

THE FEAST OF CHANUKAH (DEDICATION)

Chanukah is not just a Jewish holiday, it is one of the keys to prophetic events of the last days. Embedded within the Chanukah story are elements foreshadowing the apostasy, the abomination of desolation, the Great Tribulation the Anti-Messiah, the martyrs of the tribulation, the false prophet, the remnant, the return of Messiah and the Messianic Kingdom to come. Chanukah is not one of the feast's Commanded by YHWH in **Lev. 23**, but it is the exact fulfillment of prophecy listed in the book of Daniel. It's unfortunate that Chanukah is viewed as the "Jewish christmas" when in fact these two holidays are polar opposites, christmas is the hellenization of the world, and Chanukah is the celebration of the defeat of hellenization! "christmass" is NON BIBLICAL, Chanukah is extra-Biblical. Chanukah's eight days of re-Dedicating the Temple to **YHWH** are simply the eight days of Sukkot, on which all the Temples were dedicated to YHWH (**1Kings 8:2-16, 2Chron 7:1-16, Neh 8:8-18** & the future Temple **Ezek 43:26-27**). **Yeshua**, who was conceived during the "festival of light's/feast of dedication" and risked His life to go to the Temple during this feast, and proclaimed himself to be the "Light of the world"

John 10:22-11:9 Then came **Chanukah** in Yerushalayim. It was winter, and **Yeshua** was walking around inside the Temple area, in 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 them 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, 'I have said, "You people are Elohim' "? If he called 'elohim' the people to whom the word of Elohim was addressed (and the Tanakh 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, where Yochanan 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. There was a man who had fallen sick. His name was El`azar, and he came from Beit-Anyah, the village where Miryam and her sister Marta lived. (This Miryam, whose brother El`azar had become sick, is the one who poured perfume on the Lord and wiped his feet with her hair.) So the sisters sent a message to **Yeshua**, "Lord, the man you love is sick." On hearing it, he said, "This sickness will not end in death. No, it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may receive glory through it." **Yeshua** loved Marta and her sister and El`azar; so when he heard he was sick, first he stayed where he was two more days; then, after this, he said to the talmidim, "Let's go back to Y`hudah." The talmidim replied, "Rabbi! Just a short while ago the Judeans were out to stone you — and you want to go back there?" **Yeshua** answered, "Aren't there twelve hours of daylight? If a person walks during daylight, he doesn't stumble; because he sees the **light of this world**. But if a person walks at night, he does stumble; because he has no light with him."

THE FEAST OF CHANUKAH (DEDICATION)

Biblical history many times can be prophecy, or in other words history repeats it's self, this is a Biblical or Hebraic concept (Circular or Hebraic thinking) as talked about in the book of Ecclesiastes...

***Ecc 1:9-11** What has been is what will be, what has been done is what will be done, and there is nothing new under the sun. Is there something of which it is said, "See, this is new"? It existed already in the ages before us. No one remembers the people of long ago; and those to come will not be remembered by those who come after them.*

***Ecc 3:15** That which was is here already; and that which will be has already been, but God seeks out what people chase after.*

Some Examples of repetition in the Bible...

- Abraham hiding in Egypt (**Gen 12:10**), pharaoh was plagued (**Gen12:17**), and he came out with many possessions (**Gen 12:20**) = Israel going into Egypt (**Gen 46:3**), pharaoh plagued (**Exo 3:20**), and came out with many plunders (**Exo 12:36**).
- During the "seven years of famine" (**Gen 41:27**) (a picture of the tribulation or Jacobs trouble) Israel was forced to go to Egypt to buy grain (**Gen 42:5**), where Joseph their brother discovered them, leading to the reuniting of the tribes of Israel = In end times, Israel will be united once again (**Ezek 37**) [in fact when the above Torah portion is read, the half Torah portion is always **Ezek 37**]
- All the plagues **YHWH** used on pharaoh in the book **Exodus** are used again in the book of **Revelation** in the end times on all those who are not marked by the blood of the Lamb! (see Passover teaching)

So all that to say... What Daniel prophesied about, came to fruition in the Book of Maccabees, in the Chanukah story, and as shown above, will probably happen again, in the end of time!

Daniel and the book of Maccabees

***Dan 8:8-14** The male goat (Alexander the Great) then became extremely strong; but when it was strong, the big horn was broken; and in its place arose what appeared to be four horns in the directions of the four winds of heaven. Out of one of them came a little horn (Antiochus) which grew extremely big in the directions of the south and east, and in the direction of the Glory. It grew so great that it reached the army of heaven; it hurled some of the army and the stars to the ground and trampled on them. Yes, it even considered itself as great as the prince (Sar in Hebrew, which often references Yeshua) of the army; the regular burnt offering was taken away from him, and the place of his sanctuary was thrown down. Through sin, the army was put in its power, along with the regular burnt offering. It flung truth on the ground as it acted and prospered. Then I heard a holy one speaking, and another holy one said to the speaker, "How long will the events of the vision last, this vision concerning the regular offering and the transgression which is so appalling, that allows the sanctuary (Temple) and the army to be trampled underfoot?" The first said to me, "Two thousand three hundred evenings and mornings, after which the sanctuary (Temple) will be restored to its rightful state"*

The "little horn" is Antiochus IV Epiphanies. Epiphanies means 'God made manifest'. Antiochus IV viewed himself as being on par with God. Antiochus was named at birth "Mithradates" from "sun worship" or "Mithraism" the same religion that the Romans who destroyed the second Temple believed in, and also this is the same religion in which "Catholicism" was founded in (by Constantine). So now the "pope" sits in the same position as Antiochus Epiphanies or Mithradates.

THE DEATH OF ALEXANDER THE GREAT (or "male goat" as Daniel put it)

THE FEAST OF CHANUKAH (DEDICATION)

1 Maccabees 1:7 *So Alexander reigned twelve years, and then died.*

THE RISE OF THE RULE AND REIGN OF ANTIOCHUS IV EPIPHANES (or the “little horn” as Daniels says)

1 Maccabees 1:10 *And there came out of them a wicked root Antiochus surnamed Epiphanes, son of Antiochus the king, who had been a hostage at Rome, and he reigned in the hundred and thirty and seventh year of the kingdom of the Greeks.*

ANTIOCHUS IV AND THE DESTRUCTION OF THE TEMPLE (or “sanctuary” as Daniel put it)

1 Maccabees 1:20-25 *And after that Antiochus had smitten Egypt, he returned again in the hundred forty and third year, and went up against Israel and Jerusalem with a great multitude, And entered proudly into the sanctuary, and took away the golden altar, and the Menorah of light, and all the vessels thereof, And the table of the showbread, and the pouring vessels, and the vials. and the censers of gold, and the veil, and the crown, and the golden ornaments that were before the temple, all which he pulled off. He took also the silver and the gold, and the precious vessels: also he took the hidden treasures which he found. And when he had taken all away, he went into his own land, having made a great massacre, and spoken very proudly. Therefore there was a great mourning in Israel, in every place where they were;*

THROUGH PEACE HE DECEIVED MANY

Dan 8:25 *And through his policy also he shall cause craft to prosper in his hand; and he shall magnify himself in his heart, **and by peace shall destroy many**: he shall also stand up against the Prince of princes; (**Sar** in Hebrew, which often references Yeshua) *but he shall be broken without hand.**

1Ma 1:29-36 *Two years later the king sent to the cities of Judah a chief collector of tribute, and he came to Jerusalem with a large force. **Deceitfully he spoke peaceable words to them**, and they believed him; but he suddenly fell upon the city, dealt it a severe blow, and **destroyed many people of Israel**. He plundered the city, burned it with fire, and tore down its houses and its surrounding walls. They took captive the women and children, and seized the livestock. Then they fortified the city of David with a great strong wall and strong towers, and it became their citadel. They stationed there a sinful people, men who were renegades. These strengthened their position; they stored up arms and food, and collecting the spoils of Jerusalem they stored them there, and became a great menace, for the citadel became an ambush against the sanctuary, an evil adversary of Israel at all times.*

THE ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION

Dan 11:28-36 *He shall return to his land with great wealth, but **his heart shall be set against the holy covenant**. He shall work his will, and return to his own land. "At the time appointed he shall return and come into the south, but this time it shall not be as it was before. For ships of Kittim shall come against him, and he shall lose heart and withdraw. He shall be enraged and take action **against the holy covenant**. **He shall turn back and pay heed to those who forsake the holy covenant**. Forces sent by him shall occupy and profane the temple and fortress. They shall abolish the regular burnt offering and set up the **abomination that makes desolate**. He shall seduce with intrigue **those who violate the covenant**;*

THE FEAST OF CHANUKAH (DEDICATION)

*but the people who are loyal to their **Elohim** shall stand firm and take action. (The Maccabees) The wise among the people shall give understanding to many; for some days, however, they shall fall by sword and flame, and suffer captivity and plunder. When they fall victim, they shall receive a little help, and many shall join them insincerely. Some of the wise shall fall, so that they may be refined, purified, and cleansed, until the time of the end, for there is still an interval until the time appointed. "The king shall act as he pleases. He shall exalt himself and consider himself greater than any god, and shall speak horrendous things against the God of gods. He shall prosper until the period of wrath is completed, for what is determined shall be done.*

1Maccabees 1:41-64 *Then the king wrote to his whole kingdom that all should be one people, and that all should give up their particular customs. (Sounds exactly like the message being sent out today!) All the Gentiles accepted the command of the king. Many **even from Israel gladly adopted his religion;** they sacrificed to idols and profaned the sabbath. And the king sent letters by messengers to Jerusalem and the towns of Judah; he directed them to follow customs strange to the land, to forbid burnt offerings and sacrifices and drink offerings in the sanctuary, to **profane sabbaths and festivals, to defile the sanctuary** and the priests, to build altars and sacred precincts and shrines for idols, to sacrifice **swine** and other unclean animals, and to leave their sons **uncircumcised**. They were to make themselves abominable by everything unclean and profane, so that they would forget the law and change all the ordinances. He added, "And whoever does not obey the command of the king shall die." In such words he wrote to his whole kingdom. He appointed inspectors over all the people and commanded the towns of Judah to offer sacrifice, town by town. Many of the people, everyone who forsook the law, joined them, and they did evil in the land; they drove Israel into hiding in every place of refuge they had. Now on the fifteenth day of Chislew, in the one hundred forty-fifth year, (of the kingdom of Greece) they **erected a desolating sacrilege** (the abomination of Desolation) on the altar of burnt offering. They also built altars in the surrounding towns of Judah, and offered incense at the doors of the houses and in the streets. The books of the Torah that they found they tore to pieces and burned with fire. Anyone found possessing the book of the covenant, or anyone who adhered to the Torah, was condemned to death by decree of the king. (This is where the game "Dreidel" came from, NO! were not reading Torah, were Gamboling!) They kept using violence against Israel, against those who were found month after month in the towns. On the twenty-fifth day of the month they offered sacrifice on the altar that was on top of the altar of burnt offering. According to the decree, they put to death the women who had their children circumcised, and their families and those who circumcised them; and they hung the infants from their mothers' necks. **But many in Israel stood firm and were resolved in their hearts not to eat unclean food. They chose to die rather than to be defiled by food or to profane the holy covenant;** (the Maccabees) *and they did die. Very great wrath came upon Israel.**

CHANUKAH REPEATED IN THE END OF DAYS

THE MIRACLE OF LIGHT!

It is recounted in the Megillat Antiochus [a history book] (c. 200 CE):

THE FEAST OF CHANUKAH (DEDICATION)

The Hasmoneans (the dynasty of the Maccabees) entered the Sanctuary, rebuilt the gates, closed the breaches, and cleansed the Temple court from the slain and the impurities. They looked for pure olive oil to light the Menorah, and found only one bottle with the seal of the Cohen Gadol so that they were sure of its purity. Though its quantity seemed sufficient only for one day's lighting, it lasted for eight days owing to the blessing of the Elohim of heaven who had established His Name there. Hence, the Hasmoneans and all the Jews alike instituted these eight days as a time of feasting and rejoicing, like any festival prescribed in the Torah, and of kindling lights to commemorate the victories Elohim had given them. (Megillat Antiochus)

Then in the book of Maccabees, the oil they found was some of the hidden oil from the prophet Jeremiah (**2Macc. 1:19-36**) and will be found again!

2Ma 2:1-8 *One finds in the records that the prophet Jeremiah ordered those who were being deported to take some of the fire (oil), as has been mentioned, and that the prophet, after giving them the law, instructed those who were being deported not to forget the commandments of the Lord, or to be led astray in their thoughts on seeing the gold and silver statues and their adornment. And with other similar words he exhorted them that the law should not depart from their hearts. It was also in the same document that the prophet, having received an oracle, ordered that the tent and the ark should follow with him, and that he went out to the mountain where Moses had gone up and had seen the inheritance of God. Jeremiah came and found a cave-dwelling, and he brought there the tent and the ark and the altar of incense; then he sealed up the entrance. Some of those who followed him came up intending to mark the way, but could not find it. When Jeremiah learned of it, he rebuked them and declared: "**The place shall remain unknown until God gathers his people together again and shows his mercy. Then the Lord will disclose these things, and the glory of the Lord and the cloud will appear, as they were shown in the case of Moses (Exo 33:9-10), and as Solomon asked that the place should be specially consecrated (2Ch 7:1).**"*

I believe that this oil will be found again to dedicate "Ezekiel's Temple" in the end times, and another "miracle of fire" will happen just like in the Tabernacle of Moses (**Exo 33:9-10**) and during Solomon's Dedication! (**2Ch 7:1**) As he is yet to come into "Ezekiel's Temple" (**Ezek 43:4**) Also when Messiah (the Bridegroom) returns He will be looking for those who have oil to meet him (**Matt 25**), as His return is like "a thief in the night" (**Luk 12:39, 1Th 5:2, 2Pe 3:10, Rev 3:3, Rev 16:15**) that term "like a thief in the night" originated from the High Priest coming to check on the Temple priest's at random times in the night to make sure there was oil burning in the Menorah, as it was "a continuous fire" (**Lev 24:2**). The seven branches of the Menorah are the "Seven spirits of God" (**Rev 1:4, Rev 3:1, Rev 4:5, Rev 5:6**) or the Ruach HaKodesh, with which we are sealed (**Eph 1:13**) and the "blood of the Lamb" (**Exo 12, 1Pe 1:19**). And this is the "seal" that covers us in the "end times" (**Rev. 7:2-4**). So Messiah our Heavenly High Priest will come to check on our oil (the Ruach HaKodesh and the Blood of the Lamb)

Matt.25:1-12 *Then will the Kingdom of Heaven be comparable to ten virgins, which took their torches, and went out to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five of them were prudent. The five foolish, when they took the torches, took no oil with them: But the prudent took the oil in their vessels, with the torches. And while the bridegroom was delayed, they all slumbered and slept. And at midnight there was a cry, Behold! The bridegroom has come: go out now to meet Him! Then all those virgins arose, and made ready their*

THE FEAST OF CHANUKAH (DEDICATION)

torches. And the foolish said to the prudent, Give us now of your oil, for our torches are extinguished. But the prudent answered and said to them, We may not give you, lest there suffice not for us and you. But go now therefore to them that sell, and buy for yourselves: And while they went to buy, the bridegroom came. And they that were ready, went in with Him to the marriage, and the door was shut. And after that, came the rest of the virgins, saying, My Master, My Master: open to us! But He answered, saying: Amen, I say to you, I know you not.

Just as Judah Maccabee found a single jar of set-apart oil sealed with the seal of the Cohen HaGadol, when Messiah returns, he will find a remnant sealed with the seal of the Ruach HaKodesh, filled with the Ruach HaKodesh.

Now, keep in mind the quick study we did above, on how History and Prophecy repeats itself! (Circular or Hebraic thinking).

MATTHEW 24: WHAT IS THE SIGN OF YOUR COMING?

***Mat 24:3-31** When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives (also the place of His return **Zec 14:4**), the talmidim came to him privately. "Tell us," they said, "when will these things happen? **And what will be the sign that you are coming, and that the `earth is ending`?"** Yeshua replied: "Watch out! Don't let anyone fool you! For many will come in my name, saying, 'I am the Messiah!' and they will lead many astray. You will hear the noise of wars nearby and the news of wars far off; see to it that you don't become frightened. Such things must happen, but the end is yet to come. For peoples will fight each other, nations will fight each other, and there will be famines and earthquakes in various parts of the world; all this is but the beginning of the 'birth-pains.' At that time you will be arrested and handed over to be punished and put to death, and all peoples will hate you because of me. At that time many will be trapped into betraying and hating each other, many false prophets will appear and fool many people; **and many people's love will grow cold because of increased distance from Torah.** But whoever holds out till the end will be delivered (Just as the Maccabees). **And this Good News about the Kingdom will be announced throughout the whole world as a witness to all the Goyim. It is then that the end will come** (Something that is still being fulfilled today and is why in Revelation the plagues will happen to all the earth). "So when you see the **abomination that causes desolation spoken about through the prophet Dani'el standing in the Holy Place**" (let the reader understand the allusion), "that will be the time for those in Y'hudah to escape to the hills (So even though Antiochus fulfilled everything in Daniel to the day, Yeshua is alluding to another fulfillment). If someone is on the roof, he must not go down to gather his belongings from his house; if someone is in the field, he must not turn back to get his coat (**1 Maccabees 2:28** So he and his sons FLED into the MOUNTAINS, and left all that ever they had in the city). What a terrible time it will be for pregnant women and nursing mothers! Pray that you will not have to escape in **winter** (perhaps a symbolic reference of a future Chanukah) or on Shabbat. For there will be trouble then worse than there has ever been from the beginning of the world until now, and there will be nothing like it again! Indeed, if the length of this time had not been limited, no one would survive; but for the sake of those who have been chosen, its length will be limited. "At that time, if someone says to you, 'Look! Here's the Messiah!' or, 'There he is!' don't believe him.*

THE FEAST OF CHANUKAH (DEDICATION)

*For there will appear false Messiahs and false prophets performing great miracles — amazing things! — so as to fool even the chosen, if possible. There! I have told you in advance! So if people say to you, 'Listen! He's out in the desert!' don't go; or, 'Look! He's hidden away in a secret room!' don't believe it. For when the **Son of Man does come, it will be like lightning that flashes (Rev 11:15-19)** out of the east and fills the sky to the western horizon. Wherever there's a dead body, that's where you find the vultures. "But immediately following the trouble of those times, the sun will grow dark, the moon will stop shining, the stars will fall from the sky, and the powers in heaven will be shaken (**Rev 8:12 & Rev 12:4**). "Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, all the tribes of the Land will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with tremendous power and glory. He will send out his angels with a great shofar; and they will gather together his chosen people from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.*

Now Antiochus did this before Yeshua's prophecy, and later or after Yeshua's prophecy, as described by Josephus, the Romans (sun-worshiping "mithraites") destroyed the Temple and to this day we still have another "abomination" standing on the Temple mount the "dome of the rock". What im saying is this, that there seems to be multiple fulfillments of Daniel, and we seem to be heading down the same path which will eventually lead to the final anti-messiah getting rid of the Torah, and once again persecuting those who keep to the Torah, (Just as in the days of Antiochus, and this will also probably occur on the same date as it did in the past, CHANUKAH!)

Rev 12:17 *The dragon was infuriated over the woman and went off to fight the rest of her children, **those who obey God's commands** (Torah) **and bear witness to Yeshua.***

And it also seems that there will be an "end time people like the Maccabees" ...

Rev 12:11 *But they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they did not cling to life even in the face of death.*

Rev 14:12 *This is when perseverance is needed on the part of God's people, those who observe his commands (Torah) and exercise Yeshua's faithfulness.*

YHWH made eternal covenants with the people that were most zealous for Him, Remember the Levites left the golden calf and came back to **YHWH (Exo 32:26)**, then this blessing would go through the Levite Pinchas because of his zealousness (**Num 25:7**). Also remember Yeshua and his righteous zeal regarding the Temple when he chased the money changers out of the Temple with a whip that he made (**John 2:15**)! His talmidim later recalled that it says in **Tehillim (Psalms) 69 "zeal for your House consumes me"**. Baruch **YHWH**, and may it consume all of us!

So tonight as we celebrate the Maccabees victory over hellenization, and the dedication of the Temple to **YHWH**, we should also look forward to the end of days when we will have to hold firm to the Torah and Yeshua, and not give into the system of the world!

Shabbat Shalom!

THE FEAST OF CHANUKAH (DEDICATION)

Written by Jesse Himango, Tabernacle of David Ministries 12-1-10