

The festival of Hanukkah starts in a little less than a week



Seeing it is God, that said, Light shall shine out of darkness, who shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. 2 Corinthians 4:6

Preparing for Hanukkah

Hanukkah starts in a little less than a week (this coming Thursday evening). This is the season of celebrating God's deliverance at the hands of the Maccabees. The Maccabees were one family in Israel who refused to disobey YHWH's commandments even under the pressure of death. They did not compromise and stood resolutely for God and His ways. This family along with a small band of others who joined them resisted the superpower of the day. They overcame through a series of battles in which they were vastly outnumbered. They battled their way back to Jerusalem, drove the foreign

army out of their land, cleansed the temple, and restored their nation's freedom.

I have a growing conviction that Yah will once again move upon a people that stands firm in the midst of great challenge and trial. I pray that we as His people will boldly rise to proclaim the Gospel, heal the sick, and deliver the oppressed...and to take up our cross daily and suffer for His sake. Nearly all of the biblical prayers in the Apostolic Scriptures are prayers for God's church (ekklesia). These prayers aren't directly focused on the lost to become saved or the wicked to turn but for the church to walk in her calling and God's ways. If the ekklesia does that, a natural byproduct is that the lost will be saved, the wicked will be overcome, and society will be impacted. A revived church is the only hope for our nation.

In closing, I believe this is an important Hanukkah season for us as Believers to renew our commitment to covenant faithfulness and to live lives pleasing to our soon-coming King. I'll share more about this tomorrow.