

# 11<sup>th</sup> New Moon 2018

## HAPPY CHANUKAH!



*Please note ... this Rosh Chodesh marks the beginning of the NINTH month, according to the Biblical Hebrew calendar.*

### Dates to diarise<sup>1</sup>:

DATES	EVENT	TIME
7 November	New Moon	05:47
15 November	First Quarter Moon	20:02
23 November	Full Moon	18:45
30 November	Last Quarter Moon	18:40
7 December	12 <sup>th</sup> New Moon	18:02

### Chanukah (Feast of Dedication)

- ***Chanukah (the Feast of Dedication) is an eight-day festival, starting 2 December 2018 and ending 10 December 2018.***
- *Don't forget to align with the open window of this season, and download the anointing you need, in preparation for that which lies ahead, to withstand any upcoming trials and tribulations.*

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<sup>1</sup> Information obtained from <http://www.planetarium.co.za/skystuff/moonphases2018.pdf>

## New Moon prayers ...

Remember, the monthly New Moon prayers are **NOT** to be confused with astrology. The Scriptures clearly warn against any / all forms of astrology:

**Deuteronomy 4:19** *“And when you look up to the sky and see the sun, the moon and the stars, all the heavenly array, do not be enticed into bowing down to them and worshiping things the LORD your GOD (YHVH) has apportioned to all the nations under heaven.”*

**Deuteronomy 17:3** *“... and contrary to my command has worshiped other gods, bowing down to them or to the sun or the moon or the stars of the sky.”*

**Isaiah 47:13-15** *“All the counsel you have received has only worn you out! Let your astrologers come forward, those stargazers who make predictions month by month, let them save you from what is coming upon you. Surely they are like stubble; the fire will burn them up. They cannot even save themselves from the power of the flame. Here are no coals to warm anyone; here is no fire to sit by. That is all they can do for you; these you have laboured with and trafficked with since childhood. Each of them goes on in his error; there is not one that can save you.”*

**Jeremiah 10:1-2** *“Hear what the LORD says to you, O house of Israel. This is what the LORD says: “Do not learn the ways of the nations or be terrified by signs in the sky, though the nations are terrified by them”.*

**Daniel 1:20** *“In every matter of wisdom and understanding about which the king questioned them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and enchanters in his whole kingdom.”*

The New Moon prayers are to be used for **PRAYER** and warfare, as a guideline for prayer and intercession for the coming month, **as the Holy Spirit leads**. If you'd like more information on why we pray for the New Moon, we encourage you to read **“The Believer's Warfare In The Heavens”**, available for order from the office or for download from the website.

In the New Moon prayers, we will often refer to **“possessing the GATES”**. For more information on this, please see the following link:

<http://www.kanaanministries.org/downloads/?did=299>

# Eleventh New Moon<sup>2</sup> 2018

We bring you greetings in the excellent Name of our Risen Savior and soon coming King – Yeshua Adonai.

We have just entered the 11<sup>th</sup> lunar season. Since the last week of October, the host of hell has been charged with wickedness ‘celebrating’ halloween and the so-called samhain sabat of the witches, which they claim is “satan’s birthday.”

Some of their demonic activities include

- ◆ fasting to acquire power for enchantments,
- ◆ casting spells to oppose churches and families,
- ◆ performing sacrilegious acts such as killing and stealing,
- ◆ necromancy (graveyard sorcery, feasting with the dead, etc),
- ◆ divination (peeping into the future by tarot card reading, crystal reading, or tea leaf reading),
- ◆ satanic worship (observing satanic rituals, offering blood sacrifices to satan, etc).

NOTE also that the MID point between the fall equinox and the winter solstice is **7 NOVEMBER at 11:18 UT**. This is a CRUCIAL DAY for satanic samhain!!! Please use the newsletter on Halloween to pray into this time.

Proclaim **Hebrew 2: 14-15, Isaia 14**, etc.

During the last crescent phase of the 10<sup>th</sup> moon (**5-6 November**), the moon was in alignment with Venus. Usually when this happens, the kingdom of darkness runs amok with heightened wickedness involving the use of the crescent and star (Venus).

Please ask the Lord to break all **demonic sickles** in the heavens. Ask Him to bring strong covering over your life with the Blood of Yeshua. Ask El Shaddai to overshadow you with His Almighty Wings (**Psalms 91**).

## THE NUMBER 11

The 11<sup>th</sup> new moon occurred on 7 November @ 16:03 UT. Remember the number 11 is the **number for chaos and confusion**.

It is the number of pride: for example, the 11<sup>th</sup> horn of the 4<sup>th</sup> beast in **Daniel 7:8** had eyes like the eyes of man and spoke pompous words.

This is the spirit of satan, the spirit of rebellion and witchcraft, the spirit that arises to contend with the Spirit of the Lamb of God who has seven horns, seven eyes and the seven-fold Spirit of Elohim (**Revelation 5**).

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<sup>2</sup> Please note ... this moon prayer has been edited and revised from the monthly emails sent out by Steve Olumuyiwa ([steve@stremco.com](mailto:steve@stremco.com)). We thank him for his emails and contribution ... and his heart to keep watch on the walls!

These demonic forces are bent on contending with God's JUBILEE plan for many nations this season (**Deuteronomy 15:1-2**).

For example, currently, there are secret gatherings in three key foundational points on earth: **the north pole, the south pole and the equator**.

There have also been space travels that have been used to send demonic tokens into space.

These demonic gatherings are arranged to enthrone satan as king over the poles/pillars of the earth.

He also wants to sit on the navel of the earth, that is, the equator.

Beloved, satan is unleashing a serious onslaught of attacks on the world to accelerate chaos, confusion and oppression.

- ◆ Let us be diligent to deal with these satanic agents of chaos and confusion.
- ◆ Let us be diligent to proclaim the vengeance of our God on the wicked, **Isaiah 63:4**.
- ◆ Let us ask the Lord to arise and confound satanic practitioners around the earth.

## How should we pray?

1. We must first **bring unsurpassed praise to our God** for His faithfulness this new moon. We must enter His gates with thanksgiving (**Psalm 100, 136, 144-150**); rejoice in His presence and blow the shofar as commanded in **Numbers 10:10, Psalm 81:1-6, Isaiah 66:23**.
2. **Declare the Lordship of Yeshua Hamashiach** over all things (yourself, family, business/job, community, Church, principalities, powers, witchcraft spirit, water spirit, mountains, hills, winds, sun, moon, stars, planets, constellations, strongmen, satanic watchmen, etc.)
3. **Bring repentance of personal sins**, especially rebellion/disobedience, which is like the sin of witchcraft. (**Psalm 15, Psalm 19:12-14, etc.**)
  - ✓ Bring repentance of family sins (**Ephesians 5:21-25, 6:1-9, etc.**)
  - ✓ Repent in behalf of the Church (**Isaiah 56:9-12 etc.**)
  - ✓ Repent in behalf of the society (**Deuteronomy 4:15-19, etc.**)
  - ✓ Ask the Lord for forgiveness and mercy. Bring atonement by the Blood of Yeshua / Jesus Christ (**Psalm 51, Hebrew 9:12-14, etc.**)
4. **The 11th New Moon:** The Moon of Elohim's righteous judgment. Exalt the Ancient of Days, the Most High Who sits on the Throne (**Isaiah 6, Revelation 4**), the One who has the power to slay the 11th horn, the boastful horn of satan represented as the fourth beast in **Daniel 7: 9ff**.

*“I watched till thrones were put in place, and the Ancient of Days was seated; His garment was white as snow, and the hair of His head was like pure wool. His throne was a fiery flame, its wheels a burning fire. A fiery stream issued and came forth from before Him. A thousand thousands ministered to Him. Ten thousand times ten thousands stood before Him. The courts were seated, and the books were opened. I watched then because of the sound of the pompous words which the horn was speaking; I watched till the beast was slain and its body destroyed and given to the burning flame.”*

Second of all, we must praise Yeshua our Saviour-Redeemer, the worthy Lamb of God (**Revelation 5**), the One who has an everlasting Kingdom and Dominion

**Daniel 7:13-14:** *“I was watching in the night visions and behold, One like the Son of Man, coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days and they brought Him near before Him. Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and His kingdom the one which shall not be destroyed.”*

Thirdly, at this time of intense spiritual battle, pray from **Psalm 2**. The Bible proclaims that the earth and its fullness belong to God (**Psalm 24**).

Furthermore the LORD owns the pillars of the earth (**I Samuel 2:8b**). Therefore:

- ✓ Ask the Owner of the pillars of the earth (the north and south poles) to shake the wicked gatherings out of the poles (**Hebrew 12:25-27**).
- ✓ Ask the LORD who founded the earth upon the waters to release His powerful Sword to slay leviathan and his demons in the demonic gathering at the equator which is the navel of the earth (**Isaiah 27:1, Psalm 74:13-14**, etc)
- ✓ Ask the Ancient of Days, the righteous Judge to come and give judgment in favor of the Church of Yeshua **Daniel 7: 21-22**.

## **5. The 11<sup>th</sup> New Moon**

The Moon of the crowning glory of Yeshua Hamashiach / Jesus Christ and His Bride. When the new moon occurred on the 7<sup>th</sup> of November, the sun and the moon were in the constellation which contains the heavenly crown - Corona Borealis.

Satan wants this crown. Let us ask the LORD of hosts to abort this wicked plan.

- ✓ Let us pray using **Revelation 19:11-16**.
- ✓ Let us ask Yeshua Hamashiach / Jesus the King of kings and Lord of lords to arise and secure the heavenly crown for His Melchizedek Bride that will reign and rule with Him (**Revelation 5:8-10**).
- ✓ Ask the Lord to enforce His Word in **Psalm 110** as He crowns you with His righteousness and glory.

- ✓ Ask the Lord to dethrone the wicked profane princes according to His Word in **Ezekiel 12:25-27**.

**6. Apply the Blood of Yeshua Hamashiach / Jesus on the moon.** Ask the moon to reject/vomit all satanic rituals and sacrifices.

Disconnect the army of satan from the heavens proclaiming Yeshua Hamashiach / JESUS AS THE WAY (**John 14:6**) to the heavens.

Break the fortification of the wicked in the moon.

Shut the heavens with the Key of David against all satanic watchmen; shut the covens and esoteric centers with the Key of David against witches and occultists **Revelation 3:7-8**.

**7. Use your superior priestly authority to break all satanic covenants** which your family, the ancients, satanic prince, satanic watchmen, politicians, religious leaders, occultists, etc have over you life, family, business/job, community, state, nation, the Church, etc. (**1 Peter 2:9, Isaiah 28:14-18, etc.**)

- ✓ Renounce the invocation made around coven circles.
- ✓ Cancel the sorcery invoked using the four elements: wind, fire, earth and water. Command these elements to rebel against witches and wizards. Proclaim **Jeremiah 10:11**.
- ✓ Command the elements to praise Yahweh Elohim, the creator of heaven and earth **Genesis 1, Psalm 148**.
- ✓ Renounce and cancel the negative dance around coven circles. Use the Blood of Yeshua Hamashiach / Jesus Christ to blot out the circles.
- ✓ Renounce and cancel every dance that produces death (**Matthew 14:6-9**) in your life, family, nation, Church, etc.
- ✓ Renounce and cancel the tokens of operation and tools of power used by the wicked at this time:
  - whips, red, orange and black candles,
  - herbs, oils, incense,
  - crystal stones, sandalwood, mirrors,
  - knots, ink, sand,
  - toys, 13 inch cords,
  - double edged knives,
  - drums, rattles, black clothes, etc.

- ✓ Ask the Lord to frustrate these tokens (**Isaiah 44:24-25**).

**8. Let us pray that witches and wizards will encounter Yeshua as Saul the persecutor of the Church did on the way to Damascus (Acts 9).**

- ✓ Pray that the Lord will use these ones to set others free as He used converted Saul, who became Paul the Apostle (**Acts 19:11-20**).

**9. Pray against the workings of necromancers**, that is, those who indulge in graveyard consultation.

- ✓ Proclaim the death and resurrection of Yeshua (**Hebrew 2:14-15**) to neutralize this work of darkness.
- ✓ Declare that death and the grave will have no victory (**I Corinthians 15:55, Isaiah 28:14-21**).

**10. Pray against any manipulation of to create chaos and rebellion.**

- ✓ Bring judgment on as many who go on in rebellion and all manners of witchcraft: **Revelation 2:21-23, Isaiah 33: 10-12, Psalm 69:22-28, Isaiah 47, Micah 5:8-9, 10-15, Nehemiah 3, Exodus 22:18**, etc.
- ✓ Pray that the shakings and the punishments will produce fruits of repentance.

**11. Ask the Most High God to continue to show mercy to His people Psalm 21:7.**

- ✓ Speak to the heavens and program all good things to the heavenly elements: the sun, moon, stars, etc.
- ✓ Use the following scriptures to pray: **Psalm 19:1-6, Psalm 121, Deuteronomy 33:13-17, Deuteronomy 28:1-14**, etc.
- ✓ Ask the Lord to command His special angels, the Cherubims to be on 24 hour patrol around you and yours, cutting off all intruders with the flaming Sword that moves in all directions **Genesis 3:24**.

**12. Proclaim 12:11, Revelation 4, 5, 11:15.**

Please remember to pray during the following crucial **heavenly alignments**:

**November 9: 33<sup>rd</sup> hour of the moon @ 1:03 UT.**

Proclaim the death and resurrection of Yeshua (**Hebrew 2:14-15**) to abort all 33<sup>rd</sup> degree enchantments; ask the LORD of hosts to ride the heavens to set us free from demonic clouds and coverings.

**Nov 9-12 : First crescent moon**

Ask the LORD of hosts to break Diana's bow in the heavens; **Isaiah 47**.

**Nov 8-9 : The crescent Moon, Mercury and antares are in alignment**

Pray against scorpion/serpentine activities (**Isaiah 27:1, Luke 10:19**); command the heavens to declare the glory and righteousness of God **Psalm 19**).

Venus stops moving backward and begins to move forward - divine advancement! **Isaiah 44:26**.

### **November 15 : First quarter moon**

A cross-like illumination is visible in the moon Apply the Blood of Yeshua and lift up His cross as you proclaim **Colossians 2:13-15**)

### **November 5, 12, 17 : Meteor showers:**

Many meteor showers this month

Apply the Blood of Jesus / Yeshua on these shooting stars.

Command the heavens to declare the righteousness of the LORD so that the people can see His glory **Psalm 97:6**.

Release the Word of God in **Judges 5:20** against the Sisera(s) of our time.

### **November 17-18 : The Leonid meteors**

They shoot out from the sickle of the lion constellation in the heavens. Pray **Revelation 14:14ff**.

**November 17** : Mercury (messenger planet) begins to move backward - divine reversals! **Isaiah 44:24-25**

### **November 23 : Full moon**

This is accompanied by an alignment with the bright open cluster Pleiades.

Sound the shofar (**Psalm 81:1-3**).

Pray for Elohim's sweet influences (**Job 38:31, Deuteronomy 33: 13-17**).

### **November 30 : Last quarter moon.**

The terminator of the moon is visible Apply the Blood of Yeshua and lift up His cross as you proclaim **Colossians 2:13-15**).

### **December 3-6 : Last crescent moon**

Aligns with Venus, Mercury, Jupiter and Antares, the heart of the scorpion - Apply the Blood of the Lamb, command the heavens to declare the glory of God **Psalm 19**.

We are counting on you to mount the watchtowers with us in this strategic season.

**Shalom & God's richest blessings always.**

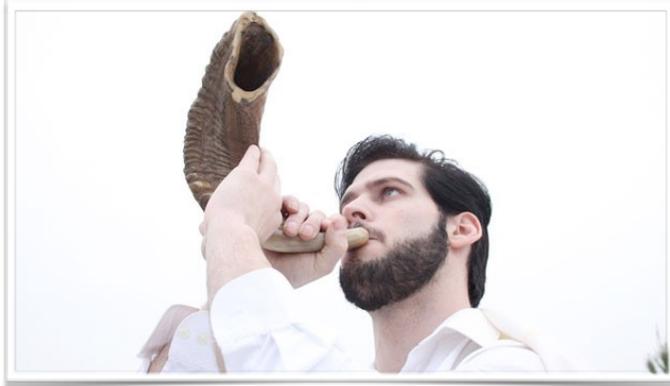
## Upcoming celestial<sup>3</sup> events:

Remember to apply the Blood of the Lamb of GOD into the heavens (**Colossians 1:19**) and speak to the heavens to declare the Righteousness and Glory of GOD (**Psalm 97:6, Psalm 19:1-6; Ps 148**) during the following events:

DATES	WHAT	INFORMATION
7 November	New Moon	The Moon will be located on the same side of the Earth as the Sun and will not be visible in the night sky. This phase occurs at 16:02 UTC. This is the best time of the month to observe faint objects such as galaxies and star clusters because there is no moonlight to interfere.
17, 18 November	Leonids Meteor Shower	The Leonids is an average shower, producing up to 15 meteors per hour at its peak. This shower is unique in that it has a cyclonic peak about every 33 years where hundreds of meteors per hour can be seen. That last of these occurred in 2001. The Leonids is produced by dust grains left behind by comet Tempel-Tuttle, which was discovered in 1865. The shower runs annually from November 6-30. It peaks this year on the night of the 17th and morning of the 18th. The waxing gibbous moon will set shortly after midnight leaving fairly dark skies for what could be a good early morning show. Best viewing will be from a dark location after midnight. Meteors will radiate from the constellation Leo, but can appear anywhere in the sky.
23 November	Full Moon	The Moon will be located on the opposite side of the Earth as the Sun and its face will be fully illuminated. This phase occurs at 05:40 UTC. This full moon was known by early Native American tribes as the Full Beaver Moon because this was the time of year to set the beaver traps before the swamps and rivers froze. It has also been known as the Frosty Moon and the Hunter's Moon.

<sup>3</sup> Taken from <http://www.seasky.org/astronomy/astronomy-calendar-2018.html>.

# Four reasons to blow the Shofar!



## 1. For the calling of the assemblies Numbers 10:2-4

This is therefore a season for GOD (YHVH)'s saints to gather either as leadership or as groups in solemn assemblies unto the LORD to hear what the Spirit is saying unto the Body at this Appointed Time.

## 2. For the journeying of the camps Numbers 10:5-7

As Israel was compelled to keep moving forward in their journeying to their Land of Inheritance, so must we individually and collectively insist that in this period, there must be a moving forward in GOD (YHVH)'s Purposes. Reject in this season every form of stagnation — spiritual, financial, material, as well as destiny and general fulfilment of GOD (YHVH)'s Redemptive Purposes.

## 3. At the times of war to invite GOD (YHVH) into the battle, Numbers 10:9

As we pass through this so called ember seasons, we need to invite the LORD of Hosts as the LORD of the Battle into our personal and national battles as the Church in the nations, so that the LORD will remember us against the strong onslaught of the forces of satan and witchcraft.

## 4. At the times of our Feasts (solemn days) and start of new seasons, Numbers 10:10

**Psalm 20: 1-9** *“MAY THE LORD answer you in the day of trouble! May the name of the GOD of Jacob set you up on high (and defend you); Send you help from the sanctuary and support, refresh, and strengthen you from Zion; Remember all your offerings and accept your burnt sacrifice. Selah (pause, and think of that)! May He grant you according to your heart's desire and fulfill all your plans. We will (shout in) triumph at your salvation and victory, and in the name of our GOD we will set up our banners. May the LORD fulfill all your petitions. Now I know that the LORD saves His anointed; He will answer him from His holy heaven with the saving strength of His right hand. Some trust in and boast of chariots and some of horses, but we will trust in and boast of the name of the LORD our GOD.*

*They are bowed down and fallen, but we are risen and stand upright. <sup>9</sup>O LORD, give victory; let the King answer us when we call.”*

- ◆ *Pray for the peace of Jerusalem. Pray that the Two Sticks of Judah and Ephraim will become ONE (**Psalm 122, Ezekiel 37**).*
- ◆ Let us pray that the on-going shakings in the Middle East will draw Jews to their True Messiah, our KING Y'shua (Jesus).
- ◆ Thank Him for His Shalom. He has not given us the spirit of fear, but of love, power and a sound mind. Cover your mind with the Blood of the Lamb and keep looking to Y'shua (Jesus), the Author and Finisher of your faith.
- ◆ Thank ABBA FATHER and bless His Name (**Psalm 105, 118**).
- ◆ He is called Faithful and True (**Revelation 19:11**).

**The following two sections include traditional Jewish commentary and thoughts on the upcoming new month.**

**PLEASE NOTE!** There are MANY Jewish traditions → including those for celebrating the Feasts, the New Moons / months, as well as many other celebrations and customs ...

While there is NO problem in using the traditions → MANY of them are beautiful and can be used as guidelines for Feasts / celebrations; it is IMPORTANT that we keep in mind they are only *TRADITIONS*, and not *GOD-Given Instructions*.

We encourage everyone to FIRST study the Scriptures, to know / understand the Instructions the FATHER has given us ...

Interestingly, often times you'll find that the Scriptures give very little Instruction as to HOW to celebrate or keep the Feasts (as in the case of Shabbat, where there are only a few direct Instructions given) → this causes us to truly worship in Spirit AND Truth.

To study the Scriptures for the TRUTH (Instructions), and then to be led by the SPIRIT in how the *Father* would like us to celebrate / keep His Appointed Times ... this results in us having to develop and walk in **RELATIONSHIP** with our Father, which is His very Heart ... the reason mankind was created in the first place → to walk in **FELLOWSHIP** with GOD, as back in the Garden.

So, if there are traditions you find helpful; again, there is no problem in using the traditions ... we simply encourage everyone to research these traditions out (their history, origin, and meaning) and TEST them against Scriptures.

We need to be AWARE of and AVOID those traditions (including BOTH the Jewish and Constantine / "Christian" traditions / customs) that go AGAINST the Father's Instructions.

Keep in mind, this was OFTEN the argument Y'shua had with the Pharisees and religious leaders in the New Testament, where their traditions were going against and nullifying the *Father's Instructions* (**Mark 7:1-13** for example).

**Be encouraged!** As you learn to discern and differentiate between what is MAN-MADE tradition, and MAN-MADE customs / doctrines ... you discover that the Father's Yoke truly is LIGHT and EASY ...

**That His Instructions are a BLESSING!**

## Month Ninth<sup>4</sup> Hebrew month

**May You give us long life,**

- ❖ A life of peace ... Shalom,
- ❖ A life of goodness ... Tovah,
- ❖ A life of blessing ... Bracha,
- ❖ A life of sustenance ... Parnassa,
- ❖ A life of physical health ... Hilutz Atzamat,
- ❖ A life in which there is a fear of heaven and fear of sin ... Yirat Shamayim ve'Yirat Chet,
- ❖ A life in which there is no humiliation ... Ein Busha u'Chlimah,
- ❖ A life of wealth and honor ... Osher ve'Kavod,
- ❖ A life in which we will have love of Torah and awe and reverence of GOD ... Ahavat Torah ve'Yirat HaShem,
- ❖ A life in which Adonai, the LORD, fulfills our heartfelt requests for good.

**Amen, Selah.**

The cycle of the moon, with its waxing and waning, is symbolic of renewal. It is a constant illustration of the fact that, as we journey through life, we too experience continual growth and decline. The observance of Rosh Chodesh (the 'head' or beginning of each new month, signaled by the new moon) was the first commandment given to Israel as a newly formed nation (**Exodus 12:2**). Israel thus has a special identification with the moon.

It serves as a reminder that Israel's prominence may fade and seem to disappear but the nation will always re-emerge and grow to fullness, as does the moon.

For Israel, and those who stand with her, the sighting and blessing of the new moon is an event of inspiration and provides an opportune time for special prayer and intercession for Israel. Interestingly, the importance of the recognition of each Hebrew month is underscored by the fact that its observance was forbidden in Eretz Yisrael during the rule of the Syrian-Greek King Antiochus, and also during that of the Romans, together with the prohibitions against the study of Torah, keeping the Sabbath and circumcision.

**Exodus 12:2** references the first month that was set in place by GOD to mark the deliverance from Egypt, *"This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you."*

**Notice that He says it is for you!**

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<sup>4</sup> Taken from the mailing list of Keren Hannah Pryor - *"Appointments With GOD"* - [www.jcstudies.com](http://www.jcstudies.com).

The months are set in place for our benefit. It is as though our Father has stored a gift for us at the start of each new month – a fresh opportunity of renewal, to strengthen ourselves in our relationship with Him and in our service to Him.

A connection is made between Rosh Chodesh and the festivals in all three sections of the Hebrew Scriptures (the Tanakh), the Torah, the Prophets and the Writings (Torah, Nevi'im and Ketuvim).

**Numbers 29:1** *“On the first day (New Moon) of the seventh month (Tishrei<sup>5</sup> - Rosh HaShanah) you shall have a holy convocation; you shall not work at your occupations. It is a day for you to blow the trumpets...”*

**Isaiah 66:23** *“From New Moon to New Moon, and from Sabbath to Sabbath, all flesh shall come to worship before me,” says the LORD.*

**2 Chronicles 2:3** *“I am now about to build a house for the name of the LORD my GOD and dedicate it to him for offering fragrant incense before him, and for the regular offering of the rows of bread, and for burnt offerings morning and evening, on the Sabbaths and the New Moons and the Appointed Festivals of the LORD our GOD, as ordained forever for Israel.”*

Another similarity between Rosh Chodesh and the festivals, according to rabbinic tradition, is that it is permissible to fast on any day with the exception of Shabbat, Rosh Chodesh, Festival days and Chol Ha'Moed (the interim days of the weeks of Pesach and Sukkot).

The main differences between Rosh Chodesh and the Festivals are:

- (i) On Rosh Chodesh work is permitted as if it was an ordinary workday; unless, of course, it falls on a Shabbat or a Festival. However, due to the particular identification of women with the moon (for many reasons, e.g., the menstrual cycle) it was long a tradition that women refrained from working to whatever extent possible. In this generation, women are again discovering Rosh Chodesh and are creating ways to celebrate it together.
- (ii) It is written in the Torah that we be joyful on the Festivals and celebrate with festive meals, but this is not the case with Rosh Chodesh. It is, nevertheless, considered a day of gladness and hope.
- (iii) In synagogue services on Rosh Chodesh the Torah portion is read but the Haftarah (portion from the prophets) is not, as it is on Shabbat; a clear indication that it is a weekday.

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<sup>5</sup> **PLEASE NOTE:** Kanaan Ministries does not agree with the Babylonian names for the months - i.e. Nissan, Kislev, and so forth. We only use the Biblical names for the months. Please see the article: INFLUENCE OF BABYLON ON BIBLICAL FEASTS <http://www.kanaanministries.org/downloads/?did=479>

(iv) A significant difference is that the Festivals are celebrated in a physically overt fashion. They are obviously different from ordinary week days; there is a transformation, an aura of holiness that encompasses these festive days. Rosh Chodesh, on the other hand, appears to be a regular weekday, with no special meals, dress or concrete actions taken. Like the shy moon, it quietly and softly comes and goes. This reticence, however, does not diminish its value and holiness. A renowned Torah teacher of this generation, Rabbi Yosef Dov Solovetichik, explains that Rosh Chodesh was celebrated more visibly in the times of the Temple. The Levites would sing and conduct the same ceremony as they did on the Festivals. Without the Temple, that external stimulus is lacking.

The word of the LORD came to Zechariah on the fourth day of the ninth month, which is Kislev (**Zechariah 7:1**).

The month of Kislev falls during the final days of Autumn. The surroundings are vibrant with the reds and golds of the season, but the days are shorter and the hours of darkness lengthen. The cold of Winter is beginning to set in. It is fitting, then, that the historical festival of Hanukkah is celebrated at this time of the year, always on 25<sup>th</sup> Kislev, for the hallmark of Hanukkah is the triumph of light over darkness.

In the second century BCE, the Syrian Greeks had invaded and were ruling over the land of Israel. The Greek ruler Antiochus IV forbade the Jews, on penalty of death, to observe Shabbat, to teach or study the Torah, to circumcise their sons or to follow the kosher food laws. The Holy Temple was taken over and desecrated, and the people of GOD now had to bow down to Caesar.

The harshness of the persecution eventually led to a revolt by a Hasmonean family, Mattit'yahu (Matthew) and his five sons. Led by one of the sons, Judah Maccabee, a small army of faithful Jews succeeded in overthrowing the large Greek army. They reclaimed control of the Temple and were able to purify it and dedicate it once more to worship of the One GOD of Israel. The word Hanukkah means dedication. It is recorded that only one jar of pure oil for the Menorah was found intact in the Sanctuary, enough for one day's lighting. It would take eight days to prepare fresh oil, but the Maccabees believed they should consecrate the Temple as soon as possible and they lit the menorah in faith. Miraculously, the oil continued to burn for the required eight days. The light of GOD had triumphed over the darkness of the enemy.

## **The Tribe of Benjamin**

“According to the order of the encampments (of the tribes of Israel around the Tabernacle in the wilderness), Tishrei corresponds to Ephraim, Cheshvan to Menashe (Manasseh) and Kislev to Binyamin (Benjamin) ...”

There is a special connection between the tribes of Benjamin, Judah and Levi as they are each associated with the Beit HaMikdash, the Holy Temple in Jerusalem.

Rabbi Samson Raphael Hirsch writes in his commentary that Benjamin merited having the Temple stand in his allocated portion of the Land for three reasons:

- i) He was the **only one of Jacob's sons** to be born in the Land of Israel.
- ii) He was the **only brother** who did not take part in the sale of Joseph.
- iii) He **cared for his father Jacob** in his old age.

These factors establish that Benjamin reflected the characteristics represented by the House of GOD. His Holy Temple was only built in the Land of Israel. It was intended to be a symbol of GOD's Presence – a place of His Divine Love that united His people as family in their love for Him and for one another. This love is expressed in the honoring of parents and in caring for the elderly and the weak.

The Temple was also partially situated on a strip of land in Judah's territory. Judah, after all, had inherited the kingship of the Davidic dynasty, and from his line would come the King of kings, Messiah, who at the end of days will reign from that very place.

The Levites and kohanim (priests) were included as they performed the worship and services in the Temple (**Genesis 49:27**). Zvi Ryzman points out that all three tribes displayed remarkable selfless devotion, to the extent that they would give their life to sanctify the Name of GOD. Their devotion ideally demonstrated the spirit of Hanukkah.

Levi was the tribe that immediately stepped forward at the incident of the Sin of the Golden Calf when Moses called out: "Whoever is for the LORD, join me!" (**Exodus 32:26**). It was Pinchas, of the tribe of Levi, who performed the zealous action necessary to end the plague on the Israelites and GOD conferred upon him a covenant of eternal priesthood (**Numbers 25:13**). The evidence of the "selfless devotion" of Benjamin is recorded above.

The commitment of Judah was displayed when he bravely and publicly admitted his wrongdoing in order to vindicate his daughter-in-law Tamar (**Genesis 38:1-26**).

One of Judah's descendants, Nachshon ben Aminadav, is considered to be the one who first stepped bravely into the waters of Yam Suf, the Sea of Reeds or the Red Sea, before they parted to allow the fleeing Israelites to pass through.

This month of Kislev, with its glowing Festival of Lights, Hanukkah, epitomizes dedication, wholehearted commitment, and devotion to GOD to the point of laying down one's life for His Name's sake, as did His Son and our Messiah, Yeshua. It is a perfect time to dedicate our lives afresh to our GOD and His Word, and to allow the Light of Messiah to shine more brightly through our lives to bring hope to those in darkness around us.

## Highlighted points<sup>6</sup> regarding month NINE

Every Hebrew month is TRADITIONALLY linked with:

- ◆ A letter of the Hebrew alphabet.
- ◆ A constellation sign (the stars), the zodiac are constellations. **Psalm 119:1-3** says that “the heavens declare the Glory of GOD”. If we don’t get into GOD’s Way of understanding the future, you will fall into either an occult way or your own way, called humanism. Everyone has some kind of system that they align with (even if it is their own system).
- ◆ One of the Twelve Tribes of Israel.
- ◆ A development of “threes”.

The following points regarding this new month are based on these principles.

- ◆ Month of Benjamin, the only child born in the Land of Israel, so watch Israel and understand that everything that happens to Israel is a prophetic indicator of what is happening in the spirit to the Body of Messiah.
- ◆ A month to develop your warfare strategies; to have prophetic revelation of war strategies. Benjamin was the most gifted with the bow. **Genesis 49:27**, “Benjamin is a ravenous wolf; in the morning he shall devour the prey, and at night he shall divide the spoil.”
- ◆ A month to enter into new levels of trust and rest. We need to believe that we need to tap into what God commands (for example being thankful in all things), and make that a lifestyle. Be sure to “be thankful” for all the difficult situations you find yourself in. See **1 Thessalonians 5:18**, “In everything give thanks ...”
- ◆ The month of Hebrew letter, SAMEKH (it looks like a full circle). This means trust, confidence, support, and coming full circle. We are in season of developing trust and confidence. If you do not develop this, then you will find yourself going around the same old circle again.
- ◆ The latter rain starts in September (Feast of Tabernacles), so by now it should be a running river. The process of revelation is: ankle-deep, knee-deep, waist-deep, and then “swimmably-deep.” (**Ezekiel 47**) GOD wants to carry us in the river so we don’t just have to walk.

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<sup>6</sup> Chuck Pierce, “Glory of Zion”, <http://gloryofzion.org/webstore/Scripts/prodView.asp?idproduct=981>

# Introduction

**Chanukah** (sometimes spelled as “Hanukah”) is a Hebrew word that means "dedication".

This feast is celebrated in memory of the re-dedication of the Temple to the LORD, after the miraculous victory of the small Maccabee army over the mighty forces of the Greek ruler Antiochus Epiphanes.

According to many Biblical scholars, Chanukah is also the time that Y’shua (Jesus) the Messiah was conceived ... His Birth being nine months later during Sukkot (the Feast of Tabernacles).

When we celebrate Chanukah, we are declaring that we have turned from pagan, sun-god worship (Baal, Nimrod, Mithra, Tamuz, and so forth), to the worship of the One True GOD, YHVH. It is also a re-dedication of our own “temple” and lives back to Messiah!

Chanukah is not one of the Feasts of the LORD ... but it is a Biblical feast. It is referred to in a number of places in both the TaNaKh (Old Testament) and the Apostolic Writings (New Testament). In John Chapter 10, we read that Y’shua (Jesus) visited the Temple during this feast (He was in Jerusalem during the winter feast of dedication, and visited the Temple). Both Daniel and Zechariah describe prophetically the Chanukah story. But most important of all, we also have very significant End-Time and prophetic references to Chanukah in many places – such as in Matthew 24, Mark 13, 2 Thessalonians 2, and Revelation 13.

One of the main figures in the Chanukah story, Antiochus Epiphanes, is the clearest picture we have in the Bible of the coming anti-messiah (anti-christ). Chanukah is the story of victory over apostasy and lawlessness. It is therefore very important for us today.

Y’shua (Jesus) honored this feast ... and the Book of Hebrews includes the people involved in the Chanukah story in its list of the “Heroes of Faith”.

**Hebrews 11:33-36** *“Who by (the help of) faith subdued kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promised blessings, closed the mouths of lions, Extinguished the power of raging fire, escaped the devourings of the sword, out of frailty and weakness won strength and became stalwart, even mighty and resistless in battle, routing alien hosts. (Some) women received again their dead by a resurrection. Others were tortured to death with clubs, refusing to accept release (offered on the terms of denying their faith), so that they might be resurrected to a better life. Others had to suffer the trial of mocking and scourging and even chains and imprisonment.”*

**Hebrews 11:37-38** *“They were stoned to death; they were lured with tempting offers (to renounce their faith); they were sawn asunder; they were slaughtered by the sword; (while they were alive) they had to go about wrapped in the skins of sheep and goats, utterly destitute, oppressed, cruelly treated - (Men) of whom the world was not worthy - roaming over the desolate places and the mountains, and (living) in caves and caverns and holes of the earth.”*

# The Chanukah Story

Let's rewind and tell the story to Chanukah from the beginning.

*In 332 B.C., the armies of Alexander the Great defeated the Persian ruler Darius III at Issus. Only three years later, Alexander's swift armies had conquered the entire then-known world from Europe to India. His mentor was Aristotle, and Alexander used Greek culture to unify his vast Empire.*

*After a very short career, Alexander died at only thirty-three years of age, and his empire was divided between his four generals into four different kingdoms. Two of the superpowers – the Syrian and the Egyptian kingdoms referred to in **Daniel Chapter 11** as the king of the North and the king of the South – became bitter rivals with little Israel constantly caught in the middle.*

*In 171 B.C., Antiochus IV ascended the throne in Syria (**Daniel 11:21**). He was a very evil ruler, full of pride, and he took the name Antiochus Theos Epiphanes, or Antiochus Epiphanes, meaning "god manifest". He worked hard to "Hellenize" his subjects by forcing them to adopt the Greek culture and religion.*

*As a result, two parties developed in Israel:*

- ◆ *The first wanted to adapt to the Greek influence while,*
- ◆ *The second was committed to stay pure and faithful to the Covenant.*



*The current High Priest's own brother was among the Hellenists ... he even changed his name from Yeshua to the Greek name, Jason. By offering Antiochus a bribe, he received the Greeks' help to become High Priest instead of his brother. This so-named Jason eventually killed his brother.*

The apostasy described in the **Book of Daniel (11:32)** was in full swing.

**Daniel 11:32** *“And such as violate the covenant he shall pervert and seduce with flatteries, but the people who know their GOD shall prove themselves strong and shall stand firm and do exploits (for GOD).”*

*The apostate Jason went on to build both a Greek gymnasium in Jerusalem – where the men performed nude according to Greek fashion – as well as a temple to the Greek god Phallus. Jason also enrolled the people of Jerusalem as citizens of Antioch, the capitol of Syria. However ... an even more fanatical Hellenist named Menelaus paid an even larger bribe to Antiochus to become High Priest instead of Jason.*

*Menelaus was not even of a priestly family, and in order to pay his promised bribe, he had to sell the golden vessels from the Temple. At this time, the ambitions of Antiochus Epiphanes had grown, and he set out to conquer the world and revive the entire empire of Alexander. Eventually Rome stopped him in his tracks, and in anger he began to turn against the Jewish people, destroying Jerusalem and killing thousands.*

What the Prophet Daniel had prophetically foretold almost four hundred years earlier was happening:

**Daniel 11:30-31** *“For the ships of Kittim (or Cyprus, in Roman hands) shall come against him; therefore he shall be grieved and discouraged and turn back (to Palestine) and carry out his rage and indignation against the holy covenant and GOD’s people, and he shall do his own pleasure; he shall even turn back and make common cause with those (Jews) who abandon the holy covenant (with GOD). And armed forces of his shall appear (in the holy land) and they shall pollute the sanctuary, the (spiritual) stronghold, and shall take away the continual (daily burnt offering); and they shall set up (in the sanctuary) the abomination that astonishes and makes desolate (probably an altar to a pagan god).”*

*On the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the ninth month, 168 B.C., Antiochus Epiphanes erected a statue of Zeus – but with his own face – on top of the holy altar in the Temple. Ten days later – on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of the ninth month, the birthday of Zeus – he offered a pig on this altar.*

*Antiochus sprinkled its blood in the Holy of Holies, and poured out its broth over the Torah scrolls before he cut them to pieces and burnt them. The Holy Temple was converted to a shrine to Zeus!*

*Antiochus then went on to issue a death sentence over anyone who observed the Sabbath, kept the Biblical dietary laws, was circumcised, or even studied the Torah ... whole families were put to death. Babies were hung around their mothers' necks, and they were thrown from the walls of the cities as thousands became martyrs for their faith.*

*One of them said before he died, "It is good, being put to death by men, to look for hope from GOD to be raised up again by him ..." (2 Macc. 7:14).*

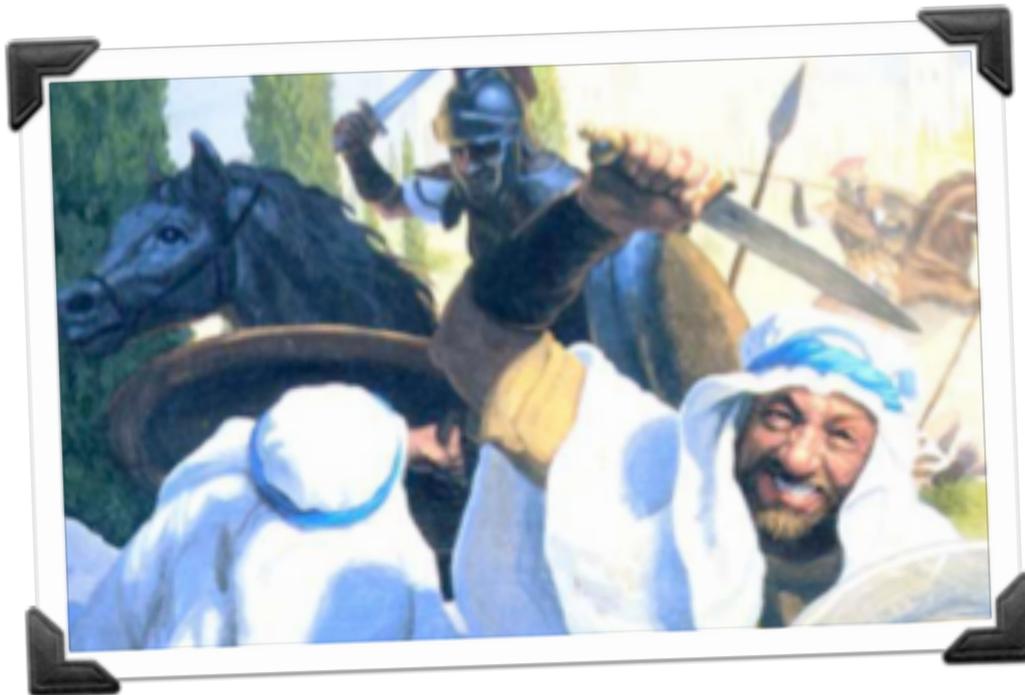
## The Deliverance

*Eventually the deliverance began with one righteous and GODLY Father.*

*When Antiochus's soldiers came to the little town of Modin, close to Jerusalem, they built another altar to Zeus. Then they assembled all the townspeople and ordered an old priest named Mattathias to sacrifice a pig on this altar. Mattathias refused. But an apostate priest stepped forward in his place in order to perform the abomination.*

*In rage, Mattathias grabbed the sword of the closest Syrian soldier and killed him. He then rushed forward and also killed the apostate priest upon the altar. In the commotion that followed, his five sons followed his example, and overpowered the other Syrian soldiers killing all of them. The people of the small town fled to the mountains to avoid Antiochus's revenge.*

**The revolt, however, spread.**



*The old priest Mattathias died of exhaustion and sickness after one year ... but Y'udah (Judah) – one his five sons, who was nicknamed “the Maccabee” or “the Hammer” because of his military might – succeeded him and carried on with the fight against the Empire.*

*After three years of hard guerrilla warfare, the small band under Y'udah (Judah) the Maccabee and his brothers was able to throw out the Syrian forces after two stunning victories in open battle.*

**Zechariah 9:13-15** *“For I have bent Judah for Myself as My bow, filled the bow with Ephraim as My arrow, and will stir up your sons, O Zion, against your sons, O Greece, and will make you (Israel) as the sword of a mighty man. And the LORD shall be seen over them and His arrow shall go forth as the lightning, and the LORD GOD will blow the trumpet and will go forth in the windstorms of the south. The LORD of hosts shall defend and protect them; and they shall devour and they shall tread on (their fallen enemies) as on slingstones (that have missed their aim), and they shall drink (of victory) and be noisy and turbulent as from wine and become full like bowls (used to catch the sacrificial blood), like the corners of the (sacrificial) altar.”*

## **“A Great Miracle Happened There!”**

After their victory, the band immediately set out for Jerusalem to restore the Temple. On the 25<sup>th</sup> day of the ninth month, 165 B.C. – exactly three years after the Temple had been defiled – Israel rededicated the altar to the LORD. However, there was only enough holy oil for the menorah to last for one day ... but according to tradition, the oil miraculously lasted for eight days until new oil had been produced.

Whether this is true or not, the Most High had for sure done a great miracle ... the tiny Nation of Israel had overcome the superpower of the day, and gained an independence that lasted almost a hundred years. As the saying goes during Chanukah:

*“Nes gadol hayah sh’am”* ... a great miracle happened there (or “here” if you live in Israel).

The miraculous victory over the un-Godly forces of apostasy – through the Maccabees – gained religious freedom for the Jewish people until the Messiah was born. When He was carried into the Temple by His GOD-fearing parents to be presented before the LORD, the prophecy of Haggai was fulfilled:

**Haggai 2:9** *“The latter glory of this house (with its successor, to which Jesus came) shall be greater than the former, says the LORD of hosts; and in this place will I give peace and prosperity, says the LORD of hosts.”*

## **Celebrate Chanukah Today**

### **Why should believers celebrate this feast?**

Here are a few reasons:

#### **(a) Chanukah is part of salvation history.**

The miracles that happened during Chanukah made it possible for the Savior of the world to be born since Y’shua (Jesus) had to be born by GOD-fearing parents, living in obedience to the Torah. We certainly need to celebrate that.

**Galatians 4:4** *“But when the proper time had fully come, GOD sent His Son, born of a woman, born subject to (the regulations of) the Law,”*

When the time of their purification – according to the Torah/Law of Moses – had been completed, Yosef (Joseph) and Miriam (Mary) took Him to Jerusalem to present Him to the LORD.

**(b) Israel and the patriarchs are “our forefathers”.**

Shaul (Paul) calls Israel "our forefathers" in 1 Corinthians 10:1. Israel's history is also our history. We (the wild olive) have been grafted into GOD's Covenant People (the natural olive).

**Romans 11:17** *“But if some of the branches were broken off, while you, a wild olive shoot, were grafted in among them to share the richness (of the root and sap) of the olive tree,”*

**(c) Gentile believers are called to rejoice with GOD's people Israel.**

**Romans 15:10** *“Again it is said, Rejoice (exult), O Gentiles, along with His (own) people;”*

**(d) Chanukah is prophetic for the End-Times.**

Chanukah has very important prophetic lessons for us living in the End-Times. It is the story of victory over apostasy and lawlessness that will be repeated again in the last days.

**(e) Chanukah is a time for re-dedication.**

Each of us are the temples of the LORD, and we need to dedicate our lives to be ready for the Second Coming of the Messiah.

**Ephesians 2:19-22** *“Therefore you are no longer outsiders (exiles, migrants, and aliens, excluded from the rights of citizens), but you now share citizenship with the saints (GOD's own people, consecrated and set apart for Himself); and you belong to GOD's (own) household. You are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets with Christ Jesus Himself the chief Cornerstone. In Him the whole structure is joined (bound, welded) together harmoniously, and it continues to rise (grow, increase) into a holy temple in the LORD (a sanctuary dedicated, consecrated, and sacred to the presence of the LORD). In Him (and in fellowship with one another) you yourselves also are being built up (into this structure) with the rest, to form a fixed abode (dwelling place) of GOD in (by, through) the Spirit.”*

**(f) Pray for the Remnant.**

We need to remember Chanukah, and pray for a faithful Remnant again today in Israel.

This is what the LORD says:

**Jeremiah 31:7** *“For thus says the LORD: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and shout for the head of the nations (on account of the chosen people, Israel). Proclaim, praise, and say, The LORD has saved His people, the remnant of Israel!”*

**(g) Pray the LORD will repeat the miracle of Chanukah again in Israel.**

**Zechariah 12:3** *“And in that day I will make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all peoples; all who lift it or burden themselves with it shall be sorely wounded. And all the nations of the earth shall come and gather together against it.*

**Zechariah 12:6** *“In that day will I make the chiefs of Judah like a big, blazing pot among (sticks of) wood and like a flaming torch among sheaves (of grain), and they shall devour all the peoples round about, on the right hand and on the left; and they of Jerusalem shall yet again dwell and sit securely in their own place, in Jerusalem.”*

**(h) Celebrate the coming of the Messiah.**

We can celebrate that the Word became Flesh inside of Miriam (Mary) at this time of year ... the True Light that gives Light to every man was coming into the world. It is so important that we stay faithful to the Word (Torah) of GOD and are guided by its Light in these last days! As David writes ...

**Psalms 119:105** *“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.”*

- ◆ Take a stand for Truth and celebrate Chanukah this year.
- ◆ Pray for faithfulness to the Word of GOD in these last days!
- ◆ Pray that many will forsake pagan traditions this year and return to the Hebraic Roots of our Faith!
- ◆ Pray for a re-dedication of the spiritual Temple that the Messiah will return to!

## **What an awesome GOD we serve!**

Truly ...

**Psalms 19:1-2** *“THE HEAVENS declare the glory of GOD; and the firmament shows and proclaims His handiwork. Day after day pours forth speech, and night after night shows forth knowledge.”*

We pray you and your family have a joyous and Light-filled Chanukah ... may YHVH's Light continue to shine upon you ... may you be blessed and rejoice in His Abounding Faithfulness and Love!

## **Blessing**

*Numbers 6:24-27*

*“Y’varekh’kha YHVH v’yishmerekha.*

**May YHVH bless you and keep you.**

*Ya’er YHVH panav eleikha vichunekka.*

**May YHVH make His Face shine on you and show you His favour.**

*Yissa YHVH panav eleikha v’yasem l’kha shalom.*

**May YHVH lift up His Face toward you and give you peace.**

“In this way they are to put My Name on the people of Israel, so that I will Bless them.”

