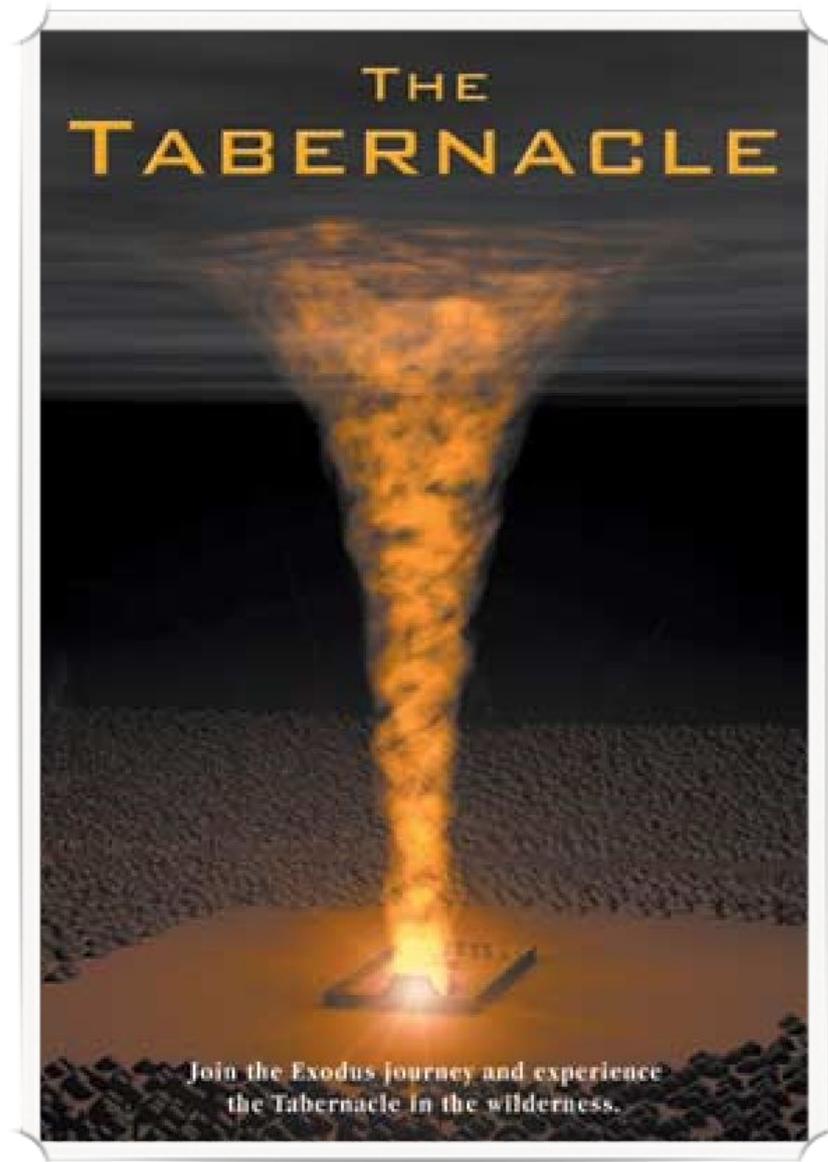


Chanukah 2019



BE LIGHT TO THE NATIONS

[2018 Chanukah link](#)

Amanda Buys' Spiritual Covering

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The story of Chanukah brings with it the idea of restoration and joy. For the children of the Covenant, it means 8 days of fun and presents.



I suggest that today's version of this event has removed much of the Spiritual message of the time God had Instructed the Israelites to enter the Land, to remove all of the evil that they found, and to build a Tabernacle where He could dwell.

They started out well as they followed God's Leadership in these battles, but somehow they compromised, and in doing so, this allowed some of the Canaanites to remain bringing with them all of the pagan / idol worship of their culture.

Not only do the Israelites not drive out all of the inhabitants, but they fail to take all of the Land ... Gaza and Jerusalem.

In fact, it's only in the time of David that this city is captured and all of the Land is taken, **so that we can read - there was peace in the Land.**

It's not surprising therefore, that from time to time, the Israelites fall into idol worship and step away from the paths of righteousness. Time and again, we read through the **Book of Judges** how God has to let other nations put them under bondage and oppression, just to get their attention, and to get them to recommit their lives to a walk of holiness.

One after another, righteous leaders stand up ... Gideon, Deborah, Samson and so on, but all to no avail ... the SHALOM only lasts for a short time.

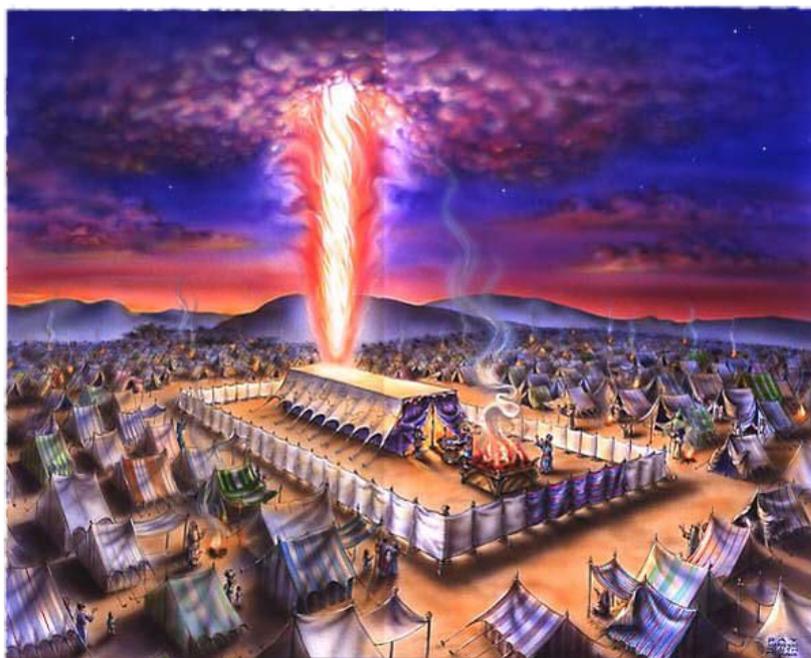
It seems that the calling to reveal the glory of God on a personal level, and to maintain a set-apart holy nation at a community level, is just too much to ask.

But is it really?

When I return to read the story of the life and deeds of Joshua, I see that there are at least 3 principles, **which, if we choose to follow**, will mean that our Tabernacle remains set apart and Holy.

Keep in mind, we are no longer focused on the physical Tabernacle, but instead we are looking at the Tabernacle made up of Living Stones.

In other words ...



Will those same principles apply to the spiritual Tabernacle?

And the answer is YES!!

Principle number 1

The Jericho (the enemy, the world system, the pagan idols of this day), are defeated by the actions of Priests who take up their role and STAND.

We have a Hebrew Chiasm which highlights the focus points.

A Chiasm is a form of poetry in the Hebrew language which couples verses together in a specific format. The verses move from the outside inwards until a focal point is reached with the middle verse. This method of writing ensures that the most critical point is highlighted. One could very easily, when reading the verses on their own, be drawn to an interesting idea and then conclude that this is the most important message that the writer is giving. However, as soon as one highlights a chiasm, one can identify the **purpose** of the message.

For example. Josua 6:2 and 6:16 form the outer edges of the chiasm.

The main message of this chiasm is that we have to focus on the Ark

Joshua 6:2	Joshua 6:16	God delivers Jericho
Joshua 6:3	Joshua 6:14	Encircle the city
Joshua 6:4	Joshua 6:13	7 Priests / 7 trumpets
Joshua 6:5 (a) 6(a)	Joshua 6:10-12	Shout, take up the Ark
Joshua 6:6 (b) - 7	Joshua 6:8-9	Seven priests, trumpets and armed guard before and behind the Ark

Joshua 6:8-9 *“When Y’hoshua had spoken to the people, the seven cohanim carrying the seven shofars before ADONAI passed on and blew on the shofars, with the Ark for the Covenant of ADONAI following them. The fighting men went ahead of the cohanim blowing the shofars, while the rearguard marched after the Ark, with incessant blowing on the shofars.”*

This Chiasm speaks about the physical Ark. Since we are now set-apart priests in the Heavenly Tabernacle we must ensure that the spiritual Ark should be alive in our own hearts.

Where is the ARK in your heart?

Is there fresh Manna from the WORD in your heart?

Is the Rod of Y’shua’s authority firmly over all aspects of your life?

QUESTIONS:

Are you living the essence of the TEN Commandments in your daily walk here on earth?

Do you show people that you love God with all of your heart and can people witness that you love all others as yourself?

Principle number 2

We are called to be **watchmen** on the walls of our homes and cities. In fact its a Commandment that goes all the way back to the Garden of Eden.

Genesis 2.15 *“ADONAI, God, took the person and put him in the Garden of ‘Eden’ to cultivate and care for it.”*

How do you guard?

- ◆ You set up boundaries.
- ◆ You set watchmen on the parapets and the gates.

How do you tend?

The Hebrew Chiasm in the **Book of Joshua** tells us that we must “encircle” the enemy – it’s a critical strategy ... this implies that:

- ◆ we know who / what the enemy is,
- ◆ that we are armed and ready to go to war,
- ◆ that we have a clear mandate to light the Menorah.

Joshua 5.13-15	Joshua 7.1	God’s presence
Joshua 6.2-5	Joshua 6.16-17	Deliverance of Jericho
Joshua 6.6-14	Joshua 6.15	We encircle the city ... we have a calling to encircle those who would come against our faith / value system and calling.
Joshua 6.15		

Joshua 6.8-9 *“When Y’hoshua had spoken to the people, the seven cohanim carrying the seven shofars before Adonai passed on and blew on the shofars, with the Ark for the Covenant of Adonai following them. The fighting men went ahead of the cohanim blowing the shofars, while the rearguard marched after the Ark, with incessant blowing on the shofars.”*

Y’shua gives that mandate when He tells us that we should be doing what He did ... to Light the Menorah of God’s Glory by the way we walk.

John 15.9-11 *“Just as My Father has loved Me, I too have Loved you; **so stay in My Love. If you keep My Commands, you will stay in My Love** — just as I have kept My Father’s Commands and stay in His Love. I have said this to you so that My Joy may be in you, and your joy be complete.”*

John 15:12-17 *“This is My Command: that you keep on loving each other just as I have Loved you. No one has greater love than a person who lays down his life for his friends. You are My friends, if you do what I Command you. I no longer call you slaves, because a slave doesn’t know what his master is about; but I have called you friends, because everything I have heard from My Father I have made known to you. You did not choose Me, I chose you; and I have Commissioned you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last; so that whatever you ask from the Father in My Name He may give you. **This is what I Command you: keep loving each other!**”*

Principle number three

We, as believers, are called to march across the River Jordan ... in today’s terms ... take the Land where God has placed you.

To look at the Ark in the middle of that river as we walk by, and know that God is with you ... come to see God's Miracle.

Joshua 3.10 *“Y’hoshua said to the people of Isra’el, “Come here, and listen to the Words of ADONAI your God.” Then Y’hoshua said, “Here is how you will know that the Living God is here with you and that, without fail, He will drive out before you.”*

Just as the water of the Jordan rolled back for the Israelites, so too will your opposition roll back when you have been transformed from a slave to this world to a Son of the Covenant.

FINAL THOUGHT

Foolish / fleshly / carnal people look at the physical things:

- ◆ the Christmas trees,
- ◆ the fairy lights,
- ◆ the brightly coloured paper
- ◆ the gifts

.... and think that **that's what it's all about.**

It is NOT !!!

Chanukah is all about you, your family and your community walking in **SPIRIT and TRUTH**, revealing the Glory of God.

SHALOM
שלום

