retainer sacrifices were eventually phased out and replaced with **symbolic human figures**.



# The Incas



**The Incas** resorted to the practice of human sacrifice to the gods, particularly the offering of their children, as a way to prevent natural calamities. The Inca Empire was plagued by numerous natural disasters, including volcanic eruptions, earthquakes and floods. The Inca believed that these natural catastrophes were controlled by the gods, and that favor needed to be gained through sacrifice. While many sacrifices were prisoners, some children were raised solely for the purpose of being ritually killed under the belief that physically healthy children were the purest sacrifices the Inca could offer. The Inca firmly believe that there was an **afterlife** where the children who were sacrificed would live in a better, happier place. In addition, the sacrifices were often treated very well before they were killed — they were given an excellent diet, a feast in their honor, and even a meeting with the Emperor.



EZEKIEL 16:20	“‘And you took your sons and daughters whom you bore to me and sacrificed them as <b>food</b> to the <b>idols</b> . Was your prostitution not enough?
EZEKIEL 23:37	for they have committed adultery and blood is on their hands. They committed adultery with their <b>idols</b> ; they even sacrificed their children, whom they bore to me, as <b>food</b> for them.
ACTS 15:20	Instead we should write to them, telling them to abstain from <b>food</b> polluted by <b>idols</b> , from sexual immorality, from the meat of strangled animals and from blood.
ACTS 15:29	You are to abstain from <b>food</b> sacrificed to <b>idols</b> , from blood, from the meat of strangled animals and from sexual immorality. You will do well to avoid these things. Farewell
ACTS 21:25	As for the Gentile believers, we have written to them our decision that they should abstain from <b>food</b> sacrificed to <b>idols</b> , from blood, from the meat of strangled animals and from sexual immorality.”
1 COR 8:1	Now about <b>food</b> sacrificed to <b>idols</b> : We know that “We all possess knowledge.” But knowledge puffs up while love builds up.
1 COR 8:4	So then, about eating <b>food</b> sacrificed to <b>idols</b> : We know that “An idol is nothing at all in the world” and that “There is no God but one.”
1 COR 8:7	But not everyone possesses this knowledge. Some people are still so accustomed to <b>idols</b> that when they eat sacrificial <b>food</b> they think of it as having been sacrificed to a god, and since their conscience is weak, it is defiled.
REV 2:4	Nevertheless, I have a few things against you: There are some among you who hold to the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to entice the Israelites to sin so that they ate <b>food</b> sacrificed to <b>idols</b> and committed sexual immorality.
REV 2:20	Nevertheless, I have this against you: You tolerate that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophet. By her teaching she misleads my servants into sexual immorality and the eating of <b>food</b> sacrificed to <b>idols</b> .



**Revelation 13:14-15** “And he deceives those who dwell on the earth because of the signs which it was given him to perform in the presence of the beast, telling those who dwell on the earth to make an image to the beast who had the wound of the sword and has come to life. 15 And it was given to him to give breath to the image of the beast, so that the image of the beast would even speak and cause as many as do not worship the image of the beast to be killed.” NASB

**Revelation 13:15-17** “And there was given to him [the ability] to give animation to the image of the Wild Beast, to the end that also the image of the Wild Beast should utter words, and that it should cause as many as do not worship the image of the Wild Beast to be put to death. And he causes all, those who are lowly in station and those who are great, and those who are wealthy and those who are povertystricken, and those are who freemen and those who are slaves, to be given a mark of identification upon their hand, the right one, or upon their forehead, to the end that no one should be able to buy or sell except he who has the mark of identification consisting of the name of the Wild Beast or the number which stands for his name.”

Kenneth S. Wuest Expanded Translation







### **WISDOM OF SOLOMON 14:27**

**“For the worshipping of idols not to be named is  
the beginning, the cause, and the end, of all evil.”**