



Hanukkah

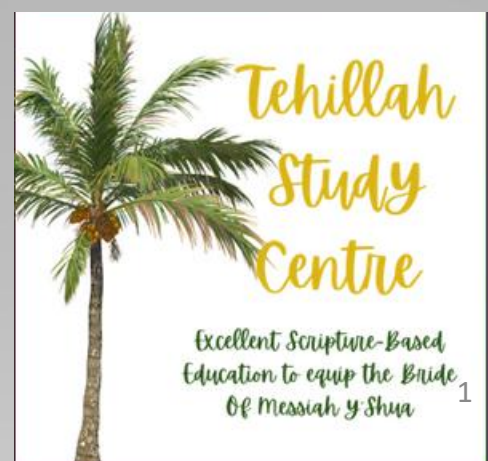
חנוכה

There are a lot of controversies about the feast of Hanukkah. Please see this document as an Informative Document to refer to the different aspects about this festival, that some people want to use as a substitute for the so-called christmas, which is not correct.

Pleas give all the facts to ABBA and ask HIS RUACH to guide you!

Disclaimer: DO YOUR OWN RESEARCH.

See also our
Bibliography.





The word Hanukkah means "dedication".

This Jewish holiday commemorates the rededication of the Holy Temple in Jerusalem after a group of Jewish fighters, the Maccabees, defeated the Greek army in 164 BC.



Hanukkah is also a holiday about lights, and with the current turmoil in Israel and surrounding region and the spike in antisemitism around the world, we reflect on the history of Hanukkah to guide us in this tradition of the nation of Israel and to remind us to be the light for the world!



The Maccabees, was a priestly family of Jews who organized a successful rebellion against the Seleucid ruler Antiochus IV and reconsecrated the defiled Temple of Jerusalem. The name Maccabee was a title of honour given to Judas, a son of Mattathias and the hero of the Jewish wars of independence, 168–164 BCE. Later, the name the Maccabees was extended to include his whole family, specifically Mattathias (his father) and Judas' four brothers—John, Simon, Eleazar, and Jonathan. Its use was also extended to John Hyrcanus, Simon's son, who was next in succession.

There is no unanimity about the meaning of the title Maccabee. The Hebrew may be read as "Hammer," "Hammerer," or "Extinguisher." (Extract and picture from Solace Radio website – see Bibliography)



From a place of destruction, the Maccabees, the Jewish warriors, revolted and defeated the Greek armies and retake Jerusalem and the Temple.

They cleansed and rededicated Temple as prescribed in the TORAH

After a so-called miracle, with only a little of the sacred oil available for the Temple Menorah, the oil lasted for 8 days, so that another bunch of set-apart oil could be created for the set-apart Menorah, to re-lit the lamps of the Menorah.

Please read:

Shemot(Ex) 25:37 & Shemot 27:20-21 presents the commandment to make pure olive oil, for the purpose of having a permanent light (ner tamid) lit within the Tabernacle. 3.

Vayikra (Lev.) 24:1-4 reiterates the commandment to make pure olive oil, but now adds the fact that it should be used specifically in the menorah (which is not specified in Shemot 27). Bamidbar(Num.) 8:1-4 presents the commandment to Aharon to light the Menorah every day.



As **the Maccabees** searched for pure oil to light the menorah with, they found just one cruse of pure oil which still had the seal of the High Priest, the symbol of pure oil. This cruse contained just enough pure oil to keep the menorah lit for one day. In order to make pure oil however, individuals making the oil must be in a state of spiritual purity. Being soldiers returning from the battlefield, the Maccabees were deemed impure, and therefore could not make pure oil. Since the process of ritual purification after touching a corpse lasts seven days, the Maccabees could only produce additional pure oil after eight days: seven days of becoming pure including one day, once pure, to actually make the oil. Therefore, the Maccabees would have been unable to light the Menorah for seven days before the completion of new pure oil. Miraculously, the one cruse of oil had lasted for all eight days, and by that point new pure oil was ready.

"The following year these [days] were appointed **a Festival** with [the recital of] Hallel (Jewish praise, recited on all festivals) and thanksgiving.] Since then, the festival of Hanukkah has been celebrated each year, beginning on the 25th of Kislev. During these days, lamentation for the dead and fasting are forbidden, Hallel is recited, and the Menorah is lit.

While lighting the Menorah on Hanukkah was originally established solely to commemorate the miracle of the cruse of oil, after the destruction of the Second Temple, the holiday took on an additional role. *It now also serves as a commemoration of the daily lighting of the Menorah in the Temple, and the Temple in general.*

It is important to mention:

Although Ezra & Nehemiah tried,... "The returnees from Babylon are not in a position to rebuild the Temple as splendid as Solomon's. Eventually (circa 30 BCE) it will be rebuilt again by Herod the Great, and made into a spectacular structure, but even though it is going to be physically beautiful, it will be spiritually empty when compared with the First Temple. And even though there are going to be High Priests, the institution will become corrupt" {<https://aish.com/48938582/>}



Recreation of the Altar in the Tabernacle
in the desert...



https://www.bibleodyssey.org/articles/the-second-temple/#google_vignette



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Today

The Jewish nation celebrates the Hanukkah Festival still today. It lasts eight days to remember, and celebrate, the miracle of the one cruse of oil lasting eight days. They share special gifts, and with special decorations, food and traditional games – some of it does not really have a connection to the

REDEDICATION of the Temple.



Today

Unfortunately, lots of trinkets, and food items in latter years became part of this festival...lots of lights, gifts, I found especially the dreidel, that for me personally refers to "luck" – a worldly accessory that came in as part of the JEWISH festival.



LET US choose, *the correct symbolism* , if we choose to celebrate it!
(...Remember it is not a Biblical Feast that ABBA told us to celebrate)



We as Spiritual Israel

We as Wild Olive Branches, grafted
into the Olive Tree of Israel can by choice, also Celebrate
the 8-day Feast, but there is no
indication in Scripture that we must do it!

It is NOT a Feast of YHWH.

Y'Shua however went to the Temple on Hannukah and
talk about HIMSELF as Messiah & the light of the world.

John 10:22– 42

Y'SHUA



Joh 10:22 "At that time the Hanukkah came to be in Yerushalayim, and it was winter. {Footnote: Feast of Dedication, during which candles are lit every evening to commemorate Maccabean victory over Greeks in 165 BCE.}

:23 And יהושע was walking in the Set-apart Place, in the porch of Shelomoh. :24 So the Yehudim surrounded Him and said to Him, "How long do You keep us in suspense? If You are the Messiah, say to us plainly." :25 יהושע answered them, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in My Father's Name, they bear witness concerning Me." The Scriptures

Y'SHUA



Joh. 8:12 Therefore יְהוֹשֻׁעַ spoke to them again, saying, "I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall by no means walk in darkness, but possess the light of life." See also Joh. 11:9-10,

Joh. 9:5 "While I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

“ 1 Maccabees is best-known for containing the narrative behind the Jewish holiday of Hanukkah. It describes in detail the re-dedication of the Temple in Jerusalem and the lighting of the menorah. The 8-day rededication of the temple is described in 1 Maccabees 4;36-4;59 (listen from 0:30:53), though the name of the festival and the miracle of the lights do not appear here...”



Painted by Wojciech Stattler, "Machabeusze" ("The Maccabees"), 1844

AUDIO of the
Book of
Maccabees 1



<https://youtu.be/wCLmwQSNZ4U?feature=shared>

Happy Hanukkah

*To the one's who celebrate the miracle of the
rededication of the Temple...*



From Olive Branch Ministries & Tehillah Study Centre

Bibliography

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