

A BELIEVER'S MESSIAH-FILLED HANUKKAH

Daily Activities And Devotionals

By Paul Bass

A Celebration of Jesus/Yeshua, the Light
Of The World

(Expanded edition - includes scripture texts)

Day 1

LOOK TO THE MESSIAH!

Light a candle. Pray a prayer and thank the Father for preserving His people through persecution and wars. Lift up the name of Jesus/Yeshua the Messiah, as the light of the world.

If you have a Hanukkah Menorah you can light the center candle to symbolize Jesus/Yeshua and one adjacent candle to commemorate this first night/day of Hanukkah.

Read John 10:22-42 (World English Bible)

22 It was the Feast of the Dedication at Jerusalem.

23 It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in Solomon's porch.

24 The Jews therefore came around him and said to him, "How long will you hold us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly."

25 Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you don't believe. The works that I do in my Father's name, these testify about me.

26 But you don't believe, because you are not of my sheep, as I told you.

27 My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.

28 I give eternal life to them. They will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand.

29 My Father who has given them to me is greater than all. No one is able to snatch them out of my Father's hand.

30 I and the Father are one."

31 Therefore the Jews took up stones again to stone him.

32 Jesus answered them, "I have shown you many good works from my Father. For which of those works do you stone me?"

33 The Jews answered him, "We don't stone you for a good work, but for blasphemy: because you, being a man, make yourself God."

34 Jesus answered them, "Isn't it written in your law, 'I said, you are gods?' [Psalm 82:6](#) (Later in this book, you will see this lesson will be learned by none other than Antiochus Epiphanies.)

35 If he called them gods, to whom the word of God came (and the Scripture can't be broken),

36 do you say of him whom the Father sanctified and sent into the world, 'You blaspheme,' because I said, 'I am the Son of God?'

37 If I don't do the works of my Father, don't believe me.

38 But if I do them, though you don't believe me, believe the works, that you may know and believe that the Father is in me, and I in the Father."

39 They sought again to seize him, and he went out of their hand.

40 He went away again beyond the Jordan into the place where John was baptizing at first, and he stayed there.

41 Many came to him. They said, "John indeed did no sign, but everything that John said about this man is true."

42 Many believed in him there.

It is so significant, that the Messiah was confronted **on Hanukkah** in the very temple that was re-dedicated over 150 years prior. He was able to point out that his deeds have demonstrated that He is revealed as the true Savior. He put it in their hands if they would choose to accept Him or reject the facts.

Now, to read the story of Hanukkah in 8 parts.
Tonight will be Part 1:

**Begin with II Maccabees 8:1-11
(Douay-Rheims 1899 American Edition)**

1. But Judas Machabeus, and they that were with him, went privately into the towns: and calling together their kinsmen and friends, and taking unto them such as continued in the Jews' religion, they assembled six thousand men.

2 And they called upon the Lord that he would look upon his people that was trodden down by all, and would have pity on the temple, that was defiled by the wicked:

3 That he would have pity also upon the city that was destroyed, that was ready to be made even with the ground, and would hear the voice of the blood that cried to him:

4 That he would remember also the most unjust deaths of innocent children, and the blasphemies offered to his name, and would shew his indignation on this occasion.

5 Now when Machabeus had gathered a multitude, he could not be withstood by the heathens: for the wrath of the Lord was turned into mercy.

6 So coming unawares upon the towns and cities, he set them on fire, and taking possession of the most commodious places, he made no small slaughter of the enemies:

7 And especially in the nights he went upon these expeditions, and the fame of his valour was spread abroad everywhere.

8 Then Philip, seeing that the man gained ground by little and little, and that things for the most part succeeded prosperously with him, wrote to Ptolemee the governor of Celesyria and Phenicia, to send aid to the king's affairs.

9 And he with all speed sent Nicanor the son of Patroclus, one of his special friends, giving him no fewer than twenty thousand armed men of different nations, to root out the whole race of the Jews, joining also with him Gorgias, a good soldier, and of great experience in matters of war.

10 And Nicanor purposed to raise for the king the tribute of two thousand talents, that was to be given to the Romans, by making so much money of the captive Jews:

11 Wherefore he sent immediately to the cities upon the sea coast, to invite men together to buy up the Jewish slaves, promising that they should have ninety slaves for one talent, not reflecting on the vengeance, which was to follow him from the Almighty.

The Books of the Maccabees can be found in certain Bibles. It is considered as part of the Apocrypha. The easiest way to find it, is to download an Apocrypha app and read it on your phone or tablet. However, most bookstores should carry a copy.

Pray for God's people throughout the world who are oppressed. **"They called on the Lord to look on the people who were oppressed by all."** II Maccabees 8:2 (Common English Bible)

Day 2

FOR THE SAKE OF THE COVENANT

Light a candle. Pray a prayer and thank the Father for keeping His promises to his beloved ones. Lift up the name of Jesus/Yeshua the Messiah, as the High Priest of Heaven.

If you have a Hanukkah Menorah you can light the center candle to symbolize Jesus/Yeshua and two additional candles to commemorate this second night/day of Hanukkah.

Read Luke 1:30-45 (WEB)

30 The angel said to her, "Don't be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.

31 Behold, you will conceive in your womb and give birth to a son, and shall name him 'Jesus.'

32 He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High.

The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David,

33 and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever. There will be no end to his Kingdom."

34 Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, seeing I am a virgin?"

35 The angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore also the holy one who is born from you will be called the Son of God.

36 Behold, Elizabeth your relative also has conceived a son in her old age; and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren.

37 For nothing spoken by God is impossible."

38 Mary said, "Behold, the servant of the Lord; let it be done to me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

39 Mary arose in those days and went into the hill country with haste, into a city of Judah,

40 and entered into the house of Zacharias and greeted Elizabeth.

41 When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit.

42 She called out with a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb!

43 Why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?

44 For behold, when the voice of your greeting came into my ears, the baby leaped in my womb for joy!

45 Blessed is she who believed, for there will be a fulfillment of the things which have been spoken to her from the Lord!"

Some scholars state that the baby Jesus/Yeshua was placed in the tabernacle of Mary's womb during the Hanukkah season. We know this from the priestly orders that are recorded in the Bible, as well as other historical texts. This means the appearance of the Messiah child (in the womb) would have truly

occurred during this time of year. As we know, life does not begin at birth. A true advent happened in the temporary shelter of Mary's/Miriam's body. There was to be a birth nine months later during a significant appointed time of the year (another feast). We will talk about that later.

Now, to read the story of Hanukkah Part 2 -

**Begin with II Maccabees 8:12-20
(Douay-Rheims 1899 American Edition).**

12 Now when Judas found that Nicanor was coming, he imparted to the Jews that were with him, that the enemy was at hand.

13 And some of them being afraid, and distrusting the justice of God, fled away:

14 Others sold all that they had left, and withal besought the Lord, that he would deliver them from the wicked Nicanor, who had sold them before he came near them:

15 And if not for their sakes, yet for the covenant that he had made with their fathers, and for the sake of his holy and glorious name that was invoked upon them.

16 But Machabeus calling together seven thousand that were with him, exhorted them not to be reconciled to the enemies, nor to fear the multitude of the enemies who came wrongfully against them, but to fight manfully:

17 Setting before their eyes the injury they had unjustly done the holy place, and also the injury they had done to the city, which had been shamefully abused, besides their destroying the ordinances of the fathers.

18 For, said he, they trust in their weapons, and in their

boldness: but we trust in the Almighty Lord, who at a beck can utterly destroy both them that come against us, and the whole world.

19 Moreover he put them in mind also of the helps their fathers had received from God: and how under Sennacherib a hundred and eighty-five thousand had been destroyed.

20 And of the battle that they had fought against the Galatians in Babylonia, how they, being in all but six thousand, when it came to the point, and the Macedonians their companions were a stand, slew a hundred and twenty thousand, because of the help they had from heaven, and for this they received many favours.

Have you found your copy of the books of Maccabees? .

Pray for God's mercy and healing for our bodies (His sanctified temple.) and the body of Messiah. **"They called on the Lord to... take pity on the Temple that was degraded by ungodly people."** II Maccabees 8:2b (Common English Bible)

A Blessing: As the infant child was put in the sanctuary of the womb, may His Holy Spirit rest in your Temple and sanctify your inner being.

Day 3

MERCY FOR JERUSALEM

Light a candle. Pray a prayer and thank the Father for Jerusalem his beloved city, the place of the next Advent of our King. Lift up the name of Jesus/Yeshua the Messiah, as the returning King.

If you have a Hanukkah Menorah you can light the center candle to symbolize Jesus/Yeshua and three additional candles to commemorate this third night/day of Hanukkah. While this is an enjoyable tradition, it was not a part of the original celebrations.

Read I Thessalonians 5:2-11 (WEB)

2 For you yourselves know well that the day of the Lord comes like a thief in the night.

3 For when they are saying, "Peace and safety," then sudden destruction will come on them, like birth pains on a pregnant woman. Then they will in no way escape.

4 But you, brothers, aren't in darkness, that the day should overtake you like a thief.

5 You are all children of light and children of the day. We don't belong to the night, nor to darkness,

6 so then let's not sleep, as the rest do, but let's watch and be sober.

7 For those who sleep, sleep in the night; and those who are drunk are drunk in the night.

8 But since we belong to the day, let's be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet, the hope of salvation.

9 For God didn't appoint us to wrath, but to the obtaining of salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,

10 who died for us, that, whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with him.

11 Therefore exhort one another, and build each other up, even as you also do.

We often think of the appearances of Jesus/Yeshua as mysteries. I hear preachers claim that the Jews were surprised/unaware. Yet, the Magi saw a clear enough message that they would drop what they were doing and begin a two year journey to see this Baby King. When the Jewish priests were asked where He would be born, they knew. No one seemed to be in shock. Shock came when angels appeared. The messengers kept having to reassure them to "be not afraid." But these Magi, they came to worship and give gifts.

Note that Apostle Paul makes a similar claim. He says that that day would NOT take us (believers) by surprise like a thief. We will simply "live along with Him."

Now, read the story of Hanukkah Part 3 -

Read II Maccabees 8:21-29 (Douay-Rheims 1899 American Edition).

21 With these words they were greatly encouraged, and

disposed even to die for the laws and their country.

22 So he appointed his brethren captains over each division of his army, Simon, and Joseph, and Jonathan, giving to each one fifteen hundred men.

23 And after the holy Book had been read to them by Esdras, and he had given them for a watchword, The help of God: himself leading the first band, he joined battle with Nicanor:

24 And the Almighty being their helper, they slew above nine thousand men: and having wounded and disabled the greater part of Nicanor's army, they obliged them to fly.

25 And they took the money of them that came to buy them, and they pursued them on every side.

26 But they came back for want of time: for it was the day before the sabbath: and therefore they did not continue the pursuit.

27 But when they had gathered together their arms and their spoils, they kept the sabbath: blessing the Lord who had delivered them that day, distilling the beginning of mercy upon them.

28 Then after the sabbath they divided the spoils to the feeble and the orphans, and the widows: and the rest they took for themselves and their servants.

29 When this was done, and they had all made a common supplication, they sought the merciful Lord to be reconciled to his servants unto the end.

Have you ever faced an overwhelming opposition,

one that can only be defeated by God Himself? .

Pray for God's precious city, Jerusalem. Pray for peace and Yeshua (Salvation) to the people of the Land of Israel. **"They called on the Lord to... have mercy on the city that was being destroyed."** II Maccabees 8:3 (Common English Bible)

Day 4

HEAR THE BLOOD OF THOSE WHO APPEALED TO GOD FOR HELP

Light a candle. Pray and thank the Father for life itself, for children and all their blessings. Lift up the name of Jesus/Yeshua the Messiah, as the returning King.

If you have a Hanukkah Menorah you can light the center candle to symbolize Jesus/Yeshua and 4 additional candles to commemorate this fourth night/day of Hanukkah.

Read Acts 9:1-8 (WEB)

1 But Saul, still breathing threats and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest

2 and asked for letters from him to the synagogues of Damascus, that if he found any who were of the Way, whether men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem.

3 As he traveled, he got close to Damascus, and suddenly a light from the sky shone around him.

4 He fell on the earth, and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?"

5 He said, "Who are you, Lord?"

The Lord said, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting.

6 But rise up and enter into the city, then you will be told what you must do.”

7 The men who traveled with him stood speechless, hearing the sound, but seeing no one.

8 Saul arose from the ground, and when his eyes were opened, he saw no one. They led him by the hand, and brought him into Damascus.

How amazing that throughout time, the Jewish people have been treated with vile hatred. During the time before the Maccabean Revolt, the people (even infants) were being brutally slaughtered.

Herod, also, did not want the baby Jesus/Yeshua to live. He ordered the wholesale slaughter of babies. The scene sounds familiar as Moses escaped such a fate himself.

It is unique to see one such persecutor, Saul, partaking in the persecution of his own people who followed Yeshua/Jesus. By the unmatched grace of the Father, Saul was shown the brightness of Yeshua/Jesus. As you know. That light made an everlasting change (repentance) in Saul. It even made him blind for a while. Now that's bright.

Now, read the story of Hanukkah Part 4 -

**Begin with II Maccabees 8:30-36
(Douay-Rheims 1899 American Edition).**

30 Moreover they slew above twenty thousand of them that were with Timotheus and Bacchides who fought them, and they made themselves masters of the high strongholds: and they divided amongst them many spoils, giving equal portions to the feeble, the fatherless and the widows, yea and the aged also.

31 And when they had carefully gathered together their arms, they laid them all up in convenient places, and the residue of their spoils they carried to Jerusalem:

32 They slew also Philarches who was with Timotheus, a wicked man, who had many ways afflicted the Jews.

33 And when they kept the feast of the victory at Jerusalem, they burnt Callisthenes, that had set fire to the holy gates, who had taken refuge in a certain house, rendering to him a worthy reward for his impieties:

34 But as for that most wicked man Nicanor, who had brought a thousand merchants to the sale of the Jews,

35 Being through the help of the Lord brought down by them, of whom he had made no account, laying; aside his garment of glory, fleeing through the midland country, he came alone to Antioch, being rendered very unhappy by the destruction of his army.

36 And he that had promised to levy the tribute for the Romans by the means of the captives of Jerusalem, now professed that the Jews had God for their protector, and therefore they could not be hurt, because they followed the laws appointed by him.

Have you ever realized how closely our times

resemble those times? Can you think of any example of babies being killed today? II Maccabees 8:3 tells us that Judah the Maccabee prayed that God would hear the shed blood of the massacred innocent infants.

Pray for the babies who are currently in harm's way.. Pray for the blood of the infants whose lives were taken away before they even got a chance to be born. Pray that abortion will cease in this land. **"They called on the Lord to... remember the needless massacre of innocent infants."** II Maccabees 8:3b-4 (Common English Bible)

Day 5

HATE THE EVIL THINGS SAID AGAINST HIS NAME

Light a candle. Pray and thank the Father for His miracles performed by the savior. Lift up the name of Jesus/Yeshua the Messiah, as the miracle worker.

If you have a Hanukkah Menorah you can light the center candle to symbolize Jesus/Yeshua plus five additional candles to commemorate this fifth night/day of Hanukkah.

Read Psalm 18:28-29 (WEB)

28 For you will light my lamp, Yahweh. My God will light up my darkness.

29 For by you, I advance through a troop. By my God, I leap over a wall.

Proverbs 20:27 (WEB)

The spirit of man is Yahweh's lamp, searching all his innermost parts.

John 8:12

Again, therefore, Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. (Isaiah 60:1) He who follows me will not walk in the darkness,

but will have the light of life.

Matthew 5:14-16

14 You are the light of the world. A city located on a hill can't be hidden.

15 Neither do you light a lamp and put it under a measuring basket, but on a stand; and it shines to all who are in the house.

16 Even so, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven.

Every time I read the word "light" in Scripture, I like to underline or make a note. My favorite is Proverbs 18:29

When we light the middle Menorah candle first, then we use that to light the other ones, I can't help but see the symbolism. As Jesus/Yeshua IS the light of the world. We all get our light from Him. We become lamps that glow His fire to illuminate the entire world.

Now, read the story of Hanukkah Part 5 -

Read II Maccabees 9:1-10 (Douay-Rheims 1899 American Edition)

1 At that time Antiochus returned with dishonour out of Persia.

2 For he had entered into the city called Persepolis, and

attempted to rob the temple, and to oppress the city: but the multitude running together to arms, put them to flight: and so it fell out that Antiochus being put to flight returned with disgrace.

3 Now when he was come about Ecbatana, he received the news of what had happened to Nicanor and Timotheus.

4 And swelling with anger he thought to revenge upon the Jews the injury done by them that had put him to flight. And therefore he commanded his chariot to be driven, without stopping in his journey, the judgment of heaven urging him forward, because he had spoken so proudly, that he would come to Jerusalem, and make it a common burying place of the Jews.

5 But the Lord the God of Israel, that seeth all things, struck him with an incurable and an invisible plague. For as soon as he had ended these words, a dreadful pain in his bowels came upon him, and bitter torments of the inner parts.

6 And indeed very justly, seeing he had tormented the bowels of others with many and new torments, albeit he by no means ceased from his malice.

7 Moreover being filled with pride, breathing out fire in his rage against the Jews, and commanding the matter to be hastened, it happened as he was going with violence that he fell from the chariot, so that his limbs were much pained by a grievous bruising of the body.

8 Thus he that seemed to himself to command even the waves of the sea, being proud above the condition of man, and to weigh the heights of the mountains in a balance, now being cast down to the ground, was carried in a litter, bearing witness to the manifest power of God in himself:

9 So that worms swarmed out of the body of this man, and whilst he lived in sorrow and pain, his flesh fell off, and the filthiness of his smell was noisome to the army.

10 And the man that thought a little before he could reach to the stars of heaven, no man could endure to carry, for

the intolerable stench.

Do you remember the Miracles that God Performed through Moses? They corresponded to the so-called "gods" of Egypt during that time. It seems like that type of thing went down often as the Savior performed His miracles. As you read how this "lifted up" (Antiochus Epiphanes) human was brought low. Real low. Here in II Maccabees we find that Antioches was run out of the city and began to suffer judgement for his pride. He had believed that he was a God and he could speak to the waves and they would calm.

Wrong! Jesus is the only storm whisperer. **"What kind of man is this? Even the winds and the waves obey Him." - Matt. 8:27** Well, not the Antiochus type of man. Not the Antichrist. Jesus is the real Christ - the true Messiah. **"They called on the Lord to... to Show His hatred for the evil things said against His Name."** II Mac. 8:4

Day 6

SUBMIT TO GOD

Light a candle. Pray and thank the Father for His power and His Authority. Lift up the name of Jesus/Yeshua the Messiah, as the right hand of YHWH.

If you have a Hanukkah Menorah you can light the center candle to symbolize Jesus/Yeshua and 6 additional candles to commemorate this sixth night/day of Hanukkah.

Read John 1:1-18 (WEB)

- 1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.**
- 2 The same was in the beginning with God.**
- 3 All things were made through him. Without him, nothing was made that has been made.**
- 4 In him was life, and the life was the light of men.**
- 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness hasn't overcome it.**
- 6 There came a man, sent from God, whose name was John.**
- 7 The same came as a witness, that he might testify about the light, that all might believe through him.**
- 8 He was not the light, but was sent that he might testify about the light.**
- 9 The true light that enlightens everyone was coming into the**

world.

10 He was in the world, and the world was made through him, and the world didn't recognize him.

11 He came to his own, and those who were his own didn't receive him.

12 But as many as received him, to them he gave the right to become God's children, to those who believe in his name:

13 who were born not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

14 The Word became flesh, and lived among us. We saw his glory, such glory as of the one and only Son of the Father, full of grace and truth.

15 John testified about him. He cried out, saying, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me has surpassed me, for he was before me.'"

16 From his fullness we all received grace upon grace.

17 For the law was given through Moses. Grace and truth were realized through Jesus Christ.

18 No one has seen God at any time. The one and only Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, has declared him.

I think, when we celebrate the birth of Messiah, that we tend to forget the fact that He is the Creator who **is, was, and will always be.**

He is the Word, who became a human being. He put on humanness as a tent, a tabernacle.

Now, read the story of Hanukkah Part 6 -

**Read II Maccabees 9:11-18 (Douay-Rheims 1899
American Edition)**

1 And by this means, being brought from his great pride, he began to come to the knowledge of himself, being admonished by the scourge of God, his pains increasing every moment.

12 And when he himself could not now abide his own stench, he spoke thus: It is just to be subject to God, and that a mortal man should not equal himself to God.

13 Then this wicked man prayed to the Lord, of whom he was not like to obtain mercy.

14 And the city to which he was going in haste to lay it even with the ground, and to make it a common burying place, he now desireth to make free.

15 And the Jews whom he said he would not account worthy to be so much as buried, but would give them up to be devoured by the birds and wild beasts, and would utterly destroy them with their children, he now promises to make equal with the Athenians.

16 The holy temple also which before he had spoiled, he promises to adorn with goodly gifts, and to multiply the holy vessels, and to allow out of his revenues the charges pertaining to the sacrifices.

17 Yes also, that he would become a Jew himself, and would go through every place of the earth, and declare the power of God.

18 But his pains not ceasing (for the just judgment of God was come upon him) despairing of life he wrote to the Jews in the manner of a supplication, a letter in these words:

Here is an amazing admission by the one who caused countless horrors to the people of God. Can you imagine? The man who thought he could reach the

stars, was so sick and lowly that no one could come near him because of the stench. He was more intimate with scars, rather than stars.

How the mighty have fallen. Pride truly comes before destruction. If you look at the history of the world's anti-Christ, you will see that we all die as mere men, no matter how rich or powerful. "It is fair to submit to God and for humans to stop thinking that they are God's equals." - Antiochus.

Day 7

ETERNAL LIFE

Light a candle. Pray and thank the Father for all His graces upon your life and His merciful Salvation. Lift up the name of Jesus/Yeshua the Messiah, as the Salvation of YAHWEH.

If you have a Hanukkah Menorah you can light the center candle to symbolize Jesus/Yeshua and seven additional candles to commemorate this seventh night/day of Hanukkah. Some people prefer to use a 7 branch menorah and light all 7 candles each night.

Read John 12:44-50 (WEB)

44 Jesus cried out and said, "Whoever believes in me, believes not in me, but in him who sent me.

45 He who sees me sees him who sent me.

46 I have come as a light into the world, that whoever believes in me may not remain in the darkness.

47 If anyone listens to my sayings, and doesn't believe, I don't judge him. For I came not to judge the world, but to save the world.

48 He who rejects me, and doesn't receive my sayings, has one who judges him. The word that I

spoke will judge him in the last day.

49 For I spoke not from myself, but the Father who sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should speak.

50 I know that his commandment is eternal life. The things therefore which I speak, even as the Father has said to me, so I speak."

The words that the Savior has spoken will judge the unbeliever in the Last Days. He created the world with His word. He will proclaim His righteous judgement on the world with His Word. As we put our belief, our trust in Him, we have the promise of eternal life? Isn't it wonderful that we also have the covenant, the agreement, that we **Do Not have to walk in darkness?** Halleluyah!

Now, read the story of Hanukkah Part 7 -

Read II Maccabees 9:19-29 (Douay-Rheims 1899 American Edition)

19 To his very good subjects the Jews, Antiochus king and ruler wisheth much health and welfare, and happiness.

20 If you and your children are well, and if all matters go with you to your mind, we give very great thanks.

21 As for me, being infirm, but yet kindly remembering you, returning out of the places of Persia, and being taken with a grievous disease, I thought it necessary to take care for the common good:

22 Not distrusting my life, but having great hope to escape the

sickness.

23 But considering that my father also, at what time he led an army into the higher countries, appointed who should reign after him:

24 To the end that if any thing contrary to expectation should fall out, or any bad tidings should be brought, they that were in the countries, knowing to whom the whole government was left, might not be troubled.

25 Moreover, considering that neighbouring princes and borderers wait for opportunities, and expect what shall be the event, I have appointed my son Antiochus king, whom I often recommended to many of you, when I went into the higher provinces: and I have written to him what I have joined here below.

26 I ask you therefore, and request of you, that remembering favours both public and private, you will every man of you continue to be faithful to me and to my son.

27 For I trust that he will behave with moderation and humanity, and following my intentions, will be gracious unto you.

28 Thus the murderer and blasphemer, being grievously struck, as himself had treated others, died a miserable death in a strange country among the mountains.

29 But Philip that was brought up with him, carried away his body: and out of fear of the son of Antiochus, went into Egypt to Ptolemee Philometor.

Here is the letter to the Jews from the man who had been the Hitler of his time. He wasn't the first, he wasn't the last. Terrible things were done to the men, women, and children of the Jewish race. Pray that it will never happen again. If we do not learn from the history account of Hanukkah, we may see these things repeated. Let us not turn our eyes from persecution. Pray for heroes with the spirit

of a Maccabee to rise up and defend the oppressed,
the widows and the orphans.

**"Then the murderer, who also showed
God the greatest disrespect, suffered
the worst things, just as he had
treated
others. His life ended pitifully..." - II
Maccabees 9:28 (CEB)**

Day 8

THE CELEBRATION

Light a candle. Pray and thank the Father for this celebration. Lift up the name of Jesus/Yeshua the Messiah, as the soon returning Bridegroom.

If you have a Hanukkah Menorah you can light the center candle to symbolize Jesus/Yeshua and all eight additional candles to commemorate this eighth night/day of Hanukkah. Some people prefer to start, on night one, with all the candles lit. Then, each night, they light one less. So tonight they would light the Messiah candle and one other. There are some people who use language like, "you have to light them this way," or, "you **have to** let them all burn out. **You can't** blow them out, etc" Not if it's your home. It is reasonable to do traditional Jewish ritual if you are a guest, or if you are seeking to honor the customs in respect. But there is no Biblical teaching regarding this at all. You are free to explore your family likes and build new traditions. The purpose of this book is to present the richness of the Hanukkah story without getting bogged down in whether we are "doing it right."

Read I John 1:5-2:17 (WEB)

5 This is the message which we have heard from him and announce to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

6 If we say that we have fellowship with him and walk in the darkness, we lie, and don't tell the truth.

7 But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ, his Son, cleanses us from all sin.

8 If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and righteous to forgive us the sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

10 If we say that we haven't sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

Chapter 2:1 My little children, I write these things to you so that you may not sin. If anyone sins, we have a Counselor with the Father, Jesus Christ, the righteous.

2 And he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the whole world.

3 This is how we know that we know him: if we keep his commandments.

4 One who says, "I know him," and doesn't keep his commandments, is a liar, and the truth isn't in him.

5 But God's love has most certainly been perfected in whoever keeps his word. This is how we know that we are in him:

6 he who says he remains in him ought himself also to walk just like he walked.

7 Brothers, I write no new commandment to you, but an old commandment which you had from the beginning. The old commandment is the word which you heard from the beginning.

8 Again, I write a new commandment to you, which is true in him and in you; because the darkness is passing away and the true light already shines.

9 He who says he is in the light and hates his brother is in the darkness even until now.

10 He who loves his brother remains in the light, and there is no occasion for stumbling in him.

11 But he who hates his brother is in the darkness, and walks in the darkness, and doesn't know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

12 I write to you, little children, because your sins are forgiven you for his name's sake.

13 I write to you, fathers, because you know him who is from the beginning. I write to you, young men, because you have overcome the evil one. I write to you, little children, because you know the Father.

14 I have written to you, fathers, because you know him who is from the beginning. I have written to you, young men, because you are strong, and the word of God remains in you, and you have overcome the evil one.

15 Don't love the world or the things that are in the world. If anyone loves the world, the Father's love isn't in him.

16 For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, isn't the Father's, but is the world's.

17 The world is passing away with its lusts, but he who does God's will remains forever.

We can live as children of the light, not as drunkards who abuse the standing as children of the King. The things that can come from you and from me are things of righteousness, pure goodness, and pure truth. May we bear fruits of His light in our lives. Amen!

Now, read the story of Hanukkah Part 8 -

Read II Maccabees 10:1-9 (DRA)

1 But Machabeus, and they that were with him, by the protection of the Lord, recovered the temple and the city again.

2 But he threw down the altars, which the heathens had set up in the streets, as also the temples of the idols.

3 And having purified the temple, they made another altar: and taking fire out of the fiery stones, they offered sacrifices after two years, and set forth incense, and lamps, and the loaves of proposition.

4 And when they had done these things, they besought the Lord, lying prostrate on the ground, that they might no more fall into such evils; but if they should at any time sin, that they might be chastised by him more gently, and not be delivered up to barbarians and blasphemous men.

5 Now upon the same day that the temple had been polluted by the strangers, on the very same day it was cleansed again, to wit, on the five and twentieth day of the month of Casleu.

6 And they kept eight days with joy, after the manner of the feast of the tabernacles, remembering that not long before they had kept the feast of the tabernacles when they were in the

mountains, and in dens like wild beasts.

7 Therefore they now carried boughs, and green branches, and palms for Him that had given them good success in cleansing his place.

8 And they ordained by a common statute, and decree, that all the nation of the Jews should keep those days every year.

9 And this was the end of Antiochus that was called the Illustrious.

Here we see the reason and the exact method of the observance of the Holiday known as Hanukkah. I don't know why, but I seldom hear of this reason for the eight days of this Holiday. Most books and videos describe a miraculous lamp which burned in the Temple for 8 days on one day's worth of oil. You will find no story of the oil and eight days in the Bible or Apocryphal books. Plainly, according to this ancient document, this was a "late" observance of Tabernacles due to the fact that they were previously unable to celebrate. Tabernacles is a seven day festival with an eighth day celebration as well. They sang songs, waved ivy, and palm branches. So, you want to decorate with ivy, and palm branches? You want to sing Thanksgiving songs? Enjoy it. And savor your special time with family during this very special Holiday.

**"Such then was the end of Antiochus who is called Epiphanes" - II Maccabees 10:9
(RSV)**

Father, to You alone be ALL glory and ALL praise! Amen.

Did you enjoy this little book?

More importantly, did you enjoy your Hanukkah?

If so, please support our ministry and buy a print copy on Amazon or get an electronic version for only \$1.00. And please leave a review and share with your friends, yes, even the ones who are blown away that you celebrated Hanukkah this year.

Thank you! - Paul

Hanukkah Resources

**A Family Guide to the Biblical Holidays:
With Activities for All Ages** Robin Sampson
created a huge volume for families to teach about the
Biblical Feasts. This book is so comprehensive. It has
recipes, coloring pages, games, readings, lessons
and more. We have bought it numerous times, as we
keep losing it after sharing with others. * Here is a link
for more info: <https://amzn.to/2QKdNNM>

**Celebrating Jesus in the Biblical Feasts
Expanded Edition: Discovering Their
Significance to You as a Christian** This is a
great book from a highly educated man. Richard
Booker has a gift for explaining the Hebrew in
layman's terms. This book is one of the most
useful books for personal study. *
<https://amzn.to/2PxQx0F>

Hebrew Roots - Hanukkah Readings For Believers

P. O. Box 400 Lakewood, WI 54138
Cepher Bible With Apocrypha This is a
Hebraic English Bible with the Apocrypha plus Enoch
and Jasher. It is a great resource if you want it all in
there in one volume. * <https://amzn.to/2QGmhFF>

The Complete Apocrypha: 2018 Edition
with Enoch, Jasher, and Jubilees All of the
Apocryphal books in one volume, without the text of
the entire Bible. * <https://amzn.to/2PwnQBb>

Article: Curt Landry - How to Bring the Light into Your Home, Understanding the Mystery of Hanukkah

<https://www.curtlandry.com/how-to-bring-the-light-into-your-home-understanding-the-mystery-of-hanukkah/>

One word of advice is to keep from overwhelming yourself with too many resources. That is why I have kept this booklet small. People tend to go off on a variety of rabbit trails, or get caught in a thicket of info about the feasts. I say that simple is better. Keep in mind that the Holy Spirit will open your eyes and ears to more knowledge as you walk the path of the one who seeks after Yahweh and His Instructions for our lives.

5 Interesting Facts

About Hanukkah

1. This "Biblical" Holiday is not found in the Tanakh (Old Testament). However, it IS in the New Testament. John 10:22-30
2. The "Miracle of the Oil" is not in the Bible

OR the Apocrypha. The tale was introduced over two hundred years later. The setting for the Hanukkah account was foretold in amazing detail in the book of Daniel, chapter 11.

3. The joining of the planets or what appears to be joining, caused a large star, appeared during key Jewish Holidays leading the Magi on a two year journey to visit the King of the Jews. This can be determined using planet charting software that accurately determines placement of the stars thousands of years back. Such a conjunction of planets was depicted in another Apocrypha book. In Jasher 8:1-4 the wise men of Nimrod were visiting Terah on the night that Abram was born. There was a great conjoining of stars. The action was seen as a sign that this child would “grow up to be fruitful, and multiply and possess all the earth, he and all his children. He and his seed will slay great kings, and inherit their lands.”

4. As we have seen, the reason for eight

days, as detailed in II Maccabees was to celebrate the missed feast of Booths. (A seven day festival with an eighth day gathering.) The nine branched Menorah (Hanukkiah) was not a part of this Holiday until after the Jewish exile in 120 AD.

5. The Birth of the Messiah was in the fall but the conception (when human life begins) was likely Kislev 25, which is the first day of Hanukkah (and often during Christmastime). What a great time for the Light of the World to enter the earth as a baby in the womb of mother Mary!

<http://www.bethlehemstar.com/starry-dance/westward-leading/> <https://www.history.com/topics/holidays/hanukkah>
<https://galileoofthenations.com/blogs/knowledge-center/16673424-hanukkah-in-the-writings-of-daniel>
<https://www.rd.com/culture/hanukkah-facts/>

Hanukkah - A Picture Of Spiritual Warfare

"Do you not know that your body is the temple of The Spirit of Holiness who dwells within you, whom you have received from God, and you are not your own?" - I Corinthians 6:19 ABPE

In the story of Hanukkah, we see a beautiful diagram of Spiritual Warfare. Follow me through the bold steps taken as the Maccabees regained the Temple and put Antiochus to shame.

They repented for sins. They submitted wholly to God. They bravely stood up to the enemy in the Name and authority of YAHWEH of Hosts. The victory over the enemy was great.

- They immediately cleansed the idols out of the Temple.
- They re-dedicated and anointed it and the new items for sanctification.

- Then, they fortified the city with watch towers and guards around the clock. "The army of the Angels of Lord Jehovah surrounds his worshipers and delivers them." - Psalm 34:7 ABPE
- They feasted (Communion, breaking bread) • They took the battle to the enemy. "Judas won many battles against them and finally defeated them. He captured Jazer and its surrounding villages and then returned to Judea." - I Maccabees 5:7-8

When we read through the entire process, it should amaze us. But, when you think of it, God doesn't look at history and the future like we do. He declares the end from the beginning. There is so much pure gold in learning from His sovereign plan. Blessed be His Name!

For additional reading, the Hanukkah account can also be found here:

Read I Maccabees 1-5:23 (Douay-Rheims 1899 American Edition)

Ch 1:1 Now it came to pass, after that Alexander the son of Philip the Macedonian, who first reigned in Greece, coming out of the land of Cethim, had overthrown Darius king of the Persians and Medes:

2 He fought many battles, and took the strong holds of all, and slew the kings of the earth:

3 And he went through even to the ends of the earth, and took the spoils of many nations: and the earth was quiet before him.

4 And he gathered a power, and a very strong army: and his heart was exalted and lifted up.

5 And he subdued countries of nations, and princes: and they became tributaries to him.

6 And after these things, he fell down upon his bed, and knew that he should die.

7 And he called his servants the nobles that were brought up with him from his youth: and he divided his kingdom among them, while he was yet alive.

8 And Alexander reigned twelve years, and he died.

9 And his servants made themselves kings every one in his place:

10 And they all put crowns upon themselves after his death, and their sons after them many years, and evils were multiplied in the earth.

11 And there came out of them a wicked root, Antiochus the Illustrious, the son of king Antiochus, who had been a hostage at Rome: and he reigned in the hundred and thirty-seventh year of the kingdom of the Greeks.

12 In those days there went out of Israel wicked men, and they persuaded many, saying: Let us go, and make a covenant with the heathens that are round about us: for since we departed from them, many evils have befallen us.

13 And the word seemed good in their eyes.

14 And some of the people determined to do this, and went to the king: and he gave them license to do after the ordinances of the heathens.

15 And they built a place of exercise in Jerusalem, according to the laws of the nations:

16 And they made themselves prepuces, and departed from the holy covenant, and joined themselves to the heathens, and were sold to do evil.

17 And the kingdom was established before Antiochus, and he had a mind to reign over the land of Egypt, that he might reign

over two kingdoms.

18 And he entered into Egypt with a great multitude, with chariots and elephants, and horsemen, and a great number of ships:

19 And he made war against Ptolemee king of Egypt, but Ptolemee was afraid at his presence, and fled, and many were wounded unto death.

20 And he took the strong cities in the land of Egypt: and he took the spoils of the land of Egypt.

21 And after Antiochus had ravaged Egypt in the hundred and forty-third year, he returned and went up against Israel.

22 And he went up to Jerusalem with a great multitude.

23 And he proudly entered into the sanctuary, and took away the golden altar, and the candlestick of light, and all the vessels thereof, and the table of proposition, and the pouring vessels, and the vials, and the little mortars of gold, and the veil, and the crowns, and the golden ornament that was before the temple: and he broke them all in pieces.

24 And he took the silver and gold, and the precious vessels: and he took the hidden treasures which he found: and when he had taken all away he departed into his own country.

25 And he made a great slaughter of men, and spoke very proudly.

26 And there was great mourning in Israel, and in every place where they were.

27 And the princes, and the ancients mourned, and the virgins and the young men were made feeble, and the beauty of the women was changed.

28 Every bridegroom took up lamentation: and the bride that sat in the marriage bed, mourned:

29 And the land was moved for the inhabitants thereof, and all the house of Jacob was covered with confusion.

30 And after two full years the king sent the chief collector of his tributes to the cities of Juda, and he came to Jerusalem with a great multitude.

31 And he spoke to them peaceable words in deceit: and they believed him.

32 And he fell upon the city suddenly, and struck it with a great slaughter, and destroyed much people in Israel.

33 And he took the spoils of the city, and burnt it with fire, and threw down the houses thereof, and the walls around it:

34 And they took the women captive, and the children, and the cattle they possessed.

35 And they built the city of David with a great and strong wall,

and with strong towers, and made it a fortress for them:

36 And they placed there a sinful nation, wicked men, and they fortified themselves therein: and they stored up armour, and victuals, and gathered together the spoils of Jerusalem;

37 And laid them up there: and they became a great snare.

38 And this was a place to lie in wait against the sanctuary, and an evil devil in Israel.

39 And they shed innocent blood around the sanctuary, and defiled the holy place.

40 And the inhabitants of Jerusalem fled away by reason of them, and the city was made the habitation of strangers, and she became a stranger to her own seed, and her children forsook her.

41 Her sanctuary was desolate like a wilderness, her festival days were turned into mourning, her sabbaths into reproach, her honours were brought to nothing.

42 Her dishonour was increased according to her glory, and her excellency was turned into mourning.

43 And king Antiochus wrote to all his kingdom, that all the people should be one: and every one should leave his own law.

44 And all nations consented according to the word of king Antiochus.

45 And many of Israel consented to his service, and they sacrificed to idols, and profaned the sabbath.

46 And the king sent letters by the hands of messengers to Jerusalem, and to all the cities of Juda: that they should follow the law of the nations of the earth,

47 And should forbid holocausts and sacrifices, and atonements to be made in the temple of God.

48 And should prohibit the sabbath, and the festival days, to be celebrated.

49 And he commanded the holy places to be profaned, and the holy people of Israel.

50 And he commanded altars to be built, and temples, and idols, and swine's flesh to be immolated, and unclean beasts.

51 And that they should leave their children uncircumcised, and let their souls be defiled with all uncleannesses, and abominations, to the end that they should forget the law, and should change all the justifications of God.

52 And that whosoever would not do according to the word of king Antiochus should be put to death.

53 According to all these words he wrote to his whole kingdom, and he appointed rulers over the people that should force them to do these things.

54 And they commanded the cities of Juda to sacrifice.

55 Then many of the people were gathered to them that had forsaken the law of the Lord: and they committed evils in the land:

56 And they drove away the people of Israel into lurking holes,

and into the secret places of fugitives.

57 On the fifteenth day of the month Casleu, in the hundred and forty-fifth year, king Antiochus set up the abominable idol of desolation upon the altar of God, and they built altars throughout all the cities of Juda round about:

58 And they burnt incense, and sacrificed at the doors of the houses, and in the streets.

59 And they cut in pieces, and burnt with fire the books of the law of God:

60 And every one with whom the books of the testament of the Lord were found, and whosoever observed the law of the Lord, they put to death, according to the edict of the king.

61 Thus by their power did they deal with the people of Israel, that were found in the cities month after month.

62 And on the five and twentieth day of the month they sacrificed upon the altar of the idol that was over against the altar of God.

63 Now the women that circumcised their children, were slain according to the commandment of king Antiochus.

64 And they hanged the children about their necks in all their houses: and those that had circumcised them, they put to death.

65 And many of the people of Israel determined with themselves, that they would not eat unclean things: and they chose rather to die than to be defiled with unclean meats.

66 And they would not break the holy law of God, and they were put to death:

67 And there was very great wrath upon the people.

Ch 2:1 In those days arose Mathathias the son of John, the son of Simeon, a priest of the sons of Joarib, from Jerusalem, and he abode in the mountain of Modin.

2 And he had five sons: John who was surnamed Gaddis:

3 And Simon, who was surnamed Thasi:

4 And Judas, who was called Machabeus:

5 And Eleazar, who was surnamed Abaron: and Jonathan, who was surnamed Apphus.

6 These saw the evils that were done in the people of Juda, and in Jerusalem.

7 And Mathathias said: Woe is me, wherefore was I born to see the ruin of my people, and the ruin of the holy city, and to dwell there, when it is given into the hands of the enemies?

8 The holy places are come into the hands of strangers: her temple is become as a man without honour.

9 The vessels of her glory are carried away captive: her old men are murdered in the streets, and her young men are fallen by the sword of the enemies.

10 What nation hath not inherited her kingdom, and gotten of her spoils?

11 All her ornaments are taken away. She that was free is made a slave.

12 And behold our sanctuary, and our beauty, and our glory is laid waste, and the Gentiles have defiled them.

13 To what end then should we live any longer?

14 And Mathathias and his sons rent their garments, and they covered themselves with haircloth, and made great lamentation.

15 And they that were sent from king Antiochus came thither, to compel them that were fled into the city of Modin, to sacrifice, and to burn incense, and to depart from the law of God.

16 And many of the people of Israel consented, and came to them: but Mathathias and his sons stood firm.

17 And they that were sent from Antiochus, answering, said to Mathathias: Thou art a ruler, and an honourable, and great man in this city, and adorned with sons, and brethren.

18 Therefore come thou first, and obey the king's commandment, as all nations have done, and the men of Juda, and they that remain in Jerusalem: and thou, and thy sons, shall be in the number of the king's friends, and enriched with gold, and silver, and many presents.

19 Then Mathathias answered, and said with a loud voice: Although all nations obey king Antiochus, so as to depart every man from the service of the law of his fathers, and consent to his commandments:

20 I and my sons, and my brethren will obey the law of our fathers.

21 God be merciful unto us: it is not profitable for us to forsake the law, and the justices of God:

22 We will not hearken to the words of king Antiochus, neither will we sacrifice, and transgress the commandments of our law, to go another way.

23 Now as he left off speaking these words, there came a certain Jew in the sight of all to sacrifice to the idols upon the

altar in the city of Modin, according to the king's commandment.

24 And Mathathias saw and was grieved, and his reins trembled, and his wrath was kindled according to the judgment of the law, and running upon him he slew him upon the altar:

25 Moreover the man whom king Antiochus had sent, who compelled them to sacrifice, he slew at the same time, and pulled down the altar.

26 And shewed zeal for the law, as Phinees did by Zamri the son of Salomi.

27 And Mathathias cried out in the city with a loud voice, saying: Every one that hath zeal for the law, and maintaineth the testament, let him follow me.

28 So he, and his sons fled into the mountains, and left all that they had in the city.

29 Then many that sought after judgment, and justice, went down into the desert:

30 And they abode there, they and their children, and their wives, and their cattle: because afflictions increased upon them.

31 And it was told to the king's men, and to the army that was in Jerusalem in the city of David, that certain men who had broken the king's commandment, were gone away into the secret places in the wilderness, and that many were gone after them.

32 And forthwith they went out towards them, and made war against them on the sabbath day,

33 And they said to them: Do you still resist? come forth, and do according to the edict of king Antiochus, and you shall live.

34 And they said: We will not come forth, neither will we obey the king's edict, to profane the sabbath day.

35 And they made haste to give them battle.

36 But they answered them not, neither did they cast a stone at them, nor stopped up the secret places,

37 Saying: Let us all die in our innocency: and heaven and earth shall be witnesses for us, that you put us to death wrongfully.

38 So they gave them battle on the sabbath: and they were slain with their wives, and their children, and their cattle, to the number of a thousand persons.

39 And Mathathias and his friends heard of it, and they mourned for them exceedingly.

40 And every man said to his neighbour: If we shall all do as our brethren have done, and not fight against the heathens for our lives, and our justifications: they will now quickly root us out of the earth.

41 And they determined in that day, saying: Whosoever shall come up against us to fight on the sabbath day, we will fight against him: and we will not all die, as our brethren that were slain in the secret places.

42 Then was assembled to them the congregation of the Assideans, the stoutest of Israel, every one that had a good will for the law.

43 And all they that fled from the evils, joined themselves to them, and were a support to them.

44 And they gathered an army, and slew the sinners in their wrath, and the wicked men in their indignation: and the rest fled to the nations for safety.

45 And Mathathias and his friends went round about, and they threw down the altars:

46 And they circumcised all the children whom they found in the confines of Israel that were uncircumcised: and they did valiantly.

47 And they pursued after the children of pride, and the work prospered in their hands:

48 And they recovered the law out of the hands of the nations, and out of the hands of the kings: and they yielded not the horn to the sinner.

49 Now the days drew near that Mathathias should die, and he said to his sons: Now hath pride and chastisement gotten strength, and the time of destruction, and the wrath of indignation:

50 Now therefore, O my sons, be ye zealous for the law, and give your lives for the covenant of your fathers.

51 And call to remembrance the works of the fathers, which they have done in their generations: and you shall receive great glory, and an everlasting name.

52 Was not Abraham found faithful in temptation, and it was reputed to him unto justice?

53 Joseph in the time of his distress kept the commandment, and he was made lord of Egypt.

54 Phinees our father, by being fervent in the zeal of God, received the covenant of an everlasting priesthood.

55 Jesus, whilst he fulfilled the word, was made ruler in Israel.

56 Caleb, for bearing witness before the congregation, received

an inheritance.

57 David by his mercy obtained the throne of an everlasting kingdom.

58 Elias, while he was full of zeal for the law, was taken up into heaven.

59 Ananias and Azarias and Misael by believing, were delivered out of the flame.

60 Daniel in his innocency was delivered out of the mouth of the lions.

61 And thus consider through all generations: that none that trust in him fail in strength.

62 And fear not the words of a sinful man, for his glory is dung, and worms:

63 To day he is lifted up, and to morrow he shall not be found, because he is returned into his earth; and his thought is come to nothing.

64 You therefore, my sons, take courage, and behave manfully in the law: for by it you shall be glorious.

65 And behold, I know that your brother Simon is a man of counsel: give ear to him always, and he shall be a father to you.

66 And Judas Machabeus who is valiant and strong from his youth up, let him be the leader of your army, and he shall manage the war of the people.

67 And you shall take to you all that observe the law: and revenge ye the wrong of your people.

68 Render to the Gentiles their reward, and take heed to the

precepts of the law.

69 And he blessed them, and was joined to his fathers.

70 And he died in the hundred and forty-sixth year: and he was buried by his sons in the sepulchres of his fathers in Modin, and all Israel mourned for him with great mourning.

Ch 3:1 Then his son Judas, called Machabeus, rose up in his stead.

2 And all his brethren helped him, and all they that had joined themselves to his father, and they fought with cheerfulness the battle of Israel.

3 And he got his people great honour, and put on a breastplate as a giant, and girt his warlike armour about him in battles, and protected the camp with his sword.

4 In his acts he was like a lion, and like a lion's whelp roaring for his prey.

5 And he pursued the wicked and sought them out, and them that troubled his people he burnt with fire:

6 And his enemies were driven away for fear of him, and all the workers of iniquity were troubled: and salvation prospered in his hand.

7 And he grieved many kings, and made Jacob glad with his works, and his memory is blessed for ever.

8 And he went through the cities of Juda, and destroyed the wicked out of them, and turned away wrath from Israel.

9 And he was renowned even to the utmost part of the earth, and he gathered them that were perishing.

10 And Apollonius gathered together the Gentiles, and a numerous and great army from Samaria, to make war against Israel.

11 And Judas understood it, and went forth to meet him: and he overthrew him, and killed him: and many fell down slain, the rest fled away.

12 And he took their spoils, and Judas took the sword of Apollonius, and fought with it all his lifetime.

13 And Seron captain of the army of Syria heard that Judas had assembled a company of the faithful, and a congregation with him,

14 And he said: I will get me a name, and will be glorified in the kingdom, and will overthrow Judas, and those that are with him, that have despised the edict of the king.

15 And he made himself ready: and the host of the wicked went up with him, strong succours, to be revenged of the children of Israel.

16 And they approached even as far as Bethoron: and Judas went forth to meet him, with a small company.

17 But when they saw the army coming to meet them, they said to Judas: How shall we, being few, be able to fight against so great a multitude and so strong, and we are ready to faint with fasting to day?

18 And Judas said: It is an easy matter for many to be shut up in the hands of a few: and there is no difference in the sight of the God of heaven to deliver with a great multitude, or with a small company:

19 For the success of war is not in the multitude of the army, but strength cometh from heaven.

20 They come against us with an insolent multitude, and with pride, to destroy us, and our wives, and our children, and to take our spoils.

21 But we will fight for our lives and our laws:

22 And the Lord himself will overthrow them before our face: but as for you, fear them not.

23 And as soon as he had made an end of speaking, he rushed suddenly upon them: and Seron and his host were overthrown before him:

24 And he pursued him by the descent of Bethoron even to the plain, and there fell of them eight hundred men, and the rest fled into the land of the Philistines.

25 And the fear of Judas and of his brethren, and the dread of them fell upon all the nations round about them.

26 And his fame came to the king, and all nations told of the battles of Judas.

27 Now when king Antiochus heard these words, he was angry in his mind: and he sent and gathered the forces of all his kingdom, an exceeding strong army.

28 And he opened his treasury, and gave out pay to the army for a year: and he commanded them, that they should be ready for all things.

29 And he perceived that the money of his treasures failed, and that the tributes of the country were small because of the dissension, and the evil that he had brought upon the land, that he might take away the laws of old times:

30 And he feared that he should not have as formerly enough, for charges and gifts, which he had given before with a liberal

hand: for he had abounded more than the kings that had been before him.

31 And he was greatly perplexed in mind, and purposed to go into Persia, and to take tributes of the countries, and to gather much money.

32 And he left Lysias, a nobleman of the blood royal, to oversee the affairs of the kingdom, from the river Euphrates even to the river of Egypt:

33 And to bring up his son Antiochus, till he came again.

34 And he delivered to him half the army, and the elephants: and he gave him charge concerning all that he would have done, and concerning the inhabitants of Judea, and Jerusalem:

35 And that he should send an army against them, to destroy and root out the strength of Israel, and the remnant of Jerusalem, and to take away the memory of them from that place:

36 And that he should settle strangers to dwell in all their coasts, and divide their land by lot.

37 So the king took the half of the army that remained, and went forth from Antioch the chief city of his kingdom, in the hundred and forty-seventh year: and he passed over the river Euphrates, and went through the higher countries.

38 Then Lysias chose Ptolemee the son of Dorymenus, and Nicanor, and Gorgias, mighty men of the king's friends.

39 And he sent with them forty thousand men, and seven thousand horsemen: to go into the land of Juda, and to destroy it according to the king's orders.

40 So they went forth with all their power, and came, and

pitched near Emmaus in the plain country.

41 And the merchants of the countries heard the fame of them: and they took silver and gold in abundance, and servants: and they came into the camp, to buy the children of Israel for slaves: and there were joined to them the forces of Syria, and of the land of the strangers.

42 And Judas and his brethren saw that evils were multiplied, and that the armies approached to their borders: and they knew the orders the king had given to destroy the people and utterly abolish them.

43 And they said every man to his neighbour: Let us raise up the low condition of our people, and let us fight for our people, and our sanctuary.

44 And the assembly was gathered that they might be ready for battle: and that they might pray, and ask mercy and compassion.

45 Now Jerusalem was not inhabited, but was like a desert: there was none of her children that went in or out: and the sanctuary was trodden down: and the children of strangers were in the castle, there was the habitation of the Gentiles: and joy was taken away from Jacob, and the pipe and harp ceased there.

46 And they assembled together, and came to Maspha over against Jerusalem: for in Maspha was a place of prayer heretofore in Israel.

47 And they fasted that day, and put on haircloth, and put ashes upon their heads: and they rent their garments:

48 And they laid open the books of the law, in which the Gentiles searched for the likeness of their idols:

49 And they brought the priestly ornaments, and the firstfruits and tithes, and stirred up the Nazarites that had fulfilled their days:

50 And they cried with a loud voice toward heaven, saying: What shall we do with these, and whither shall we carry them?

51 For thy holies are trodden down, and are profaned, and thy priests are in mourning, and are brought low.

52 And behold the nations are come together against us to destroy us: thou knowest what they intend against us.

53 How shall we be able to stand before their face, unless thou, O God, help us?

54 Then they sounded with trumpets, and cried out with a loud voice.

55 And after this Judas appointed captains over the people, over thousands, and over hundreds, and over fifties, and over tens.

56 And he said to them that were building houses, or had betrothed wives, or were planting vineyards, or were fearful, that they should return every man to his house, according to the law.

57 So they removed the camp, and pitched on the south side of Emmaus.

58 And Judas said: Gird yourselves, and be valiant men, and be ready against the morning, that you may fight with these nations that are assembled against us to destroy us and our sanctuary.

59 For it is better for us to die in battle, than to see the evils of our nation, and of the holies:

60 Nevertheless as it shall be the will of God in heaven so be it done.

Ch 4:1 Then Gorgias took five thousand men, and a thousand of the best horsemen: and they removed out of the camp by night.

2 That they might come upon the camp of the Jews, and strike them suddenly: and the men that were of the castle were their guides.

3 And Judas heard of it, and rose up, he and the valiant men, to attack the king's forces that were in Emmaus.

4 For as yet the army was dispersed from the camp.

5 And Gorgias came by night into the camp of Judas, and found no man, and he sought them in the mountains: for he said: These men flee from us.

6 And when it was day, Judas shewed himself in the plain with three thousand men only, who neither had armour nor swords.

7 And they saw the camp of the Gentiles that it was strong, and the men in breastplates, and the horsemen round about them, and these were trained up to war.

8 And Judas said to the men that were with him: Fear ye not their multitude, neither be ye afraid of their assault.

9 Remember in what manner our fathers were saved in the Red Sea, when Pharaoh pursued them with a great army.

10 And now let us cry to heaven: and the Lord will have mercy on us, and will remember the covenant of our fathers, and will destroy this army before our face this day:

11 And all nations shall know that there is one that redeemeth and delivereth Israel.

12 And the strangers lifted up their eyes, and saw them coming against them.

13 And they went out of the camp to battle, and they that were with Judas sounded the trumpet.

14 And they joined battle: and the Gentiles were routed, and fled into the plain.

15 But all the hindmost of them fell by the sword, and they pursued them as far as Gezeron, and even to the plains of Idumea, and of Azotus, and of Jamnia: and there fell of them to the number of three thousand men.

16 And Judas returned again with his army that followed him,

17 And he said to the people: Be not greedy of the spoils: for there is war before us:

18 And Gorgias and his army are near us in the mountain: but stand ye now against our enemies, and overthrow them, and you shall take the spoils afterwards with safety.

19 And as Judas was speaking these words, behold part of them appeared looking forth from the mountain.

20 And Gorgias saw that his men were put to flight, and that they had set fire to the camp: for the smoke that was seen declared what was done.

21 And when they had seen this, they were seized with great fear, seeing at the same time Judas and his army in the plain ready to fight.

22 So they all fled away into the land of the strangers.

23 And Judas returned to take the spoils of the camp, and they got much gold, and silver, and blue silk, and purple of the sea,

and great riches.

24 And returning home they sung a hymn, and blessed God in heaven, because he is good, because his mercy endureth for ever.

25 So Israel had a great deliverance that day.

26 And such of the strangers as escaped, went and told Lysias all that had happened.

27 And when he heard these things, he was amazed and discouraged: because things had not succeeded in Israel according to his mind, and as the king had commanded.

28 So the year following Lysias gathered together threescore thousand chosen men, and five thousand horsemen, that he might subdue them.

29 And they came into Judea, and pitched their tents in Bethoron, and Judas met them with ten thousand men.

30 And they saw that the army was strong, and he prayed, and said: Blessed art thou, O Saviour of Israel, who didst break the violence of the mighty by the hand of thy servant David, and didst deliver up the camp of the strangers into the hands of Jonathan the son of Saul and of his armourbearer.

31 Shut up this army in the hands of thy people Israel, and let them be confounded in their host and their horsemen.

32 Strike them with fear, and cause the boldness of their strength to languish, and let them quake at their own destruction.

33 Cast them down with the sword of them that love thee: and let all that know thy name, praise thee with hymns.

34 And they joined battle: and there fell of the army of Lysias five thousand men.

35 And when Lysias saw that his men were put to flight, and how bold the Jews were, and that they were ready either to live, or to die manfully, he went to Antioch, and chose soldiers, that they might come again into Judea with greater numbers.

36 Then Judas, and his brethren said: Behold our enemies are discomfited: let us go up now to cleanse the holy places and to repair them.

37 And all the army assembled together, and they went up into mount Sion.

38 And they saw the sanctuary desolate, and the altar profaned, and the gates burnt, and shrubs growing up in the courts as in a forest, or on the mountains, and the chambers joining to the temple thrown down.

39 And they rent their garments, and made great lamentation, and put ashes on their heads:

40 And they fell face down to the ground on their faces, and they sounded with the trumpets of alarm, and they cried towards heaven.

41 Then Judas appointed men to fight against them that were in the castle, till they had cleansed the holy places.

42 And he chose priests without blemish, whose will was set upon the law of God:

43 And they cleansed the holy places, and took away the stones that had been defiled into an unclean place.

44 And he considered about the altar of holocausts that had been profaned, what he should do with it.

45 And a good counsel came into their minds, to pull it down: lest it should be a reproach to them, because the Gentiles had defiled it; so they threw it down.

46 And they laid up the stones in the mountain of the temple in a convenient place, till there should come a prophet, and give answer concerning them.

47 Then they took whole stones according to the law, and built a new altar according to the former:

48 And they built up the holy places, and the things that were within the temple: and they sanctified the temple, and the courts.

49 And they made new holy vessels, and brought in the candlestick, and the altar of incense, and the table into the temple.

50 And they put incense upon the altar, and lighted up the lamps that were upon the candlestick, and they gave light in the temple.

51 And they set the loaves upon the table, and hung up the veils, and finished all the works that they had begun to make.

52 And they arose before the morning on the five and twentieth day of the ninth month (which is the month of Casleu) in the hundred and forty-eighth year.

53 And they offered sacrifice according to the law upon the new altar of holocausts which they had made.

54 According to the time, and according to the day wherein the heathens had defiled it, in the same was it dedicated anew with canticles, and harps, and lutes, and cymbals.

55 And all the people fell upon their faces, and adored, and

blessed up to heaven, him that had prospered them.

56 And they kept the dedication of the altar eight days, and they offered holocausts with joy, and sacrifices of salvation, and of praise.

57 And they adorned the front of the temple with crowns of gold, and escutcheons, and they renewed the gates, and the chambers, and hanged doors upon them.

58 And there was exceeding great joy among the people, and the reproach of the Gentiles was turned away.

59 And Judas, and his brethren, and all the church of Israel decreed, that the day of the dedication of the altar should be kept in its season from year to year for eight days, from the five and twentieth day of the month of Casleu, with joy and gladness.

60 They built up also at that time mount Sion, with high walls, and strong towers round about, lest the Gentiles should at any time come, and tread it down as they did before.

61 And he placed a garrison there to keep it, and he fortified it to secure Bethsura, that the people might have a defence against Idumea.

Ch 5:1 Now it came to pass, when the nations round about heard that the altar and the sanctuary were built up as before, that they were exceeding angry.

2 And they thought to destroy the generation of Jacob that were among them, and they began to kill some of the people, and to persecute them.

3 Then Judas fought against the children of Esau in Idumea, and them that were in Acrabathane: because they beset the Israelites around about, and he made a great slaughter of them.

4 And he remembered the malice of the children of Ben: who were a snare and a stumblingblock to the people, by lying in wait for them in the way.

5 And they were shut up by him in towers, and he set upon them, and devoted them to utter destruction, and burnt their towers with fire, and all that were in them.

6 Then he passed over to the children of Ammon, where he found a mighty power, and much people, and Timotheus was their captain:

7 And he fought many battles with them, and they were discomfited in their sight, and he smote them:

8 And he took the city of Gazer and her towns, and returned into Judea.

9 And the Gentiles that were in Galaad, assembled themselves together against the Israelites that were in their quarters to destroy them: and they fled into the fortress of Datheman.

10 And they sent letters to Judas and his brethren, saying, The heathens that are round about are gathered together against us, to destroy us:

11 And they are preparing to come, and to take the fortress into which we are fled: and Timotheus is the captain of their host.

12 Now therefore come, and deliver us out of their hands, for many of us are slain.

13 And all our brethren that were in the places of Tubin, are killed: and they have carried away their wives, and their children, captives, and taken their spoils, and they have slain there almost a thousand men.

14 And while they were yet reading these letters, behold there

came other messengers out of Galilee with their garments rent, who related according to these words:

15 Saying, that they of Ptolemais, and of Tyre, and of Sidon, were assembled against them, and all Galilee is filled with strangers, in order to consume us.

16 Now when Judas and all the people heard these words, a great assembly met together to consider what they should do for their brethren that were in trouble, and were assaulted by them.

17 And Judas said to Simon his brother: Choose thee men, and go, and deliver thy brethren in Galilee: and I, and my brother Jonathan will go into the country of Galaad.

18 And he left Joseph the son of Zacharias, and Azarias captains of the people with the remnant of the army in Judea to keep it:

19 And he commanded them, saying: Take ye the charge of this people: but make no war against the heathens, till we return.

20 Now three thousand men were allotted to Simon, to go into Galilee: and eight thousand to Judas to go into the land of Galaad.

21 And Simon went into Galilee, and fought many battles with the heathens: and the heathens were discomfited before his face, and he pursued them even to the gate of Ptolemais.

22 And there fell of the heathens almost three thousand men, and he took the spoils of them,

23 And he took with him those that were in Galilee and in Arbatis with their wives, and children, and all that they had, and he brought them into Judea with great joy.

24 And Judas Machabeus, and Jonathan his brother passed over the Jordan, and went three days' journey through the desert.

25 And the Nabutheans met them, and received them in a peaceable manner, and told them all that happened to their brethren in the land of Galaad,

26 And that many of them were shut up in Barasa, and in Bosor, and in Alima, and in Casphor, and in Mageth, and in Carnaim: all these strong and great cities.

27 Yea, and that they were kept shut up in the rest of the cities of Galaad, and that they had appointed to bring their army on the morrow near to these cities, and to take them and to destroy them all in one day.

28 Then Judas and his army suddenly turned their march into the desert, to Bosor, and took the city: and he slew every male by the edge of the sword, and took all their spoils, and burnt it with fire.

29 And they removed from thence by night, and went till they came to the fortress.

30 And it came to pass that early in the morning, when they lifted up their eyes, behold there were people without number, carrying ladders and engines to take the fortress, and assault them.

31 And Judas saw that the fight was begun, and the cry of the battle went up to heaven like a trumpet, and a great cry out of the city:

32 And he said to his host: Fight ye to day for your brethren.

33 And he came with three companies behind them, and they sounded their trumpets, and cried out in prayer.

34 And the host of Timotheus understood that it was Machabeus, and they fled away before his face: and they made a great slaughter of them: and there fell of them in that day almost eight thousand men.

35 And Judas turned aside to Maspha, and assaulted, and took it, and he slew every male thereof, and took the spoils thereof, and burnt it with fire.

36 From thence he marched, and took Casbon, and Mageth, and Bosor, and the rest of the cities of Galaad.

37 But after this Timotheus gathered another army, and camped over against Raphon beyond the torrent.

38 And Judas sent men to view the army: and they brought him word, saying: All the nations, that are round about us, are assembled unto him an army exceeding great:

39 And they have hired the Arabians to help them, and they have pitched their tents beyond the torrent, ready to come to fight against thee. And Judas went to meet them.

40 And Timotheus said to the captains of his army: When Judas and his army come near the torrent of water, if he pass over unto us first, we shall not be able to withstand him: for he will certainly prevail over us.

41 But if he be afraid to pass over, and camp on the other side of the river, we will pass over to them and shall prevail against him.

42 Now when Judas came near the torrent of water, he set the scribes of the people by the torrent, and commanded them, saying: Suffer no man to stay behind: but let all come to the battle.

43 And he passed over to them first, and all the people after

him, and all the heathens were discomfited before them, and they threw away their weapons, and fled to the temple that was in Carnaim.

44 And he took that city, and the temple he burnt with fire, with all things that were therein: and Carnaim was subdued, and could not stand against the face of Judas.

45 And Judas gathered together all the Israelites that were in the land of Galaad, from the least even to the greatest, and their wives, and children, and an army exceeding great, to come into the land of Juda.

46 And they came as far as Ephron: now this was a great city situate in the way, strongly fortified, and there was no means to turn from it on the right hand or on the left, but the way was through the midst of it.

47 And they that were in the city, shut themselves in, and stopped up the gates with stones: and Judas sent to them with peaceable words,

48 Saying: Let us pass through your land, to go into our country: and no man shall hurt you: we will only pass through on foot. But they would not open to them.

49 Then Judas commanded proclamation to be made in the camp, that they should make an assault every man in the place where he was.

50 And the men of the army drew near, and he assaulted that city all the day, and all the night, and the city was delivered into his hands:

51 And they slew every male with the edge of the sword, and he razed the city, and took the spoils thereof, and passed through all the city over them that were slain.

52 Then they passed over the Jordan to the great plain that is over against Bethsan.

53 And Judas gathered together the hindmost, and he exhorted the people all the way through, till they came into the land of Juda.

54 And they went up to mount Sion with joy and gladness, and offered holocausts, because not one of them was slain, till they had returned in peace.

55 Now in the days that Judas and Jonathan were in the land of Galaad, and Simon his brother in Galilee before Ptolemais,

56 Joseph the son of Zacharias, and Azarias captain of the soldiers, heard of the good success, and the battles that were fought.

57 And he said: Let us also get us a name, and let us go fight against the Gentiles that are round about us.

58 And he gave charge to them that were in his army, and they went towards Jamnia.

59 And Gorgias and his men went out of the city, to give them battle.

60 And Joseph and Azarias were put to flight, and were pursued unto the borders of Judea: and there fell, on that day, of the people of Israel about two thousand men, and there was a great overthrow of the people:

61 Because they did not hearken to Judas, and his brethren, thinking that they should do manfully.

62 But they were not of the seed of those men by whom salvation was brought to Israel.

63 And the men of Juda were magnified exceedingly in the sight of all Israel, and of all the nations where their name was heard.

64 And people assembled to them with joyful acclamations.

65 Then Judas and his brethren went forth and attacked the children of Esau, in the land toward the south, and he took Chebron, and her towns: and he burnt the walls thereof and the towers all round it.

66 And he removed his camp to go into the land of the aliens, and he went through Samaria.

67 In that day some priests fell in battle, while desiring to do manfully they went out unadvisedly to fight.

68 And Judas turned to Azotus into the land of the strangers, and he threw down their altars, and he burnt the statues of their gods with fire: and he took the spoils of the cities, and returned into the land of Juda.

Thank you:

for reading. I hope this has served to give you a new perspective on this thing called Hanukkah. I hope, at this point, it is appropriate to share my concerns with you.

I have been in the company of many Christians who literally detest just about anything that they perceive to be Jewish. That grieves me. They say, "I won't celebrate that! That's a Jewish holiday." Honestly, Christians, we have to grow up. We have to show better love for our neighbors.

For centuries now, people who say, "I am a Christian," have done horrible things to the Jews. Look at the decree of the Anti-Christ, Antiochus, which we spoke of earlier. Now, if you know some basic History, you will hear the same phrases repeated in some "Christian" creeds.

" The king sent messengers carrying letters to Jerusalem and the surrounding towns of Judah. He directed Jews to **follow customs that had been unknown in the land**. He banned the regular practices of entirely burned offerings, sacrifices, and drink offerings in the sanctuary. **He banned the observance of sabbaths and feast days**. The

sanctuary and its priests were to be defiled. They should build new altars, together with sacred precincts and shrines for idols. They should sacrifice **pigs and other ritually impure animals**. Jews were **no longer to circumcise** their sons. They were supposed to make themselves repulsive to God by doing unclean and improper acts. All of this was intended to make them **forget the Law and change its regulations. Whoever didn't obey the king would die.** - I Maccabees 1:44-50 CEB

I don't want to align with garbage laws against Jews. I don't want to be **that** person. I'm sure you might say, "I am NOT that person. I don't hate Jewish people." But I ask, "Who do you associate with?" Is it a group who says "I love Jesus, the King of the Jews," yet disparages His people?

"If anyone was caught in **possession of a copy of the covenant scroll or if anyone kept to the Law**, that person was condemned to death by royal decree." I Maccabees 1:57

Here is a Roman Catholic proclamation. (Canon XXIX) "Christians must not **judaise by resting on the Sabbath**, but **must work** on that day, rather honouring the Lord's Day (Note: by the way, there is no separate day called The Lord's Day in scripture.

His day is Sabbath); and, if they can, **resting then as Christians**. But if any shall be found to be judaizers, let them be **anathema** from Christ.”
(Council of Laodicea - 364 AD. Percival Translation).

Now, I am not here to take away your Christmas. I just want us to open to the celebration of traditional Bible feasts and sabbaths and to receive the blessings that are packaged therein.

I also want to point to you that the people who gave us laws against things that were considered Jewish (both Antiochus and Rome) went about enforcing those laws (and others) with imprisonment and brutality to men, women, and even babies.

Again. I don't want to be that guy, the guy that just shrugs off the fact that Jewish people have historically been treated badly by many Christians.

So, now, if not for pure enjoyment, education, and, perhaps, worship - how about learning a little about Jewish stuff out of a spirit of reconciliation. How about considering the fact that curses were spoken over anyone who curses Abraham and Isaac's descendants. If you call yourself a Christian, chances are your ancestors (whether they were Christian or

not) would have partaken in some form of these wicked actions against the Jews. If this is the case, there is a literal curse that has been placed on you and spoken by God. A real curse. I'm not kidding.

Did Jesus take our curses on the cross? Yes. But we have to reject the curse. If we embrace the cursing of Jews, we embrace the curse that God proclaimed upon us. We, in effect, receive it with open arms. If we want to reject the curse, we need to turn from (repent from) cursing the Jew and bless the Jew. We need to receive the blessing as we bless the Jews.

Hanukkah is a great time to bless Jewish people. It's a perfect opportunity to put a menorah in your window and bring a smile to the Jewish man who drives by. It's a beautiful time to send a Hanukkah card to a Jewish friend. It does not dishonor the King of the Jews to honor a "Jewish" holiday.

It is possible that you have unknowingly held onto a curse that is not meant for you, a child of the King. You are meant to receive favor and blessing. Lay claim to that blessing in the name of Jesus your King.

Ancestral or familiar curses are a real thing.

Would you like to do a little spiritual warfare right now? If your ancestors have cursed the Jews in any way, those curses will carry on for the third and fourth generation. Here is a sample prayer for zapping that curse with the blood of the Lamb and moving forward in victory.

"Gracious and Mighty Father in Heaven. I plead upon the blood of Jesus/Yeshua. I ask forgiveness for acting against or speaking against the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. I ask that you cleanse me from all unrighteousness and hear my plea before your throne. In your presence, Father, I repent of the sins of my father, his father, his father, and his father as well. I pray for the breaking of the curses and the opening of your supernatural blessing and provision. You are the mighty Yahweh, the provider. I receive your blessing in the name of Jesus/Yeshua. From this point on, may I bless Israel, and may I be a blessing to Israel. May your Name be lifted high in all the world. Amen. Halleluyah!"

Thank you again for taking the time to read through this booklet. I hope that it is a useful resource and that it will be a tiny key in opening the door to understanding, wisdom, and blessing.

Please take time to send me your reviews on Amazon and your comments on torahis.com. I would love it if you would share this with your friends, family and your church. We are in peculiar times. You never know who might need this simple addition of Hanukkah to their Holiday season. It can bless someone who has been seeking an opportunity to connect to the ancient root of their faith. Be blessed and keep smiling.

- Paul (paulbass.net and torahis.com)

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