

# Hanukkah Readings

*for the Believer*

Now it was the Feast of Dedication in Jerusalem  
And it was winter.  
And Jesus [ *Y'shua* ] walked in the temple,  
In Solomon's porch.  
*John 10:22-23*

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## ~ Forward ~

Shalom Aleichem (Peace be unto you),

It is our hope that this booklet will encourage you to begin experiencing the joys of the festival of *Hanukkah* which commemorates the deliverance and rededication of the Temple of *YHVH* after it had been defiled by Antiochus Epiphanies.

The material presented in this booklet is written merely as a suggested format to help us focus on the faithfulness of our Creator God. We believe that as you begin to discover the many lessons found in this festival, you will come to see how especially helpful it can be both in our own learning experience and in the teaching of our children about God's faithfulness.

The story of *Hanukkah* (which means 'Dedication' in Hebrew) began in 167 BCE when Antiochus Epiphanies (king of the Selucid Empire) defiled the Temple in Jerusalem by killing a pig and having its blood sprinkled on the Altar of Sacrifice. He then set up an image of Zeus in the Holy Place. Some say this image actually carried the face of Antiochus himself, and that the statutes of Zeus which exist today carry those same facial features.

According to tradition, three years after this event, on the very same day (Chislev 25), the Maccabees (a Jewish family of the priestly line of Aaron) began what is now called *Hanukkah*, an annual eight day celebration of the rededication of the Temple. After the city of Jerusalem had been liberated of its oppressors, the Temple was cleansed and repaired. All the preparations had been made to begin the dedication ceremony when they discovered there was only enough consecrated *Menorah* oil to burn for one day. It would have taken another eight days to properly prepare a new batch of oil. However, they decided not to postpone the *Hanukkah* (dedication) ceremony because they desired to begin Temple service on the very same day of the year in which it had been defiled. So, they proceeded to light the lamps of the *Menorah* in complete faith that God would provide the light (just as He had provided them

victory over the Syrian army by their ragtag guerrilla warriors), and the one day supply of oil miraculously lasted for the full eight days.

Because of this 'miracle of the lights,' Jewish people around the world continue to celebrate the festival of *Hanukkah* each year beginning on *Chislev* 25. While it is not a 'commanded' festival like Passover, *Shavu'ot*, and *Sukkot*, it is a festival that *Yeshua* celebrated (John 10:22), and it brims over with meaning and symbolism. In addition, it may be tied to both the conception of *Yeshua HaMashiach* (Jesus the Messiah) and certain prophecies found in the book of *Daniel*. (See *Hebrew Roots* Issue 98-4 for more details.)

The methods given for the lighting of the candles and reciting of the blessings come from the traditions of the Jewish people. The Scripture readings have been gathered from a number of sources and New Testament readings have been included in order to bring the life and teachings of our Messiah, *Yeshua*, into better focus with these days.

All of the Scripture readings have been taken from the *Complete Jewish Bible*, translated by David H. Stern, published by Jewish New Testament Publications, Inc., Clarksville, MD, 1998. For those interested in obtaining a copy of this newly published Bible, it is available through *Messianic Jewish Resources International*, 6204 Park Heights Ave., Baltimore, MD 21215, 1-800-410-7367.

One other note: Dr. Stern has chosen to use the Hebrew word "*Adonai*" in place of the tetragrammaton (gegi) instead of using the word LORD as is common in most English Bibles. Please feel free to translate this word into whatever usage you are most comfortable with, such as: "LORD," "*HaShem*," "The Eternal," or one of the various 'Sacred Names.'

May the peace of God  
be with you always,

Dean & Susan Wheelock

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# ~ Observing Hanukkah ~

One very important thing to remember when observing the festival of *Hanukkah*, is that it is a festival of celebration. It is not necessary to observe all of the festival rituals that are common to the Jewish tradition, but on the other hand, it is certainly not wrong to do so. Sometimes it is helpful to begin the observance of a festival that is new to us in the same manner that others have developed. Then, after following their lead, we can begin to add our own touches, making it a more personal family type of festival.

The first requirement for a modern celebration of *Hanukkah* is to acquire a special *Menorah*, called the *Hanukiah* (Hah-new-key-ah). If you wish, you can make your own. The *Hanukiah* has a total of nine candle holders, one of which is elevated to a higher position, and called the 'Helper' or *Shamash*.

The traditional method for lighting the *Hanukiah* is to begin after the sun is down but before traffic has ceased to pass on the street. One candle is placed in the 'Helper' (highest) position, and one candle is placed in the lower position for each day of *Hanukkah* that has occurred. On the first day, place the *Shamash* (helper or servant candle) in its position, plus one other candle on the far right side of the holder. On the second day place the *Shamash* plus two other candles on the far right side of the holder; on the third day, the *Shamash* plus three, etc.

Each day we will:

- 1.) Begin by lighting the *Shamash* (helper or servant candle).
- 2.) Say a *B'rakhah* (blessing).
- 3.) Use the *Shamash* to light the other candle(s).
- 4.) Read some appropriate Scriptures.

Each night the proper number of candles are placed in the *Hanukiah* beginning at the right and then proceeding to the left. However, when they are lit, the lighting begins on the left (with the candle which represents the current day) and proceeds to the right.

After the candles have been lit, it is customary to sing and celebrate with a nice meal, and play some games too, especially if

there are children present. In more modern times it has become customary in Jewish homes to give a small gift to each child on each evening of *Hanukkah*.

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## ~ Scripture Readings ~

It is always good to support what we do in the celebration of a festival by reading Scriptures which enhance our family's understanding of the meaning of that particular day. The following readings have been selected to provide an emphasis on *Hanukkah* as the 'Festival of Lights,' and we encourage you to find additional Scriptures that fit with this theme or with the theme of 'dedicating' oneself to the service of God. Above all, make this a happy occasion; one that all people present will remember fondly and with anticipation of its repetition each year.

Remember that each day of *Hanukkah* begins at sundown the evening prior to the date listed on the calendar. For example, if the first day of *Hanukkah* is December 21st on the Roman calendar, the candle lighting for the first day would take place after sunset on December 20th.

### Day One

- 1.) Place a candle in the position reserved for the *Shamash* (the servant candle which is set apart from the other eight candles by being elevated). Place another candle in the holder on the far right side of the *Hanukiah*.
- 2.) Light the *Shamash*, and as you do, say:  
"Yeshua said; 'I am the Light of the world.'"
- 3.) Recite the following blessings: (Alternate readers, if you like.)  
"Blessed are you O Lord our God, King of the Universe, who has sanctified our lives through His commandments, and has allowed us to kindle the *Hanukkah* lights."



"Blessed are you O Lord our God, King of the Universe, who performed miracles for our ancestors, in those days, in this season."

"Blessed are you O Lord our God, King of the Universe, for giving life, for sustaining us, and for helping us to reach this moment."

- 4.) Pick up the *Shamash* and use it to light the other candle, and as you do, say:

"Those who follow *Yeshua* shall not walk in darkness."

- 5.) Recite the following blessing:

"We kindle these lights to commemorate the miracles, wonders, triumphs and victories which You performed through Your holy priests for our ancestors in those days, in this season. These lights are sacred (*set apart*) for all eight days of Hanukkah. It is forbidden to make any use of them except to look at them in order to praise Your great name for Your miracles, wonders and triumphs."

(According to tradition these lights are permitted to provide light only for the purpose of remembrance.)

- 6.) Read the following Scriptures:

## Numbers 7:1-17

"On the day Moshe (*Moses*) finished putting up the tabernacle, he anointed and consecrated it, all its furnishings, and the altar with its utensils. After anointing and consecrating them, the leaders of Isra'el, who were heads of their father's clans made an offering. These were the tribal leaders in charge of those counted in the census. They brought their offering before *Adonai*, six covered wagons and twelve oxen -- a wagon for every two leaders and for each an ox -- and presented them in front of the tabernacle.

"*Adonai* said to Moshe, 'Receive these from them; they are to be used for the service in the tent of meeting. Give them to the *L'vi'im* (Levites), to each as needed for his duties.' So Moshe took the wagons and oxen and gave them to the *L'vi'im*. He gave two wagons and four oxen to the descendants of Gershon, in keeping with the needs of their duties. Four wagons and eight oxen he gave the descendants of M'rari, in keeping with the needs of their duties, directed by Itamar the son of Aharon the *cohen* (priest). But to the descendants of K'hat he gave none, because their duties involved the holy articles, which they carried on their own shoulders.

"The leaders brought the offering for dedicating the altar on the day it was anointed. The leaders brought their offering before the altar, and

*Adonai* said to Moshe, 'They are to present their offerings to dedicate the altar, each leader on his own day.'

"Nachshon the son of 'Amminadav, from the tribe of Y'hudah (*Judah*). presented his offering on the first day. He offered one silver dish weighing 130 *shekels* [three-and-a-quarter pounds] and one silver basin of seventy *shekels* (using the sanctuary *shekel*) [one-and-three-quarters pounds], both full of fine flour mixed with olive oil for a grain offering; one gold pan of ten *shekels* [one-quarter pound], full of incense; one young bull, one ram, one male lamb in its first year as a burnt offering, one male goat as a sin offering, and, for the sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five male goats and five male lambs in their first year. This was the offering of Nachshon the son of 'Amminadav."

## Genesis 1:1-5, 14-18

"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was unformed and void, darkness was on the face of the deep, and the Spirit of God hovered over the surface of the water. Then God said, 'Let there be light;' and there was light. God saw that the light was good, and God divided the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. So there was evening, and there was morning, one day."

"God said, 'Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to divide the day from the night; let them be for signs, seasons, days and years; and let them be for lights in the dome of the sky to give light to the earth;' and that is how it was. God made the two great lights -- the larger light to rule the day and the smaller light to rule the night -- and the stars. God put them in the dome of the sky to give light to the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from the darkness; and God saw that it was good."

## Psalms 30

"I will exalt you, *Adonai*, because you drew me up;  
you didn't let my enemies rejoice over me.

*Adonai* my god, I cried out to you,  
and you provided healing for me.

*Adonai*, you lifted me up from Sh'ol;  
you kept me alive when I was sinking into a pit.

"Sing praise to *Adonai*, you faithful of his;  
and give thanks on recalling his holiness.

For his anger is momentary,  
but his favor lasts a lifetime.

Tears may linger for the night,

but with dawn come cries of joy.

"Once I was prosperous and used to say,  
that nothing could ever shake me--  
when you showed me favor, *Adonai*,  
I was firm as a mighty mountain.  
But when you hid your face,  
I was struck with terror.

"I called to you, *Adonai*;  
to *Adonai* I pleaded for mercy:  
'What advantage is there in my death,  
in my going down to the pit?  
Can the dust praise you?  
Can it proclaim your truth?  
Hear me, *Adonai*, and show me your favor!  
*Adonai*, be my helper.'

"You turned my mourning into dancing!  
You removed my sackcloth and clothed me with joy,  
so that my well-being can praise you and not be silent;  
*Adonai* my God, I will thank you forever!"

## John 10:22-42

"Then came *Hanukkah* in Yerushalayim (*Jerusalem*). It was winter, and Yeshua was walking around inside the Temple area, in Shlomo's (*Solomon's*) Colonnade. So the Judeans surrounded him and said to him, 'How much longer are you going to keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us publicly!' Yeshua answered them, 'I have already told you, and you don't trust me. The works I do in my Father's name testify on my behalf, but the reason you don't trust is that you are not included among my sheep. My sheep listen to my voice, I recognize them, they follow me, and I give them eternal life. They will absolutely never be destroyed, and no one will snatch them from my hands. My Father, who gave them to me, is greater than all; and no one can snatch from the Father's hands. I and the Father are one.'

"Once again the Judeans picked up rocks in order to stone him. Yeshua answered them, 'You have seen me do many good deeds that reflect the Father's power; for which one of these deeds are you stoning me?' The Judeans replied, 'We are not stoning you for any good deed, but for blasphemy -- because you, who are only a man, are making yourself out to be God [Hebrew: *Elohim*].' Yeshua answered them, 'Isn't it written in your *Torah*, '**You people are *Elohim*'?**\* If he called '*elohim*' the people to whom the word of *Elohim* was addressed (and the *Tanakh* [Old Testament]

cannot be broken), then are you telling the one whom the Father set apart as holy and sent into the world, "You are committing blasphemy," just because I said, "I am a son of *Elohim*?"

"If I am not doing deeds that reflect my Father's power, don't trust me. But if I am, then, even if you don't trust me, trust the deeds; so that you may understand once and for all that the Father is united with me, and I am united with the Father.' One more time they tried to arrest him, but he slipped out of their hands.

"He went off again beyond the Yarden (*Jordan*), where Yochanan (*John*) had been immersing at first, and stayed there. Many people came to him and said, 'Yochanan performed no miracles, but everything Yochanan said about this man was true.' And many people there put their trust in him."

- 7.) Sing praises to God, pray together, play games, and/or tell the story of *Hanukkah*. (See Appendix A.)

## Day Two

- 1.) Place a candle in the position reserved for the *Shamash*. Place candles in the two holders on the right side of the *Hanukiah* beginning with the candle on the far right.
- 2.) Light the *Shamash*, and as you do, say:  
"Yeshua said; 'I am the Light of the world.'"
- 3.) Recite the following blessings:  
"Blessed are you O Lord our God, King of the Universe, who has sanctified our lives through His commandments, and has allowed us to kindle the *Hanukkah* lights."  
  
"Blessed are you O Lord our God, King of the Universe, who performed miracles for our ancestors, in those days, in this season."
- 4.) Take the *Shamash* and use it to light the other two candles beginning with the candle on the left, thereby first lighting the candle representing the current night, and as you do say:  
"Those who follow *Yeshua* shall not walk in darkness."
- 5.) Recite the following blessing:  
"We kindle these lights to commemorate the miracles, wonders, triumphs and victories which You performed

through Your holy priests for our ancestors in those days, in this season. These lights are sacred (*set apart*) for all eight days of Hanukkah. It is forbidden to make any use of them except to look at them in order to praise Your great name for Your miracles, wonders and triumphs."

6.) Read the following Scriptures:

## Numbers 7:18-23

"On the second day N'tan'el the son of Tzu'ar, leader of Yissakhar (*Issachar*), presented his offering. He offered one silver dish weighing 130 *shekels* [three-and-a-quarter pounds] and one silver basin of seventy *shekels* (using the sanctuary *shekel*) [one-and-three-quarters pounds], both full of fine flour mixed with olive oil for a grain offering; one gold pan of ten *shekels* [one-quarter pound], full of incense; one young bull, one ram, one male lamb in its first year as a burnt offering, one male goat as a sin offering, and, for the sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five male goats and five male lambs in their first year. This was the offering of N'tan'el the son of Tzu'ar."

## Isaiah 5:20-24

"Woe to those who call evil good  
and good evil,  
who change darkness into light  
and light into darkness,  
who change bitter into sweet  
and sweet into bitter!

"Woe to those seeing themselves as wise,  
esteeming themselves as clever.

"Woe to those who are heroes at drinking wine,  
men whose power goes to mixing strong drinks,  
who acquit the guilty for bribes  
but deny justice to the righteous!  
Therefore, as fire licks up the stubble,  
and the chaff is consumed in the flame;  
so their root will rot,  
and their flowers scatter like dust;  
because they have rejected the *Torah*  
of *Adonai-Tzva'ot*,  
they have despised the word  
of the Holy One of Isra'el."

## Psalm 113

"*Halleluyah!*

"Servants of *Adonai*, give praise!  
Give praise to the name of *Adonai*!  
Blessed be the name of *Adonai*  
from this moment on and forever!  
From sunrise until sunset  
*Adonai's* name is to be praised.

"*Adonai* is high above all nations,  
his glory above the heavens.  
Who is like *Adonai* our God,  
seated in the heights,  
humbling himself to look  
on heaven and on earth.

"He raises the poor from the dust,  
lifts the needy from the rubbish heap,  
in order to give him a place among princes,  
among the princes of his people.

"He causes the childless woman  
to live at home happily as a mother of children.

"*Halleluyah!*"

## Luke 1:5-25, 57-79

"In the days of Herod, King of Y'hudah (*Judah*), there was a *cohen* (priest) named Z'kharyah (*Zachariah*) who belonged to the Aviyah division. His wife was a descendant of Aharon (*Aaron*), and her name was Elisheva (*Elizabeth*). Both of them were righteous before God, observing all the *mitzvot* (commandments) and ordinances of *Adonai* blamelessly. But they had no children, because Elisheva was barren; and they were both well along in years.

"One time, when Z'kharyah was fulfilling his duties as *cohen* during his division's period of service before God, he was chosen by lot (according to the custom among the *cohanim* [priests]) to enter the Temple and burn incense. All the people were outside, praying, at the time of the incense burning, when there appeared to him an angel of *Adonai* standing to the right of the incense altar. Z'kharyah was startled and terrified at the sight. But the angel said to him, 'Don't be afraid, Z'kharyah; because your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elisheva will bear you a son, and you are to name him Yochanan (*John*). He will be a joy and a delight to you, and many people will rejoice when he is born, for he will be great in the sight of

*Adonai*. He is never to drink wine or other liquor, and he will be filled with the *Ruach HaKodesh* (the Holy Spirit) even from his mother's womb. He will turn many of the people of Isra'el to *Adonai* their God. He will go out ahead of *Adonai* in the spirit and power of Eliyahu (*Elijah*) to **turn the hearts of fathers to their children** and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous, to make ready for *Adonai* a people prepared.'

"Z'kharyah said to the angel, 'How can I be sure of this? For I am an old man; my wife too is well on in years.' 'I am Gavri'el (*Gabriel*),' the angel answered him, 'and I stand in the presence of God. I was sent to speak to you, to give you this good news. Now, because you didn't believe what I said, which will be fulfilled when the time comes, you will be silent, unable to speak until the day these things take place.'

"Meanwhile, the people were waiting for Z'kharyah; they were surprised at his taking so long in the Temple. But when he came out unable to talk to them, they realized that he had seen a vision in the Temple; speechless, he communicated to them with signs.

"When his period of his Temple service was over, he returned home. Following this, Elisheva his wife conceived, and she remained five months in seclusion, saying, '*Adonai* has done this for me; he has shown me favor at this time, so as to remove my public disgrace.' ...

"The time arrived for Elisheva to have her baby, and she gave birth to a son, Her neighbors and relatives heard how good *Adonai* had been to her, and they rejoiced with her.

"On the eighth day, they came to do the child's *b'rit-milah* (circumcision). They were about to name him Z'kharyah, after his father, when his mother spoke up and said, 'No, he is to be called Yochanan.' They said to her, 'None of your relatives has that name,' and they made signs to his father to find out what he wanted him called. He motioned for a writing tablet, and to everyone's surprise he wrote, 'His name is Yochanan.' At that moment, his power of speech returned, and his first words were a *b'rakhah* (blessing) to God. All their neighbors were awestruck; and throughout the hill country of Y'hudah, people talked about all these things. Everyone who heard of them said to himself, 'What is this child going to be?' For clearly the hand of *Adonai* was with him.

"His father Z'kharyah was filled with the *Ruach HaKodesh* and spoke this prophecy:

**"Praised be Adonai, the God of Isra'el,**

because he has visited and made a ransom to liberate his people  
by raising up for us a mighty Deliverer  
who is a descendant of his servant David.

It is just as he has spoken

through the mouth of the prophets from the very beginning--  
that we should be delivered from our enemies  
and from the power of all who hate us.

"This has happened so that he might show  
the mercy promised to our fathers--  
that he would remember his holy covenant,  
the oath he swore before Avraham *avinu* (our father Abraham)  
to grant us that we, freed from our enemies,  
would serve him without fear,  
in holiness and righteousness  
before him all our days.

"You, child, will be called a prophet of *Ha'Elyon* (The Most High);

you will **go before the Lord to prepare his way**  
by spreading the knowledge among his people  
that deliverance comes by having sins forgiven  
through our God's most tender mercy,  
which causes the Sunrise to visit us from Heaven,  
to **shine upon those in darkness, living in the shadow of death,**  
and to guide our feet into the paths of peace."

"The child grew and became strong in spirit, and he lived in the wilderness until the time came for him to appear in public to Isra'el."

- 7.) Sing praises to God, pray together, play games, and/or tell the story of *Hanukkah*. (See Appendix A.)

## Day Three

- 1.) Place a candle in the position reserved for the *Shamash*. Place candles in the three holders on the right side of the *Hanukiah* beginning with the candle on the far right.
- 2.) Light the *Shamash*, and as you do, say:  
"Yeshua said; 'I am the Light of the world.'"
- 3.) Recite the following blessings:  
"Blessed are you O Lord our God, King of the Universe, who has sanctified our lives through His commandments, and has allowed us to kindle the *Hanukkah* lights."  
"Blessed are you O Lord our God, King of the Universe, who performed miracles for our ancestors, in those days, in this season."
- 4.) Take the *Shamash* and use it to light the other three



candles beginning with the candle on the left and as you do say:

"Those who follow *Yeshua* shall not walk in darkness."

5.) Recite the following blessing:

"We kindle these lights to commemorate the miracles, wonders, triumphs and victories which You performed through Your holy priests for our ancestors in those days, in this season. These lights are sacred (*set apart*) for all eight days of Hanukkah. It is forbidden to make any use of them except to look at them in order to praise Your great name for Your miracles, wonders and triumphs."

6.) Read the following Scriptures:

### Numbers 7:24-29

"On the third day Eli'av the son of Helon, leader of Z'vulun (*Zebulun*), presented his offering. He offered one silver dish weighing 130 *shekels* [three-and-a-quarter pounds] and one silver basin of seventy *shekels* (using the sanctuary *shekel*) [one-and-three-quarters pounds], both full of fine flour mixed with olive oil for a grain offering; one gold pan of ten *shekels* [one-quarter pound], full of incense; one young bull, one ram, one male lamb in its first year as a burnt offering, one male goat as a sin offering, and, for the sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five male goats and five male lambs in their first year. This was the offering of Eli'av the son of Helon."

Psalms 115:5-6; Job 24:13,17; Job 18:5-6; Job 12:25;  
Jeremiah 25:10; Ezekiel 32:8; Isaiah 42:18

"...they have eyes, but they can't see;  
they have ears, but they can't hear;"

"There are those who rebel against the light--  
they don't know its ways or stay in its paths. ...  
For to all of them deep darkness is like morning,  
for the terrors of deep darkness are familiar to them."

"The light of the wicked will flicker and die,  
not a spark from his fire will shine,  
the light in his tent is darkened,  
the lamp over him will be snuffed out."

"They grope in unlit darkness;  
he makes them stagger like drunks."

"Moreover, I will silence among them the sounds of joy and gladness,  
the voices of bridegroom and bride, the grinding of millstones  
and  
the light of lamps."

"All the shining lights in the sky  
I will darken above you;  
I will spread darkness over your land,'  
says *Adonai Elohim*."

"Listen, you deaf! Look, you blind!--  
so that you will see!"

## Psalm 114

"When Isra'el came out of Egypt,  
the house of Ya'akov (*Jacob*) from a people of foreign speech,  
Y'hudah (*Judah*) became [God's] sanctuary,  
Isra'el his domain.

"The sea saw this and fled;  
the Yarden (*Jordan*) turned back;  
the mountains skipped like rams,  
the hills like young sheep.

"Why is it, sea, that you flee?  
Why, Yarden, do you turn back?  
Why, mountains, do you skip like rams;  
and you hills like young sheep?

"Tremble, earth, at the presence of *Adonai*,  
at the presence of the God of Ya'akov,  
who turned the rock into a pool of water,  
flint into flowing spring."

## I Thessalonians 5:2-11

"...you yourselves well know that the Day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When people are saying, 'Everything is so peaceful and secure,' then sudden destruction will suddenly come upon them, the way labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there is no way they will escape.

"But you, brothers, are not in the dark, so that the Day should take you by surprise like a thief; for you are all people who belong to the light, who belong to the day. We don't belong to the night or to darkness, so let's not be asleep, like the rest are; on the contrary, let us stay alert and sober.

People who sleep, sleep at night; and people who get drunk, get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us stay sober, **putting on** trust and love **as a breastplate and the hope of being delivered as a helmet**. For God has not intended that we should experience his fury, but that we should gain deliverance through our Lord Yeshua the Messiah, who died on our behalf so that whether we are alive or dead, we may live along with him. Therefore, encourage each other, and build each other up..."

- 7.) Sing praises to God, pray together, play games,  
and/or tell the story of *Hanukkah*. (Appendix A.)

## Day Four

- 1.) Place a candle in the position reserved for the *Shamash*.  
Place candles in the four holders on the right side of the *Hanukiah* beginning with the candle on the far right.
- 2.) Light the *Shamash*, and as you do, say:  
"Yeshua said; 'I am the Light of the world.'"
- 3.) Recite the following blessings:  
"Blessed are you O Lord our God, King of the Universe,  
who has sanctified our lives through His commandments,  
and has allowed us to kindle the *Hanukkah* lights."  
"Blessed are you O Lord our God, King of the Universe,  
who performed miracles for our ancestors, in those days,  
in this season."
- 4.) Take the *Shamash* and use it to light the other four  
candles beginning with the candle on the left and as  
you do say:  
"Those who follow *Yeshua* shall not walk in darkness."
- 5.) Recite the following blessing:  
"We kindle these lights to commemorate the miracles,  
wonders, triumphs and victories which You performed  
through Your holy priests for our ancestors in those days,  
in this season. These lights are sacred (*set apart*) for all  
eight days of Hanukkah. It is forbidden to make any use  
of them except to look at them in order to praise Your  
great name for Your miracles, wonders and triumphs."
- 6.) Read the following Scriptures:

## Numbers 7:30-35

"On the fourth day was Elitzur the son of Sh'de'ur, leader of the descendants of Re'uven (*Reuben*). He offered one silver dish weighing 130 *shekels* [three-and-a-quarter pounds] and one silver basin of seventy *shekels* (using the sanctuary *shekel*) [one-and-three-quarters pounds], both full of fine flour mixed with olive oil for a grain offering; one gold pan of ten *shekels* [one-quarter pound], full of incense; one young bull, one ram, one male lamb in its first year as a burnt offering, one male goat as a sin offering, and, for the sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five male goats and five male lambs in their first year. This was the offering of Elitzur the son of Sh'de'ur."

## Isaiah 42:5-7; 45:7; 42:16

"Thus says God, *Adonai*,  
who created the heavens and spread them out,  
who stretched out the earth and all that grows from it,  
who gives breath to the people on it  
and spirit to those who walk on it:  
'I, *Adonai*, called you righteously,  
I took hold of you by the hand,  
I shaped you and made you a covenant for the people,  
to be a light for the *Goyim* (Nations),  
so that you can open blind eyes,  
free the prisoners from confinement,  
those living in darkness from the dungeon."

"I form light, I create darkness;  
I make well-being, I create woe;  
I, *Adonai*, do all these things."

"The blind I will lead on a road they don't know,  
on roads they don't know I will lead them;  
I will turn darkness to light before them,  
and straighten their twisted paths."

## Psalms 115

"Not to us, *Adonai*, not to us,  
but to your name give glory,  
because of your grace and truth.

"Why should the nations ask,

'Where is their God?'  
Our God is in heaven;  
he does whatever pleases him.

"Their idols are mere silver and gold,  
made by human hands.  
They have mouths, but they can't speak;  
they have eyes, but they can't see;  
they have ears, but they can't hear;  
they have noses, but they can't smell;  
they have hands, but they can't feel;  
they have feet, but they can't walk;  
with their throats they can't make a sound.  
The people who make them will become like them,  
along with everyone who trusts in them.

"Isra'el, trust in *Adonai*!  
He is their help and shield.  
House of Aharon (*Aaron*), trust in *Adonai*!  
He is their help and shield.  
You who fear *Adonai*, trust in *Adonai*!  
He is their help and shield.  
*Adonai* has kept us in mind,  
and he will bless.  
He will bless the house of Isra'el;  
he will bless the house of Aharon;  
he will bless those who fear *Adonai*,  
great and small alike.

"May *Adonai* increase your numbers,  
both yours and those of your children.  
May you be blessed by *Adonai*,  
the maker of heaven and earth.  
Heaven belongs to *Adonai*,  
but the earth he has given to humankind.

"The dead can't praise *Adonai*,  
not those who sink down into silence.  
But we will bless *Adonai*  
from now on and forever.

"*Halleluyah!*"

## Acts 9:1-22

"Meanwhile, Sha'ul (*Saul*), still breathing murderous threats against the Lord's *talmidim* (disciples), went to the *cohen hagadol* (high priest) and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Dammeseek (*Damascus*), authorizing him to arrest any people he might find, whether men or women, who belonged to 'the Way,' and bring them back to Yerushalayim (*Jerusalem*).

"He was on the road and nearing Dammeseek, when suddenly a light from heaven flashed all around him. Falling to the ground, he heard a voice saying to him, 'Sha'ul! Sha'ul! Why do you keep persecuting me?' 'Sir, who are you?' he asked. 'I am Yeshua, and you are persecuting me. But get up, and go into the city, and you will be told what you have to do.'

"The men traveling with him stood speechless, hearing the voice but seeing no one. They helped Sha'ul get up off the ground; but when he opened his eyes, he could see nothing. So, leading him by the hand, they brought him into Dammeseek. For three days he remained unable to see, and he neither ate nor drank.

"There was a *talmid* (disciple) in Dammeseek, Hananyah by name; and in a vision the Lord said to him, 'Hananyah!' He said, 'Here I am, Lord.' The Lord said to him 'Get up and go to Straight Street, to Y'hudah's house; and ask for a man from Tarsus named Sha'ul; for he is praying, and in a vision he has seen a man named Hananyah coming in and placing his hands on him to restore his sight.' But Hananyah answered, 'Lord, many have told me about this man, how much harm he has done to your people in Yerushalayim; and here he has a warrant from the head *cohanim* (priests) to arrest everyone who calls on your name.' But the Lord said to him, 'Go, because this man is my chosen instrument to carry my name to the *Goyim* (gentiles), even to their kings, and to the sons of Isra'el as well. For I myself will show him how much he will have to suffer on account of my name.'

"So Hananyah left and went into the house. Placing his hands on him, he said, 'Brother Sha'ul, the Lord -- Yeshua, the one who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here -- has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the *Ruach HaKodesh* (the Holy Spirit).' In that moment, something like scales fell away from Sha'ul's eyes; and he could see again. He got up and was immersed; then he ate some food and regained his strength.

"Sha'ul spent some days with the *talmidim* in Dammeseek, and immediately he began proclaiming in the synagogues that Yeshua is the Son of God. All who heard him were amazed. They asked, 'Isn't he the man who in Yerushalayim was trying to destroy the people who call on this name? In fact, isn't that why he came here, to arrest them and bring them back to the head *cohanim*?' But Sha'ul was being filled with more and more

power and was creating an uproar among the Jews living in Dammesek with his proofs that Yeshua is the Messiah."

- 7.) Sing praises to God, pray together, play games, and/or tell the story of *Hanukkah*. (See Appendix A.)

## Day Five

- 1.) Place a candle in the position reserved for the *Shamash*. Place five candles in the *Hanukiah* beginning with the candle on the far right.
- 2.) Light the *Shamash*, and as you do, say:  
"Yeshua said; 'I am the Light of the world.'"
- 3.) Recite the following blessings:  
"Blessed are you O Lord our God, King of the Universe, who has sanctified our lives through His commandments, and has allowed us to kindle the *Hanukkah* lights."  
  
"Blessed are you O Lord our God, King of the Universe, who performed miracles for our ancestors, in those days, in this season."
- 4.) Take the *Shamash* and use it to light the other five candles beginning with the candle on the left and as you do say:  
"Those who follow Yeshua shall not walk in darkness."
- 5.) Recite the following blessing:  
"We kindle these lights to commemorate the miracles, wonders, triumphs and victories which You performed through Your holy priests for our ancestors in those days, in this season. These lights are sacred (*set apart*) for all eight days of Hanukkah. It is forbidden to make any use of them except to look at them in order to praise Your great name for Your miracles, wonders and triumphs."
- 6.) Read the following Scriptures:

## Numbers 7:36-41

"On the fifth day was Shlumi'el the son of Tzurishaddai, leader of descendants of Shim'on (*Simeon*). He offered one silver dish weighing 130 *shekels* [three-and-a-quarter pounds] and one silver basin of seventy *shekels* (using the sanctuary *shekel*) [one-and-three-quarters pounds], both full of

fine flour mixed with olive oil for a grain offering; one gold pan of ten *shekels* [one-quarter pound], full of incense; one young bull, one ram, one male lamb in its first year as a burnt offering, one male goat as a sin offering, and, for the sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five male goats and five male lambs in their first year. This was the offering of Shlumi'el the son of Tzurishaddai."

Psalms 13:4; 139:12; Daniel 9:17;

Psalms 43:3; 36:10; 18:29

Proverbs 20:27; Psalm 56:14; Job 33:28

"Look, and answer me, *Adonai* my God!

Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep the sleep of death."

"...even darkness like this

is not too dark for you;

rather, night is as clear as day,

darkness and light are the same."

"Therefore, our God, listen to the prayer and pleadings of your servant; and cause your face to shine on your desolated sanctuary, for your own sake."

"Send out your light and your truth;

let them be my guide;

let them lead me to your holy mountain,

to the places where you live."

"For with you is the fountain of life;

in your light we see light."

"For you, *Adonai*, light my lamp;

*Adonai*, my God, lights up my darkness."

"The human spirit is a lamp of *Adonai*;

it searches one's inmost being."

"For you rescued me from death,

you kept my feet from stumbling,

so that I can walk in God's presence,

in the light of life."

"[God] redeemed me from going into the pit,

and now my life sees light."



## Psalm 116

"I love that *Adonai* heard  
my voice when I prayed;  
because he turned his ear to me,  
I will call on him as long as I live.

"The cords of death were all around me,  
Sh'ol's (*hell's*) constrictions held me fast;  
I was finding only distress and anguish.  
But I called on the name of *Adonai*:  
'Please, *Adonai*! Save me!'

"*Adonai* is merciful and righteous;  
yes, our God is compassionate.  
*Adonai* preserves the thoughtless;  
when I was brought low, he saved me.  
My soul, return to your rest!  
For *Adonai* has been generous toward you.  
Yes, you have rescued me from death,  
my eyes from tears and my feet from falling.  
I will go on walking in the presence of *Adonai*  
in the lands of the living.  
I will keep on trusting even when I say,  
'I am utterly miserable,'  
even when, in my panic, I declare,  
'Everything human is deceptive.'

"How can I repay *Adonai*  
for all his generous dealings with me?  
I will raise the cup of salvation  
and call on the name of *Adonai*.  
I will pay my vows to *Adonai*  
in the presence of all his people.

"From *Adonai's* point of view,  
the death of those faithful to him is costly.  
Oh, *Adonai*! I am your slave;  
I am your slave, the son of your slave-girl;  
you have removed my fetters.  
I will offer a sacrifice of thanks to you  
and will call on the name of *Adonai*.  
I will pay my vows to *Adonai*  
in the presence of all his people,  
in the courtyards of *Adonai's* house,  
there in your very heart, Yerushalayim (*Jerusalem*).  
"*Halleluyah!*"

## Luke 1:26-55

"In the sixth month, the angel Gavri'el (*Gabriel*) was sent by God to a city in the Galil (*Galilee*) called Natzeret (*Nazareth*), to a virgin engaged to a man named Yosef (*Joseph*), of the house of David; the virgin's name was Miryam (*Mary*). Approaching her, the angel said, '*Shalom*, favored lady! *Adonai* is with you!' She was deeply troubled by his words and wondered what kind of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, 'Don't be afraid, Miryam, for you have found favor with God. Look! You will become pregnant, you will give birth to a son, and you are to name him Yeshua. He will be great, he will be called Son of *Ha'Elyon* (the Most High). *Adonai*, God, will give him the throne of his forefather David; and he will rule the House of Ya'akov (*Jacob*) forever -- there will be no end to his Kingdom.' 'How can this be,' asked Miryam of the angel, 'since I am a virgin?' The angel answered her,

"The *Ruach HaKodesh* (Holy Spirit) will come over you,  
the power of *Ha'Elyon* will cover you.  
Therefore the holy child born to you  
will be called the Son of God.

You have a relative, Elisheva (*Elizabeth*), who is an old woman; and everyone says she is barren. But she has conceived a son and is six months pregnant! For with God, nothing is impossible.' Miryam said, 'I am the servant of *Adonai*; may it happen to me as you have said.'

"Without delay, Miryam set out and hurried to the town in the hill country of Y'hudah (*Judah*) where Z'kharyah (*Zachariah*) lived, entered his house and greeted Elisheva. When Elisheva heard Miryam's greeting, the baby in her womb stirred, Elisheva was filled with the *Ruach HaKodesh* and spoke up in a loud voice,

"How blessed are you among women!  
And how blessed is the child in your womb!

'But who am I, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For as soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy! Indeed you are blessed, because you have trusted that the promise *Adonai* has made to you will be fulfilled.'

"Then Miryam said,

"My soul magnifies, *Adonai*;  
and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior,  
who has taken notice of his servant-girl  
For -- imagine it! -- from now on, all generations will call me  
blessed!

The Mighty One has done great things for me!  
Indeed, his name is holy; and in every generation

he has **mercy on those who fear him.**  
 "He has performed mighty deeds with his arm,  
 routed the secretly proud,  
 brought down rulers from their thrones,  
 raised up the humble,  
 filled the hungry with good things,  
 but sent the rich away empty.  
 "He has taken the part of his servant Isra'el,  
 mindful of the mercy  
 which he promised to our fathers,  
 to Avraham and his seed forever.'

Miryam stayed with Elisheva for about three months and then returned home."

- 7.) Sing praises to God, pray together, play games, and/or tell the story of *Hanukkah*. (See Appendix A.)

## Day Six

- 1.) Place a candle in the position reserved for the *Shamash*. Place six candles in the *Hanukiah* beginning with the candle on the far right.
- 2.) Light the *Shamash*, and as you do, say:  
 "Yeshua said; 'I am the Light of the world.'"
- 3.) Recite the following blessings:  
 "Blessed are you O Lord our God, King of the Universe, who has sanctified our lives through His commandments, and has allowed us to kindle the *Hanukkah* lights."  
 "Blessed are you O Lord our God, King of the Universe, who performed miracles for our ancestors, in those days, in this season."
- 4.) Take the *Shamash* and use it to light the other six candles beginning with the candle on the left and as you do say:  
 "Those who follow Yeshua shall not walk in darkness."
- 5.) Recite the following blessing:  
 "We kindle these lights to commemorate the miracles, wonders, triumphs and victories which You performed through Your holy priests for our ancestors in those days, in this season. These lights are sacred (*set apart*) for all

eight days of Hanukkah. It is forbidden to make any use of them except to look at them in order to praise Your great name for Your miracles, wonders and triumphs."

6.) Read the following Scriptures:

Numbers 7:42-47

"On the sixth day was Elyasaf the son of De'u'el, leader of descendants of Gad. He offered one silver dish weighing 130 *shekels* [three-and-a-quarter pounds] and one silver basin of seventy *shekels* (using the sanctuary *shekel*) [one-and-three-quarters pounds], both full of fine flour mixed with olive oil for a grain offering; one gold pan of ten *shekels* [one-quarter pound], full of incense; one young bull, one ram, one male lamb in its first year as a burnt offering, one male goat as a sin offering, and, for the sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five male goats and five male lambs in their first year. This was the offering of Elyasaf the son of De'u'el."

Psalms 27:1; 104:1-2; 119:105; 19:9

Proverbs 6:23

"*Adonai* is my light and salvation;  
whom do I need fear?  
*Adonai* is the stronghold of my life;  
of whom should I be afraid?"

"Bless *Adonai*, my soul!  
*Adonai*, my God, you are very great;  
you are clothed with glory and majesty,  
wrapped in light as with a robe.  
You spread out the heavens like a curtain."

"Your word is a lamp for my foot  
and a light on my path."

"The precepts of *Adonai* are right,  
rejoicing the heart.  
The *mitzvah* (commandment) of *Adonai* is pure,  
enlightening the eyes."

"For the *mitzvah* is a lamp, *Torah* is light,  
and reproofs that discipline are the way to life."

## Psalm 117

"Praise *Adonai*, you nations!  
Worship him, all you peoples!  
For his grace toward us is great,  
and *Adonai's* truth continues forever.

"*Halleluyah*"

## II Corinthians 4:5-6; John 1:1-18; 8:12

"... what we are proclaiming is ... the Messiah Yeshua as Lord ...  
For it is the God who once said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' who has  
made his light shine in our hearts, the light of the knowledge of God's glory  
shining in the face of the Messiah Yeshua."

"In the beginning was the Word,  
and the Word was with God,  
and the Word was God.  
He was with God in the beginning.  
All things came to be through him,  
and without him nothing made had being.  
In him was life,  
and the life was the light of mankind.  
The light shines in the darkness,  
and the darkness has not suppressed it.

There was a man sent from God whose name was Yochanan (*John*). He  
came to be a testimony, to bear witness concerning the light; so that through  
him, everyone might put his trust in God and be faithful to him. He himself  
was not that light; no, he came to bear witness concerning the light.

"This was the true light,  
which gives light to everyone entering the world.  
He was in the world -- the world came to be through him --  
yet the world did not know him.  
He came to his own homeland,  
yet his own people did not receive him.

But to as many as did receive him, to those who put their trust in his person  
and power, he gave the right to become children of God, not because of  
bloodline, physical impulse or human intention, but because of God.

"The Word became a human being and lived with us,

and we saw his *Sh'khinah* (Divine Presence),  
The *Sh'khinah* of the Father's only son,  
full of grace and truth.

Yochanan witnessed concerning him when he cried out, "This is the man I was talking about when I said, "The one coming after me has come to rank ahead of me, because he existed before me."

"We have all received from his fullness,  
yes, grace upon grace.

For the *Torah* was given through Moshe (*Moses*);  
grace and truth came through Yeshua the Messiah."

"Yeshua spoke to them again: 'I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light which gives life.'"

- 7.) Sing praises to God, pray together, play games, and/or tell the story of *Hanukkah*. (See Appendix A.)

## Day Seven

- 1.) Place a candle in the position reserved for the *Shamash*. Place seven candles in the *Hanukiah* beginning with the candle on the far right.
- 2.) Light the *Shamash*, and as you do, say:  
"Yeshua said; 'I am the Light of the world.'"
- 3.) Recite the following blessings:  
"Blessed are you O Lord our God, King of the Universe, who has sanctified our lives through His commandments, and has allowed us to kindle the *Hanukkah* lights."  
"Blessed are you O Lord our God, King of the Universe, who performed miracles for our ancestors, in those days, in this season."
- 4.) Take the *Shamash* and use it to light the other seven candles beginning with the candle on the left and as you do say:  
"Those who follow Yeshua shall not walk in darkness."
- 5.) Recite the following blessing:  
"We kindle these lights to commemorate the miracles, wonders, triumphs and victories which You performed through Your holy priests for our ancestors in those days,

in this season. These lights are sacred (*set apart*) for all eight days of Hanukkah. It is forbidden to make any use of them except to look at them in order to praise Your great name for Your miracles, wonders and triumphs."

6.) Read the following Scriptures:

Numbers 7:48-53

"On the seventh day was Elishama the son of 'Ammihud, leader of descendants of Efrayim (*Ephraim*) He offered one silver dish weighing 130 *shekels* [three-and-a-quarter pounds] and one silver basin of seventy *shekels* (using the sanctuary *shekel*) [one-and-three-quarters pounds], both full of fine flour mixed with olive oil for a grain offering; one gold pan of ten *shekels* [one-quarter pound], full of incense; one young bull, one ram, one male lamb in its first year as a burnt offering, one male goat as a sin offering, and, for the sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five male goats and five male lambs in their first year. This was the offering of Elishama the son of 'Ammihud."

Proverbs 4:18; Psalms 97:11-12; Isaiah 9:1

Exodus 10:23; Isaiah 60:1; 2:5

"... the path of the righteous is like the light of dawn,  
shining ever brighter until full daylight."

"Light is sown for the righteous  
and joy for the upright in heart.  
Rejoice in *Adonai*, you righteous;  
and give thanks on recalling his holiness."

"The people living in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
upon those living in the land that lies  
in the shadow of death, light has dawned."

"People couldn't see each other, and no one went anywhere for three days. But all the people of Isra'el had light in their homes."

"Arise shine [*Yerushalayim*],  
for your light has come,  
the glory of *Adonai*  
has risen over you."

"Descendants of Ya'akov (*Jacob*), come!  
Let's live in the light of *Adonai*!"

## Psalm 118

"Give thanks to *Adonai*; for he is good,  
for his grace continues forever.  
Now let Isra'el say,  
'His grace continues forever.'  
Now let the house of Aharon (*Aaron*) say,  
'His grace continues forever.'  
Now let those who fear *Adonai* say,  
'His grace continues forever.'

"From my being hemmed in I called on *Yah*;  
he answered and gave me more room.  
With *Adonai* on my side, I fear nothing --  
what can human beings do to me?  
With *Adonai* on my side as my help,  
I will look with triumph at those who hate me.

"It is better to take refuge in *Adonai*  
than to trust in human beings;  
better to take refuge in *Adonai*  
than to put one's trust in princes.

"The nations all surrounded me;  
in the name of *Adonai* I cut them down.  
They surrounded me on every side  
in the name of *Adonai* I cut them down.  
They surrounded me like bees  
but were extinguished [as quickly] as a fire in thorns;  
in the name of *Adonai* I cut them down.

"You pushed me hard to make me fall,  
but *Adonai* helped me.  
*Yah* is my strength and my song,  
and he has become my salvation.

"The sound of rejoicing and victory  
is heard in the tents of the righteous:  
'*Adonai's* right hand struck powerfully!  
*Adonai's* right hand is raised in triumph!  
*Adonai's* right hand struck powerfully!'

"I will not die; no, I will live  
and proclaim the great deeds of *Yah*!  
*Yah* disciplined me severely,  
but did not hand me over to death.

"Open the gates of righteousness for me;  
I will enter them and thank *Yah*.



This is the gate of *Adonai*;  
the righteous can enter it.  
I am thanking you because you answered me;  
you became my salvation.

"The very rock that the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone!  
This has come from *Adonai*,  
and in our eyes it is amazing.  
This is the day *Adonai* has made,  
a day for us to rejoice and be glad.

"Please, *Adonai*! Save us!  
Please, *Adonai*! Rescue us!  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of *Adonai*.  
We bless you from the house of *Adonai*.

"*Adonai* is God, and he gives us light.  
Join in the pilgrim festival with branches  
all the way to the horns of the altar.

"You are my God, and I thank you.  
You are my God; I exalt you.  
Give thanks to *Adonai*; for he is good,  
for his grace continues forever."

## John 12:12-50

"The next day, the large crowd that had come for the festival heard that Yeshua was on his way into Yerushalayim (*Jerusalem*). They took palm branches and went out to meet him shouting,

**"Deliver us!"**

**"Blessed is he who comes in the name of *Adonai*, the King of  
Isra'el!"**

After finding a donkey colt, Yeshua mounted it, just as the *Tanakh* (Old Testament) says --

**"Daughter of Tziyon (*Zion*), don't be afraid!"**

**Look! your King is coming,  
sitting on a donkey's colt.'**

His *talmidim* (disciples) did not understand this at first; but after Yeshua had been glorified, then they remembered that the *Tanakh* said this about him, and that they had done this for him. The group that had been with him when he called El'azar out of the tomb and raised him from the dead had been telling about it. It was because of this too that the crowd came out to meet him -- they had heard that he had performed this miracle. The *P'rushim*

(Pharisees) said to each other, 'Look, you're getting nowhere! Why, the whole world has gone after him!'

"Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greek-speaking Jews. They approached Philip, the one from Beit-Tzaidah (*Bethsaida*) in the Galil (*Galilee*), with a request. 'Sir,' they said, 'we would like to see Yeshua.' Philip came and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Yeshua. Yeshua gave them this answer: 'The time has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Yes, indeed! I tell you that unless a grain of wheat that falls to the ground dies, it stays just a grain; but if it dies, it produces a big harvest. He who loves his life loses it, but he who hates his life in this world will keep it safe right on into eternal life! If someone is serving me, let him follow me; wherever I am, my servant will be there too. My Father will honor anyone who serves me.

"Now I am in turmoil. What can I say -- "Father, save me from this hour?" No, it was for this very reason that I have come to this hour. I will say this: "Father, glorify your name!" At this a *bat-kol* (voice from heaven) came out of heaven, 'I have glorified it before, and I will glorify it again!' The crowd standing there and hearing it said that it had thundered; others said, 'An angel spoke to him.' Yeshua answered, 'This *bat-kol* did not come for my sake but for yours. Now is the time for this world to be judged, now the ruler of this world will be expelled. As for me, when I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself.' He said this to indicate what kind of death he would die.

"The crowd answered, 'We have learned from the *Torah* that the Messiah remains forever. How is it that you say the Son of Man has to be "lifted up"? Who is this "Son of Man?"' Yeshua said to them, 'The light will be with you only a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, or the dark will overtake you; he who walks in the dark doesn't know where he's going. While you have the light, put your trust in the light, so that you may become people of light.' Yeshua said these things, then went off and kept himself hidden from them.

"Even though he had performed so many miracles in their presence, they still did not put their trust in him, in order that what Yesha'yahu (*Isaiah*) the prophet had said might be fulfilled.

**"Adonai, who has believed our report?**

**To whom has the arm of Adonai been revealed?"**

The reason they could not believe was -- as Yesha'yahu said elsewhere --

**"He has blinded their eyes  
and hardened their hearts,  
so that they do not see with their eyes,  
understand with their hearts,  
and do *t'shuvah* (repentance, return)  
so that I could heal them.'**

(Yesha'yahu said these things because he saw the *Sh'khinah* [Divine Presence] of Yeshua and spoke about him.) Nevertheless, many of the leaders did trust in him; but because of the *P'rushim* they did not say so openly, out of fear of being banned from the synagogue; for they loved praise from other people more than praise from God.

"Yeshua declared publicly, 'Those who put their trust in me are trusting not merely in me, but in the One who sent me. Also those who see me see the One who sent me. I have come as a light into the world, so that everyone who trusts in me might not remain in the dark. If anyone hears what I am saying and does not observe it, I don't judge him; for I did not come to judge the world, but to save the world. Those who reject me and don't accept what I say have a judge -- the word which I have spoken will judge them on the Last Day. For I have not spoken on my own initiative, but the Father who sent me has given me a command, namely, what to say and how to say it. And I know that his command is eternal life. So what I say is simply what the Father has told me to say.'"

- 7.) Sing praises to God, pray together, play games, and/or tell the story of *Hanukkah*. (See Appendix A.)

## Day Eight

- 1.) Place a candle in the position reserved for the *Shamash*. Place eight candles in the *Hanukiah* beginning with the candle on the far right.
- 2.) Light the *Shamash*, and as you do, say:  
"Yeshua said; 'I am the Light of the world.'"
- 3.) Recite the following blessings:  
"Blessed are you O Lord our God, King of the Universe, who has sanctified our lives through His commandments, and has allowed us to kindle the *Hanukkah* lights."  
"Blessed are you O Lord our God, King of the Universe, who performed miracles for our ancestors, in those days, in this season."
- 4.) Take the *Shamash* and use it to light the other eight candles beginning with the candle on the left and as you do say:  
"Those who follow Yeshua shall not walk in darkness."
- 5.) Recite the following blessing:

"We kindle these lights to commemorate the miracles, wonders, triumphs and victories which You performed through Your holy priests for our ancestors in those days, in this season. These lights are sacred (*set apart*) for all eight days of Hanukkah. It is forbidden to make any use of them except to look at them in order to praise Your great name for Your miracles, wonders and triumphs."

6.) Read the following Scriptures:

Numbers 7:54-59

"On the eighth day was Gamli'el the son of P'dahtzur, leader of descendants of M'nasheh (*Manasseh*). He offered one silver dish weighing 130 *shekels* [three-and-a-quarter pounds] and one silver basin of seventy *shekels* (using the sanctuary *shekel*) [one-and-three-quarters pounds], both full of fine flour mixed with olive oil for a grain offering; one gold pan of ten *shekels* [one-quarter pound], full of incense; one young bull, one ram, one male lamb in its first year as a burnt offering, one male goat as a sin offering, and, for the sacrifice of peace offerings, two oxen, five rams, five male goats and five male lambs in their first year. This was the offering of Gamli'el the son of P'dahtzur."

Isaiah 30:26; Zechariah 14:6-7;

Isaiah 60:1-5, 19-20

"Moreover, the light of the moon will be as bright as the light of the sun; and the light of the sun will be seven times stronger, like the light of seven days [in one], on the day *Adonai* binds up the wounds of his people and heals the bruise caused by the blow."

"On that day, there will be neither bright light nor thick darkness; and one day, known to *Adonai*, will be neither day nor night, although by evening there will be light."

"Arise, shine [Yerushalayim], for your light has come, the glory of *Adonai* has risen over you.

For although darkness covers the earth

and thick darkness the peoples;  
on you *Adonai* will rise;  
over you will be seen his glory.  
Nations will go toward your light  
and kings toward your shining splendor.  
Raise your eyes and look around:  
they are all assembling and coming to you;  
your sons are coming from far off,  
your daughters being carried on their nurses' hips.  
Then you will see and be radiant,  
your heart will throb and swell with delight;  
for the riches of the seas will be brought to you,  
the wealth of nations will come to you.

...

"No more will the sun be your light by day,  
nor will moonlight shine on you;  
instead *Adonai* will be your light forever  
and your God your glory.  
No longer will your sun go down;  
your moon will no longer wane;  
for *Adonai* will be your light forever;  
your days of mourning will end."

## Psalm 40:2-11

"I waited patiently for *Adonai*,  
till he turned toward me and heard my cry.  
He brought me up from the roaring pit,  
up from the muddy ooze,  
and set my feet on a rock,  
making my footing firm.  
He put a new song in my mouth,  
a song of praise to our God.  
Many will look on in awe  
and put their trust in *Adonai*.

"How blessed the man who trusts in *Adonai*  
and does not look to the arrogant  
or to those who rely on things that are false.

"How much you have done, *Adonai* my God!  
Your wonders and your thoughts toward us --  
none can compare with you!

I would proclaim them, I would speak about them;  
but there's too much to tell!

"Sacrifices and grain offerings you don't want;  
burnt offerings and sin offerings you don't demand.  
Instead, you have given me open ears;  
so then I said, 'Here I am! I'm coming!  
In the scroll of a book it is written about me.  
Doing your will, my God, is my joy;  
your *Torah* is in my inmost being.  
I have proclaimed what is right in the great assembly,  
I did not restrain my lips, *Adonai*, as you know.  
I did not hide your righteousness in my heart  
but declared your faithfulness and salvation;  
I did not conceal your grace and truth  
from the great assembly.'"

## Ephesians 5:8-20; I John 1:5 - 2:17; 28-29

"For you used to be darkness; but now, united with the Lord, you are light. Live like children of light, for the fruit of the light is in every kind of goodness, rightness and truth -- try to determine what will please the Lord. Have nothing to do with the deeds produced by darkness, but instead expose them, for it is shameful even to speak of the things these people do in secret. But everything exposed to the light is revealed clearly for what it is, since anything revealed is a light. This is why it says,

'Get up, sleeper! Arise from the dead,  
and the Messiah will shine on you!'

"Therefore, pay careful attention to how you conduct your life -- live wisely, not unwisely. Use your time well, for these are evil days. So don't be foolish, but try to understand what the will of the Lord is.

"Don't get drunk with wine, because it makes you lose control. Instead, keep on being filled with the Spirit -- sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to each other; sing to the Lord and make music in your heart to him; always give thanks for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Yeshua the Messiah.

"And this is the message which we have heard from him and proclaim to you: God is light, and there is no darkness in him -- none!

"If we claim to have fellowship with him while we are walking in the darkness, we are lying and not living out the truth. But if we are walking in the light, as he is in the light, then we have fellowship with each other, and the blood of his Son Yeshua purifies us from all sin.

"If we claim not to have sin, we are deceiving ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we acknowledge our sins, then, since he is trustworthy and just, he will forgive them and purify us from all wrongdoing.

"If we claim we have not been sinning, we are making him out to be a liar, and his Word is not in us.

"My children, I am writing you these things so that you won't sin. But if anyone does sin, we have Yeshua the Messiah, the *Tzaddik* (righteous person), who pleads our cause with the Father. Also, he is the *kapparah* (atonement, expiation, propitiation) for our sins -- and not only for ours, but also for those of the whole world.

"The way we can be sure we know him is if we are obeying his commands. Anyone who says, 'I know him,' but doesn't obey his commands is a liar the truth is not in him. But if someone does what he says, then truly love for God has been brought to its goal in him. This is how we are sure that we are united with him. A person who claims to be continuing in union with him ought to conduct his life the way He did.

"Dear friends, I am not writing you a new command. On the contrary, it is an old command, which you have had from the beginning; the old command is the message which you have heard before. Yet I am writing you a new command, and its truth is seen both in him and in you, because the darkness is passing away and the true light is already shining. Anyone who claims to be in this light while hating his brother is still in the dark. The person who keeps loving his brother remains in the light, and there is nothing in him that could make him trip. But the person who hates his brother is in the dark -- yes, he is walking in the dark, and he doesn't know where he is going, because the darkness has blinded his eyes.

"You children, I am writing you  
because your sins have been forgiven for his sake.

You fathers, I am writing you  
because you have known him who has existed from the  
beginning.

You young people, I am writing you  
because you have overcome the Evil One.

You children, I have written you  
because you have known the Father.

You fathers, I have written you  
because you have known him who has existed from the  
beginning.

You young people, I have written you  
because you are strong --  
the Word of God remains in you,  
and you have overcome the Evil One.

Do not love the world or the things of the world. If someone loves the world, then love for the Father is not in him; because all the things of the world -- the desires of the old nature, the desires of the eyes, and the pretensions of life -- are not from the Father but from the world. And the

world is passing away, along with its desires. But whoever does God's will remains forever.

"And now, children, remain united with Him; so that when he appears, we may have confidence and not shrink back from Him in shame at his coming. If you know that he is righteous, you should also know that he is the Father of everyone who does what is right."

## Revelation 21:22 - 22:1-5, 20-21

"I saw no Temple in the city, for *Adonai*, God of heaven's armies, is its Temple, as is the Lamb. The city has no need for the sun or the moon to shine on it, because God's *Sh'khinah* (Divine Presence) gives it light, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their splendor into it. Its gates will never close, they stay open all day because night will not exist there, and the honor and splendor of the nations will be brought into it. Nothing impure may enter it, nor anyone who does shameful things or lies; the only ones who may enter are those whose names are written in the Lamb's Book of Life.

"Next the angel showed me the river of the water of life, sparkling like crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb. Between the main street and the river was the Tree of Life producing twelve kinds of fruit, a different kind every month; and the leaves of the tree were for healing the nations -- no longer will there be any curses. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and his servants will worship him; they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. Night will no longer exist, so they will need neither the light of a lamp nor the light of the sun, because *Adonai*, God, will shine upon them. And they will reign as kings forever and ever.

"The one who is testifying to these things says, "Yes, I am coming soon!"

"*Amen!* Come, Lord Yeshua!

"May the grace of the Lord Yeshua be with all!"

- 7.) Sing praises to God, pray together, play games, and/or tell the story of *Hanukkah*. (See Appendix A.)

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

~ Happy Hanukkah! ~

~ ~ ~ ~ ~



## ~ Appendix A ~

The story of *Hanukkah* as told in the book of I Machabees:

"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 Daruis king of the Persians and Medes. He fought many battles, and took the strongholds of all, and slew the kings of the earth, 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. And he gathered a power, and a very strong army: and his heart was exalted and lifted up. And he subdued countries of nations, and princes: and they became tributaries to him.

"And after these things, he fell down upon his bed, and knew that he should die. 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. And Alexander reigned twelve years, and he died.

"And his servants made themselves kings every one in his place, and they all put crowns upon themselves after his death, and their sons after them many years, and evils were multiplied in the earth."

(I Machabees 1:1-10)

### ~ *Antiochus the Illustrious* ~

"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.

"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. And the word seemed good in their eyes. 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.

"And they built a place of exercise in Jerusalem, according to the laws of the nations, and they made themselves prepuces, and departed from the holy covenant, and joined themselves to the heathens, and were sold to do evil."

(I Machabees 1:11-15)

### ~ *The Temple at Jerusalem Profaned* ~

"And after Antiochus had ravaged Egypt in the hundred and forty-third year, he returned and went up against Israel. And he went up to Jerusalem with a great multitude. 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. 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. And he made a great slaughter of men, and spoke very proudly. And there was great mourning in Israel, and in every place where they were. ... And the land was moved for the inhabitants thereof, and all the house of Jacob was covered with confusion.

(I Machabees 1:21-26, 29)

~ *Jerusalem Spoiled and Destroyed* ~

"And king Antiochus wrote to all his kingdom that all the people should be one: and every one should leave his own law. And all nations consented according to the word of king Antiochus. And many of Israel consented to his service, and they sacrificed to idols, and profaned the sabbath.

"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, and should forbid holocausts and sacrifices, and atonements to be made in the temple of God. And should prohibit the sabbath and the festival days, to be celebrated. And he commanded the holy places to be profaned and the holy people of Israel. And he commanded altars to be built, and temples, and idols, and swine's flesh to be immolated, and unclean beasts. 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 (*Torah*), and should change all the justifications of God. And that whosoever would not do according to the word of king Antiochus should be put to death."

(I Machabees 1:43-52)

~ *The Persecution of the Jews* ~

"On the fifteenth day of the month Casleu (*Chislev*), 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. And they burnt incense, and sacrificed at the doors of the houses, and in the streets. And they cut in pieces, and burnt with fire the books of the law of God; 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. Thus by their power did they deal with the people of Israel, that were found in the cities month after month. 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.

"Now the women that circumcised their children, were slain according to the commandment of king Antiochus. And they hanged the children about their necks in all their houses: and those that had circumcised them, they put to death. 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. And they would not break the holy law of God, and they were put to death; and there was very great wrath upon the people."

(I Machabees 1:57-67)

~ *Mathathias and His Sons* ~

"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.

"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? The holy places are come into the hands of strangers: her temple is become as a man without honor. 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. What nation hath not inherited her kingdom, and gotten of her spoils? All her ornaments are taken away. She that was free is made a slave. And behold our sanctuary, and our beauty, and our glory is laid waste, and the Gentiles have defiled them. To what end then should we live any longer?'

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

(I Machabees 2:1, 7-14)

~ *Mathathias Defies Antiochus* ~

"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 (*Torah*) of God. And many of the people of Israel consented, and came to them: but Mathathias and his sons stood firm. And they that were sent from Antiochus, answering, said to Mathathias: 'Thou art a ruler, and an honorable, and great man in this city, and adorned with sons, and brethren. 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.'

"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, I and my sons, and my brethren will obey the law of our fathers. God be merciful unto us: it is not profitable for us to forsake the law and the justices of God; we will not hearken to the words of king Antiochus, neither will we sacrifice and transgress the commandments of our law (*Torah*), to go another way.'"

(I Machabees 2:15-22)

~ *Mathathias Slays an Idolatrous Jew* ~

"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. 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. Moreover the man whom king Antiochus had sent, who compelled them to

sacrifice, he slew at the same time, and pulled down the altar, and showed zeal for the law, as Phinees did by Zamri the son of Salomi.

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

So he and his sons fled into the mountains and left all that they had in the city. Then many that sought after judgment and justice, went down into the desert, and they abode there, they and their children, and their wives, and their cattle: because afflictions increased upon them."

(I Machabees 2:23-30)

~ *The Decision to Fight on the Sabbath* ~

"And it was told to the king's men, and to the army that was in Jerusalem in the city 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. And forthwith they went out towards them, and made war against them on the sabbath day, and they said to them: 'Do you still resist? Come forth, and do according to the edict of king Antiochus, and you shall live.' And they said: 'We will not come forth, neither will we obey the king's edict, to profane the sabbath day.' And they made haste to give them battle. But they answered them not, neither did they cast a stone at them, nor stopped up the secret places, saying: 'Let us all die in our innocency: and heaven and earth shall be witnesses for us, that you put us to death wrongfully.' 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. And Mathathias and his friends heard of it, and they mourned for them exceedingly. And every man said to his neighbor: 'If we shall 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.' 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.'"

(I Machabees 2:31-41)

~ *Mathathias Forms an Army* ~

"Then was assembled to them the congregation of the Assideans, the stoutest of Israel, every one that had a good will for the law. And all they that fled from the evils joined themselves to them, and were a support to them. 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. And Mathathias and his friends went round about, and they threw down the altars, and the circumcised all the children whom they found in the confines of Israel that were uncircumcised: and they did valiantly.

(I Machabees 2:42-46)

~ *Mathathias Instructs His Sons* ~

"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. Now therefore, O my sons, be ye zealous for the law (Torah), and give your lives for the covenant of your fathers. And call to remembrance the works of the fathers, which they have done in their generations... And fear not the words of a sinful man, for his glory is dung and worms. ... You therefore, my sons, take courage and behave manfully in the law (Torah): for by it you shall be glorious.'" (I Machabees. 2:49-51,62,64)

~ *Judas Machabeus Named Leader* ~

"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. 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. And you shall take to you all that observe the law (*Torah*): and revenge ye the wrong of your people. Render to the Gentiles their reward, and take heed to the precepts of the law.'

"And he blessed them, and was joined to his fathers. And he died in the hundred and forty-sixth year: and he was buried by his sons in the sepulchers of his fathers in Modin, and all Israel mourned for him with great mourning." (I Machabees 2:65-69)

~ *Juda's Fame and Valor* ~

"Then his son Judas, called Machabeus, rose up in his stead. 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. And he got his people great honor, and put on a breastplate as a giant, and girt his warlike armor about him in battles, and protected the camp with his sword. In his acts he was like a lion and like a lion's whelp roaring for his prey. And he pursued the wicked and sought them out, and them that troubled his people he burnt with fire; and his enemies were driven away for fear of him, and all the workers of iniquity were troubled: and salvation prospered in his hand. And he grieved many kings, and made Jacob glad with his works, and his memory is blessed for ever. And he went through the cities of Juda, and destroyed the wicked out of them, and turned away wrath from Israel. And he was renowned even to the utmost part of the earth, and he gathered them that were perishing." (I Machabees 3:1-9)

~ *Preparation for Battle by Fasting and Prayer* ~

"And they assembled together, and came to Maspha over against Jerusalem: for in Maspha was a place of prayer heretofore in Israel. And they fasted that day, and put on haircloth, and put ashes upon their heads: and they rent their garments; and they laid open the books of the law in which the Gentiles searched for the likeness of their idols; and they brought

the priestly ornaments, and the firstfruits and tithes, and stirred up the Nazarites that had fulfilled their days; and they cried with a loud voice toward heaven, saying: 'What shall we do with these, and whither shall we carry them? For the holies are trodden down, and are profaned, and thy priests are in mourning, and are brought low. And behold the nations are come together against us to destroy us: thou knowest what they intend against us. How shall we be able to stand before their face unless thou, O God, help us?' Then they sounded with trumpets and cried out with a loud voice.

"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. For it is better for us to die in battle, than to see the evils of our nation, and of the holies, nevertheless as it shall be the will of God in heaven so be it done.'"

(I Machabees 3:46-54, 58-60)

### *~ Judas Routs the King's Army ~*

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

"And when it was day, Judas showed himself in the plain with three thousand men only, who neither had armor nor swords. ... And Judas said to the men that were with him: 'Fear ye not their multitude, neither be ye afraid of their assault. ... 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, and all nations shall know that there is one that redeemeth and delivereth Israel.' ... And they joined battle: and the Gentiles were routed and fled into the plain."

(I Machabees 4:1, 6, 8, 10-11, 14)

### *~ Lysias Invades Judea ~*

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

"So the year following Lysias gathered together threescore thousand chosen men, and five thousand horsemen, that he might subdue them. And they came into Judea, ...

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

(I Machabees 4:26, 28-29, 34-35)

### *~ Judas Restores the Temple ~*

"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.' And all the army assembled together, and they went up into mount Sion. 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. And they rent their garments, and made great lamentation, and put ashes on their heads, and they fell down to the ground on their faces, and they sounded with the trumpets of alarm, and they cried towards heaven."

(I Machabees 4:36-40)

~ *The Altar Rebuilt and Dedicated* ~

"Then Judas appointed men to fight against them that were in the castle, till they had cleansed the holy places. And he chose priests without blemish, whose will was set upon the law (*Torah*) of God. And they cleansed the holy places, and took away the stones that had been defiled into an unclean place. ...and they built up the holy places, and the things that were within the temple: and they sanctified the temple and the courts. And they made new holy vessels, and brought in the candlestick, and the altar of incense, and the table into the temple. And they put incense upon the altar, and lighted up the lamps that were upon the candlestick, and they gave light in the temple. And they set the loaves upon the table, and hung up the veils, and finished all the works that they had begun to make."

"And they arose before the morning on the five and twentieth day of the ninth month (which is the month of Casleu [*Chislev*]) in the hundred and forty-eighth year. And they offered sacrifice according to the law upon the new altar of holocausts which they had made. 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. And all the people fell upon their faces, and adored, and blessed up to heaven, him that had prospered them.

"And they kept the dedication of the altar eight days, and they offered holocausts with joy, and sacrifices of salvation, and of praise. 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. And there was exceeding great joy among the people, and the reproach of the Gentiles was turned away. 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."

(I Machabees 4:41-43, 48-59)

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