**Transcript of Podcast XXXV: Hanukkah**

**A Prophetic Mount Carmel for Our Day**

**Based on:**

**1) “Cocoon: A Special Message for Hanukkah – Under the Mikvah of the Covenant- December 11, 2017**

**2) “**Yahushua’s Birthday – The Truth About September 11, 03 BCE/Sept. 1, 2017 – Under the Mikvah of Eternal Salvation

**3) “Hanukkah” Under the Mikvah of the Covenant**

The Apocryphal book of *Maccabbes 1* tells the story of Hanukkah. Briefly, from Hanukkah History the Maccabean Revolt by [Harry Oates](https://www.ancient.eu/user/harryoates/) - 29 October 2015 – Ancient History Encyclopedia

“After the death of [Alexander the Great](https://www.ancient.eu/Alexander_the_Great/), his Kingdom was divided into four; [Egypt](https://www.ancient.eu/egypt/), the [Seleucid Empire](https://www.ancient.eu/Seleucid_Empire/), the Kingdom of [Pergamum](https://www.ancient.eu/pergamon/) and [Macedon](https://www.ancient.eu/macedon/) (including [Greece](https://www.ancient.eu/greece/)). Egypt, governed by [Ptolemy I](https://www.ancient.eu/Ptolemy_I/) Soter allowed for Judaism in [Jerusalem](https://www.ancient.eu/jerusalem/) to flourish with very little intervening in the 3rd century BCE. However, during the 2nd century BCE, the Seleucids, having gained dominance over Judea, went there to enforce a dominion over Egypt and the Jews.

The social structure of Jerusalem was run by the Jewish aristocracy such as the Priests and the High Priests. Although Hellenism, which had spread in the 3rd century BCE after [Alexander](https://www.ancient.eu/Alexander/)'s conquests, was the dominant culture around Judea and the [Greek](https://www.ancient.eu/greek/) way of life pervaded the area, the Jewish community remained steadfast to their own practices. They largely ignored Hellenism and, under Alexander and the Ptolemies, were respected in doing so. The Ptolemies gave the Jewish people their civil rights and they lived contently under their rule.

The Holy [Temple](https://www.ancient.eu/temple/) was the most important structure to the entire Jewish community in Jerusalem. It was the social and religious centre of the Jewish people, not to mention the economic benefits of trading in the Temple. More importantly, however, it was considered a sign of God’s presence amongst them. This feeling of the elect, the chosen ones, was crucial to the Jewish self-consciousness.

In 198 BCE, all of the goodwill of the Jewish community towards the governing body turned to hatred as the Seleucid [Empire](https://www.ancient.eu/empire/) defeated the Ptolemies, taking control of all Judea. As the Seleucid Empire expanded, so too did their notion of Hellenism. The Seleucids under Antiochus III controlled much of the Arabian Peninsula forcibly converting many of its new populace to Greek culture and [religion](https://www.ancient.eu/religion/), and the intent in that hegemony continued as they took Jerusalem. Antiochus wanted to Hellenize the Jewish community. His aim was to remove any features of Judaism that could define it from the [Greek religion](https://www.ancient.eu/Greek_Religion/) and other accepted monotheistic religions. Because of the benefits of the Greek culture, which included **economic integration** **between all of the Greek states**, and the pressure of regime, many Jewish people accepted Hellenism. [*Note: This is a* *microcosm of one world government*]

The already strained relations between the pious Jewish people that did not accept Hellenism and the Seleucid Empire were shattered when Antiochus Epiphanies adopted his father’s policy of universal Hellenization but took it to new heights. As Epiphanies looked at Alexander the Great of Macedon and aspired to have his name in the history books alongside him, he needed to distinguish himself above his predecessors. The best way to do that, he thought, was to enforce the Greek culture on all of the Jewish population--feat that had so far been elusive.

He accepted a bribe and approved the take-over of Jason of the Oniad family to the now de-facto client position of High Priesthood. Antiochus used Jason’s power as the High Priest over the Jewish people to build a [gymnasium](https://www.ancient.eu/Gymnasium/) just outside the Temple, with that, strengthening the Greek culture in the heartland of the Jewish community. It was a symbol of Greek Hellenism, and having it outside the Temple showed the Jewish community exactly who was in charge.

The [Hellenistic](https://www.ancient.eu/Hellenistic/) idea of masculinity was shown in the rule that one must be naked to enter the gymnasium. Being naked in public was strictly forbidden under Jewish laws, so any Jewish person that went into the gymnasium violated the laws of the covenant. The state understood this, and therefore, made it a legal requirement for anybody who could afford it to go at least once.

This was a method of making the state bigger and of greater authority than any other religion other than the Greek polytheism, thus many Jewish people fell in line and acquiesced to the regime. Antiochus, buoyed by his success of the gymnasium, decided to push harder against the Jewish religion. A short-lived rebellion took place, and when this was put down Antiochus’ views were hardened. He defiled the Holy Temple, vandalizing it and erecting an idol on the altar. (*said to be an idol of Zeus – I’ve heard it was placed in the Most Set-Apart Place where the original Ark once sat*)

He then outlawed certain practices such as circumcision and the keeping of Sabbath. Altars to Greek gods and idols were placed in every town and those who did not pray to them and convert from practicing Judaism were put to death.

Although many of the Jewish community were, at this point, Hellenized, the persecution of the Jewish people and the destruction of practicing Judaism united the Jewish people in Judea. The Jewish people needed someone to lead them. When Antiochus sent some of his officers to the town of Modi’in to lay down his tyranny and enact the oppressive laws that he had enforced, he was met by a local Jewish country priest named Mattathias. The country priest was ordered to fulfill his duty to the state and be the first to sacrifice a pig on the altar to an idol. Mattathias refused to do it. But, a Jewish man stepped forward to do it. Mattathias murdered the man. Then he tore down the idol, and preached "Let everyone who is zealous for the Torah and who stands by the Covenant follow me!" (I Maccabees 2:27). The Jewish people had their leader. He and his five sons, John, Simon, Judah, Eleazer, and Jonathan, rallied the Jewish population. In 167 BCE, the Jewish people rose up, with Mattathias as their leader.

Soon after 167 BCE, the family of Mattathias became known as the Maccabees or the hammer. They recruited tough Jewish people on the way and began a guerrilla [war](https://www.ancient.eu/war/) as they started to take over the northern villages of Judea. They tore down the altars of idols and killed those who worshipped them, even many Hellenistic Jews. Mattathias died in 166 BCE but just before death, he left Judah in charge of his army.

Antiochus underestimated the severity of the rebellion and the size and strength of the Jewish army. Instead of crushing them with the full force of his armies, he set his less effective generals on them. Judah, a wise and courageous military general, defeated them with consummate ease. Antiochus was made to look foolish. As a response, he set out to exterminate the Jewish population in Judea. Antiochus sent for his most glorified general, Lysias, and around 60,000 Seleucid soldiers to try and do just that.

Judah was severely outnumbered. However, the familiarity of Judea was a huge advantage for the Jewish army. Using the slight hills and the superior knowledge of the area, they out-maneuvered the Seleucids and slowly they picked them off. Finally, they came to [battle](https://www.ancient.eu/battle/). Judah had gathered another 7,000 Jewish rebels but still they were outmanned by at least five to one. As Judah stood there looking at the masses, so the story goes, he prayed to God for victory. The Jewish people overcame the massive difference in manpower to secure an almost impossible victory over the Seleucid Empire and over Antiochus.

After the defeat, Antiochus’ armies were devastated. They met again when Judah’s army was at the gates of Jerusalem, but it was a much shorter battle. The Seleucids were bereft of hope as Judah drove the enemy out of the Holy [City](https://www.ancient.eu/city/). The Jewish army had defeated Lysias. When Judah and his brothers went to the Temple, he saw the destruction and defilement that Antiochus caused, and was overwhelmed by grief (I Maccabees 4:36-40).

On Kislev 25, 165 BCE, *(not December 25th as the article states)* after months of work clearing and cleaning, the Temple was finally rededicated to Elohim. Their celebrations are known to this day as the celebration of Hanukah (the Feast of Dedication).”

Descendents of the Jews that defected to Greek culture, and pagan religion, were alive and well in the 1st century. They had meshed with the paganism of the Greeks, so had no desire to return to Jewish observance of Torah. When the Good News of the Jewish Torah-guarding Messiah, a message fast-spreading in Judea, Samaria, Asia-Minor, and into Rome, reached Greece, they feared, they felt threatened. Greeks and Hellenized Jews knew the basics of the teachings of the Apostles, and so collaborated in counterfeiting it--creating a new god for the Greek Pantheon, associated with their savior-god Zeus, and called him “Iesous.” In my mini-book *The Foundation of Deception* under the Mikvah of Present Reality or on Amazon Kindle, I go into detail on how the pagans loved this new pagan religion, for all the sun gods were savior gods, especially their chief god Zeus. The Greek version of “Christianity,” was originally a Gnostic religion, which Constantine reformed for his “Church.”

Sha’ul, speaking to those in Galatia, Asia Minor, wrote (**Galatians 1:3-8**): “Favor to you and peace from Elohim the Father and our Master Yahushua Messiah, who gave Himself for our sins, to deliver us out of this present wicked age, according to the desire of our Elohim and Father to whom be the praise forever and ever. Ah-main! I marvel that you are so readily turned away from Him who called you in the favor of Messiah, to the teachings of a different messiah…there are some who are troubling you and wishing to pervert the Good news of Messiah. However: even if we, or a messenger out of heaven, bring you a `Good News’ other than what we announced to you, let him be accursed.”

The Apostles were fighting two current religious movements that were coming against the purity of the Good News of Jewish Yahushua and the purity of Yahuwah’s Torah: 1) the counterfeit pagan religion of Christianity, named after the Egyptian-Greek “good god,” Christos, a pagan Gnostic religion, and 2) the dominant Pharisee religion, who said, for one example that said a man had to be circumcised for salvation. The Pharisee perversions of the Torah became known as Rabbinic Judaism in the 2nd century under Roman puppet Rabbi Akiva. Both continue to this day in even greater twisted perverse forms.

The purity of what Messiah Yahushua left us for salvation, and for right standing in the Kingdom of Yahuwah, declared war on Lucifer and his forces who were defeated by Messiah’s death and resurrection. In this, the words of **Genesis 3:15** were fulfilled, though Lucifer crushed the heel of Yahushua, Yahushua crushed his head. **I John 3:8**: “For this purpose was the Son of Elohim manifested--to undo (to *loosen us from slavery*) the works of the devil.” Yahushua will destroy all his “works” at His return (**Revelation 19**)

Messiah also restored the whole House of Ya’cob, and “whosoever wills,” to the simplicity of the Torah and relationship with His Father, so that Yahuwah’s teachings and instructions for right standing in His Kingdom became known by all His set-apart Redeemed children. These Instructions, taught by Yahuwah’s Spirit, sets us free; but twisted in the teachings of man--they can enslave a person. The Spirit sets free, Religion enslaves! The basic system of all “religion,” man controlling man, began after the Flood with Nimrod, based on Nimrod as the sun god, his son the son of the sun god, and his mother/wife the Queen of heaven and mother of God. Nimrod hated Yahuwah! Nimrod rebelled against the laws of heaven!

It was on the first day of Hanukkah 4 BCE, that Messiah was conceived. It was 15 months later on Hanukkah, December 25, 2 BCE (Gregorian calendar), when the miraculous “star” (a celestial joining of Jupiter and Venus) appeared over Bethlehem that showed the Magi from Parthia where to bring the inheritance of the Prophet Daniel to the young King of the Jews. An entourage of a few thousand with many stately Magi, respected men among the Jews, made their way to the house where Yosef, Miriam, and Yahushua were dwelling in Bethlehem, bringing, in today’s U.S. dollars approximately $500,000,000 dollars.

I refer you to my two podcasts about Yahushua’s Birthday under “Audio Teachings,” and the article/transcript: “Yahushua’s Birthday – The Truth About September 11, 03 BCE” under the Mikvah of Eternal Salvation.

**I Corinthians 8:9**: “For you know the favor of our Master Yahushua Messiah, that, being rich, He became poor for your sakes, so that you might become rich through His poverty.” Yahushua probably left His inheritance with His family, or used some of it during those 12 years of traveling to the lost sheep of the house of Israel (from age 18-30).

It was at Hanukkah that Yahushua declared His Deity! In “Cocoon – A Special Message for Hanukkah,” I go into detail on this with new insights.

Excerpts from **John 10:22-28, 30-32, 37-40**: “At the time, the Hanukkah (*Dedication*) came to be in Jerusalem, and it was winter. And Yahushua was walking in the Set-Apart Place, in the porch of Solomon. So the Jews surrounded Him and said to Him, `How long do You keep us in suspense? If You are the Messiah, tell us plainly.’ And Yahushua answered them, `I have told you, and you do not believe Me. The works that I do in My Father’s Name, they bear witness concerning Me. **You do not believe because you are not My sheep, as I said to you. `My sheep hear My voice and they follow Me.** And I give them eternal life…I and My Father are One.’ Again, the Jews picked up stones to stone Him. Yahushua answered them, `Many good works I have shown you from My Father. Because of which of these works do you stone Me?’ The Jews answered Him saying `We do not stone you for a good work but for blasphemy, and because You, being a man, make Yourself Elohim.’ …If I do not do the works of My Father do not believe Me, but if I do, though you do not believe Me, believe the works, so that you know and believe that the Father is in Me and I in Him.’ Therefore, they were seeking again to seize Him, but He went forth out of their hand…” [Derek’s Hanukkah blog of December 16th 2017 also speaks of John 10: thewelltroddenroad.org]

In **John 10:30**, He says “I and My Father are One.” The Greek word here is equivalent to the Hebrew “echad,” as in **Deuteronomy 6:4**.

The unity of **John 17 and 6:44-45**. In **John 17**, He says that He and His Father are One, and He wants us to be one with each other and with Them.

The Hebrew word is also used in **Genesis 2:20-24**: “…For this cause a man shall leave his father and mother and cleave to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.” **Genesis 5:2**: “Male and female He created them, and He blessed them, and called their name `Adam’ in the day they were created.”

The Hebrew word for “one” is “echad.” Clearly Adam and Eve were two people, yet He called “their name Adam.” They were one in His eyes. So it is in **John 17.** Yahushua wants us to be one, as a body of believers, just like They are One. If He were talking Eastern mystics, that one day we’d all be one big glob of spirit-goo with no personal identity, just one huge brain united, that would be against the entire Word. But, that is not what Yahushua was saying. He wants us to be like THEM, who are two separate Deities--One in a Father position as “the Most High” (Elyon), and one in a Son position of submission and obedience. Yahuwah and His Son-- in total unity as if They were singular! “Eloah is singular; Elohim” is plural! Yahuwah the Spirit, Yahushua His begotten Son (**Psalm 2**) are the original family! He created us to be adopted into that first micro-family.

Messiah, in praying to His Abba that we be one as They are One, He was saying we’d remain individuals, yet are in total unity with Them in all ways, so that we are united 100% just as He is united 100% with His Father in all ways. Please read these Scriptures: **John 5:19, 30; 7:16; 8:28, 40; 12:49-50 and 14:24.** As Yahushua was totally in unity with His Father, we must be also, otherwise we can’t be in unity with others who are.

Use this time of Hanukkah, the re-dedication of the temple, to dedicate yourself to being filled by His Spirit to the full, so that as Sha’ul said, we can say: “I have been nailed to the stake with Messiah, and I no longer live, but Messiah lives in me. And that which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of Elohim who loved me and gave Himself for me.”

Read the story of Eliyahu/Elijah on Mount Carmel and the 450 priests of Ba’al in **I King 18**. Ba’al was the chief Canaanite god, god of storms, who became a thorn in the flesh of Israel in their wilderness journey to the Promised Land. Today, symbols of Ba’al are everywhere – phallic symbols – from obelisks, to steeples, to pine cones, and pine or fir trees. Thus, Yahuwah’s forbidding of His people to bring a pine or fir tree into the house, set it up, and decorate it like the heathen did. (**Jeremiah 10:1-16**) The worship of Ba’al included human sacrifice of children. Today, as I wrote in “Gentle Sacrifice,” good parents sacrifice their children to the gods of this world, thinking they are doing right, having fun, enjoying the holidays.

I spoke at a Hebrew roots class years ago, Christians who were learning about the Torah. I was dubbed “controversial,” as was usual for anyone telling the stark truth of reality. I asked a question: “Which is evil – Halloween or Christmas?” All answered “Halloween.” Then came my answer that made them angry at me. I said: “Both! The most evil is Christmas.”

Halloween is unmasked with its horrors of real child torture and sacrifice. Christmas is masked, and puts on a front of fantasy, fun, sentimental sweetness, good will to all men, and joy to the world, yet it is a witch’s holiday for child sacrifice in honor of the birthday of all pagan sun gods.

In **Psalm 2**, we see a side of Yahuwah that few understand. He first laughs at the wicked, then He mocks them, then He executes His judgment. He has a long fuse, but once His “fire” begins to burn, we don’t want to be out of His favor. He is a Father more than a “God!” He sees His people as His children, until the rebellion of some of them force Him to be unable to claim them anymore. “…the fear of Yahuwah is the beginning of wisdom.”

**I Kings 18**: On Mount Carmel, there were 450 prophets of Ba’al, also 400 prophets of Asheroth. Yahuwah had one representative – Eliyahu!

Ba’al--a real fallen angel--knew he was defeated before the contest on Carmel even started. Eliyahu had the power to access the third heaven, the eternal dimension of Yahuwah. Ba’al could only access the second heaven and first heaven (stars, planets, and earth)! He carried no authority other than what was given to him by Yahuwah. So, even though his loyal followers were yelling and screaming and cutting themselves, begging for him to send fire on their offering, Ba’al didn’t bother showing up. He knew he was already defeated before the contest ever started. He knew the power and authority of Eliyahu that he had rightly from the Spirit of Yahuwah!

You, my dear friends, can access the Third Heaven -- You, who are submissive to His authority! Ba’al/Satan was bound by Yahuwah from entering the third heaven, the eternal dimension of Yahuwah. So, he was defeated before it ever started. Lucifer/Satan was defeated when Messiah said: “IT IS FINISHED!” and gave up His spirit to death. He went into Hades and took the keys of death and hell from the hand of Satan/Ba’al. (**Revelation 1:17-18**)

Anyone who has repented of sin, turned their back on the lying promises of the kingdom of darkness, saying “you shall be as gods,” and embraced the new Master Yahushua, the eternal Victor, asking for the Father to empower them by His Spirit, has been given all authority over all the abilities of the enemy (**Luke 10:19**). Satan, for Yahuwah’s set-apart ones, is a defeated foe. They know who they are, and the authority they have. They are the **Daniel 11:32** ones who know their Elohim, are strong, and act – in righteousness, obedience, and spiritual warfare. They are fearless, for **fear is no more than cowering to a defeated foe.**

At Hanukkah, Yahushua made it very plain that His sheep hear His voice and they follow Him, and a stranger they will not follow! (**John 10:3-5**) If we are the sheep of His pasture, we know His voice, and we flee from the voice of the stranger, for our Shepherd is Yahushua.

**Psalm 22** prophesies Yahushua’s death. **Psalm 23** prophesies the freedom He bought for His sheep from the destruction of the wolf--Satan. **Psalm 24** prophesies His victory and triumphant entrance into heaven after His resurrection. Hanukkah is a call for set-apartness unto our Shepherd-- our Master. It is a call for us to re-dedicate the temple inside our spirit to His sovereign control.

**I Corinthians 6:14-15a, 19-20**: “And Elohim, who raised up the Master, shall also raise us up through His power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Messiah?...Do you not know that your body is the Dwelling Place of the Set-Apart Spirit who is in you, which you have from Elohim, and you are not your own? For you have been bought with a price, therefore esteem Elohim in your body and in your spirit, which are of Elohim.”

Hanukkah is a call to set-apartness and separation from anything to do with the dark kingdom. Whatever is of this world, accepted and loved by this world’s people, is not from Yahuwah. He and Yahushua stand aloof from this world system that is under the power of the fallen angels. They call us to come to Them. “Be set-apart as I am set-apart,” declares Yahuwah. He has given us the rules of set-apartness. He has said that unless we are set-apart unto Him, we will never see Him. He says that we must be more set-apart now than ever before, for the time of the revealing of the evil ones openly to the world is near.

On Mount Carmel, Eliyahu asked the worshippers of Ba’al: “How long will you hop between two opinions? If Yahuwah is Elohim, follow Him, and if Ba’al, follow him…And you shall call on the name of your god, and I, I call on the Name of Yahuwah! And the One who answers by fire, He is Elohim!”

I’ll repeat a story I’ve told before. I am simply a servant of Yahuwah, so I tell this account for no other reason except to give you an example of your right as a set-apart child of the King to access the Third Heaven. Every day we can access the third heaven by prayer, proclamation, and praise. But, sometimes, being in unity with Him brings us some amazing interaction!

In 2005, I was on a Mount called Mar Elias, in north Jordan. On this mountain was an ancient Byzantine Church (5th century) dedicated to Elijah. Below the church was what the Arabs call “Listib,” which the Bible calls “Tishbe,” the home of Eliyahu. **Eliyahu means “My Elohim is Yahuwah!”**

It was a sunny day. I was with two ladies, one from England and one from Wales. We were doing intercession over north Jordan, proclaiming His Word, opening doors for Abba’s entrance into the hearts of the people. I had insisted that our taxi driver must take us to Mar Elias, not realizing that the ruins of Listib/Tishbe were on a hill in the valley just below it. I wanted to be near where Eliyahu grew up. I wanted to know what it was that gave Eliyahu such a relationship with Yahuwah that he had the authority to go before Ahab and declare: “As Yahuwah Elohim of Israel lives, before whom I stand, there shall be no dew or rain these years, except at my word.” He was a Levite, yes. But, Yahuwah has also made us a “kingdom of priests.” (**Exodus 19:5-6 and I Peter 2:9**) He gave His Torah to us – a kingdom of priests, His representatives on earth - mediators between Him and earth’s people!

A side note from the “faith chapter, **Hebrews 11:40**, “that they should not be made complete apart from us.” Those great ones of faith in the past look forward to meeting us! Without our overcoming in the day ahead, the body of Elohim will not be complete. Do you realize how important you are!

For 3 years there was no rain, not until after the contest on Mount Carmel. Then Eliyahu prayed for rain, and it came. If Yahuwah trusts us, He will give us His mind, then we can proclaim it forth from our mouth and it will be done! (**Mark 11:22-26**) But, we must have His nature, walk in His ways, and operate in His thinking, else He can’t trust us.

On that mountain, as I was used to doing in intercession, I knew I had to call out the Name of Yahuwah over the Jordan Valley below. I knew in my spirit that His Set-Apart Name had not been spoken there since Eliyahu lived there. I stood by the church wall overlooking the valley. It was a sunny day with a few white fluffy clouds in the sky. The deep valley below paralleled Israel to the West along the Jordan River. My two friends were talking, standing a few feet away from me. I told them I was going to call out Abba’s Name, but I never expected what happened.

As I called out Yahuwah loudly, not realizing then that I was calling it out over a small hill in that valley where the ruins of Tishbe were, instantly there was a mighty, loud, crash of thunder that exploded in front of me; the sound rolled down the valley. I turned to look at my friends, their faces showed their shock. I turned back and called out His Name again. As soon as His Name left my lips, there was another explosive sound of thunder very close by over the valley. I saw no lightning, though it is lightning that produces thunder in the natural world. But, I was dealing with the “natural world” at that time. I only saw a thin wispy white cloud that had come and was paralleling the valley below me. I cried out His Name a third time and the thunder crashed again. Then all was silent. No thunder before or after, only immediately following the calling of His Name.

It was Daddy letting me know that He heard the desire of my heart. But, later in re-reading **I Kings 18:24**, I stopped to analyze that event. The Elohim who answers by fire is the true Elohim, as Eliyahu spoke to the children of Ba’al and Asteroth: “You call on the name of your god, and I, I will call on the Name of Yahuwah. And **the Elohim who answers by fire**, **He is Elohim**.” Lightning, electrical fire, does produce thunder. However, my experience was no Mount Carmel, but He answered!

In Mel Tari’s account of the great revival in Indonesia in the 1960s, entitled *Like a Mighty Wind*, he tells of being with a Catholic priest in his church in a small village. He told the priest that the idols had to be removed if he wanted favor with God. The priest objected. Mel Tari posed a contest. Bring all the idols into the center of the church. The priest did. Then Mel Tari basically told the priest that he would call on the God of the Bible to “express His opinion: of them. As Mel prayed that sunny clear-sky morning, lightning came down through the ceiling of the church and destroyed all the idols. **Malachi 3:6**: “For I am Yahuwah, I do not change.”

Is our Daddy personal? Oh yes – personal with those who are personal with Him! The more set-apart to Him we become, the more He intervenes in our lives. I’m not talking about withdrawing from others, hiding in a cave, or looking and acting like a religious weirdo. We are called daily to pray and proclaim, and praise, and prophesy, and be ready to give an answer of the hope that is in us to all whom He leads us to. We must let our light shine before men, so that they might see our Father in us. Our loyalty to Him attracts attention and He lets us know He loves us--the more loyalty, the more personal intimacy.

This Hanukkah, dedicate yourself to His service; set yourself more apart unto Him than ever before! I refer you to “A Radical View of Set-Apartness” under the Mikvah of Set-Apartness. We are now to be more set apart unto our Father than ever before (**Revelation 22:11b**). If we are not, we will be swept up in the chaos of the world that is fast coming upon us.

As the majority of the Jews separated into the camp of Antiochus and Greek culture and religion, so there will be the few who separate into the camp of Yahuwah and stand firm, like Mattathias and his sons.

The anti-messiah, the Beast, is here, waiting for his time of revealing. Will you be fearful and yield to his deception to save your life, like the Hellenized Jews did, or will you put on the armor of Yahuwah and stand with Him and win like the Maccabees? The only way you will not fall to fear is if you know Them so well that you are absolutely positive of their love.

Reaching back into the article “Cocoon – A Special Message for Hanukkah,” it is the time that we must stop crawling around looking for our next meal in this life, and enter the cocoon of **Psalm 91:1**. Inside His secret place, under His shadow, the transforming power of the Spirit can work to transform us into a beautiful butterfly that can soar into His Kingdom.

**II Corinthians 3:17-18**: “Now Yahuwah is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of Yahuwah is, there is freedom. And we all, as with unveiled face, see as in a mirror the esteem of Yahuwah, and are being transformed into the same likeness from esteem to esteem, as from Yahuwah, the Spirit.”

Yahuwah wants a family who knows Him and loves Him. I exhort you to know Yahuwah within the temple of your spirit! I exhort you to relinquish self-control over your life, and give your life to Him to change you from esteem to esteem!

I conclude with excerpts from Yahuwah’s promises to us in **II Corinthians 6:15-7:1**, and **Romans 8:28-39**:

**II Corinthians 6:15-7:1**: “What agreement has Messiah with Ba’al?...and what union has the Dwelling Place of Elohim with idols? For you are a dwelling place of the living Elohim, as Elohim has said, `I shall dwell in them and walk among them, and I shall be their Elohim, and they shall be My people.’ `Therefore, come out from among them and be separate,’ says Yahuwah, and touch not what is unclean and I shall receive you. And I shall be Father to you, and you shall be sons and daughters to Me,’ says Yahuwah the Almighty. Having, then, these promises beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all defilement of the flesh and spirit, perfecting set-apartness in the fear of Elohim.”

**Romans 8:28-39**: “And we know that all things work together for good to those who love Elohim, to those who are called according to His purpose. Because those whom He new beforehand, He also ordained beforehand to be conformed to the likeness of His Son, for Him to be the first-born among many brothers. And whom He ordained beforehand, these He also called, and whom He called, these He also declared right. And whom He declared right, these He also esteemed.

What, then, can we say to all of this? If Elohim be for us, who can be against us? Truly, He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up on behalf of us all, how shall He not, along with Him, freely give us all else? Who shall bring any charge against Elohim’s chosen ones? It is Elohim who declares right. Who is he condemning? It is Messiah who died, and furthermore is also raise up, who is also at the right hand of Elohim, who makes intercession for us.

Who shall separate us from the love of Messiah? Shall pressure, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? …But in all this, we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. For I am persuaded that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, in either the present or the future, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature shall be able to separate us form the love of Eohim which is in Messiah Yahushua, our Master.”

Let us re-dedicate ourselves to Him this Hanukkah! Let Him know that you will be loyal to Him through all that is coming on the earth, and meet Yahushua in the air!

In His love,

Yedidah

December 17, 2017