## 300 Days Until Chanukah? Updated 2006

How Understanding Chanukah may hold the key to Yahshua's return!

Sermon Notes of Message Delivered At B'nai Yahshua Synagogue & Internationally
On

Month 9 Day 28 or 12-11-04 By Rabbi/Brother Moshe Yoseph Koniuchowsky

Daniyel 8:14-Chanukah the Hebrew word meaning dedication, is celebrated for eight days in the 9th Hebrew month beginning on the 25th day. It is not a Biblically mandated holy-day, however it carries a timeless message of dedication, rededication, and commitment to the ways of YHWH. We light candles to remember the festival of rededication. The Chanukah candles according to the sages were actually prophesied on Mt Sinai-Says the Ramban, "is to remez/hint at the Hanukah (dedication) of candles during the second Temple era. When they brought twelve sacrifices, and the tribe of Levi did not bring any sacrifice, YHWH said to Moses: 'Speak with Aaron and tell him that there is a different dedication which involves lighting candles, and through your sons I will make use of this dedication to perform miracles and salvation for the people of Israel. The Almighty said to Moses, 'Go tell Aaron not to worry, for he is destined for even greater honor.

By the time of Yahshua, Chanukah had become a regular holiday, as is mentioned in the Gospel of Yochanan/John "And it was at Jerusalem the feast of the dedication (i.e., Chanukah), and it was winter." – Yochanan/John 10:22. Yahshua was there, at the Temple lighting the candles, in recognition of this annual remembrance. It is also clearly described prophetically in the writings of the Prophets.

In Daniel chapter 8, the prophet describes an incredible dream that he had in the year 551 BC, in the Days of Belshazzar, king of Babylon. This dream prophesied the coming of Alexander the Great, and the desecration of the Temple by Antiochus. Read- Daniel/Daniyel 8-1-27.

The historical record reveals that the Persian kingdom pushed westward into what is now the Land of Israel, northward into Syria, and southward into Egypt. Then came Alexander the Great, the Greeks' first king, who defeated the Persians and destroyed their power in the east. "And the he-goat magnified himself exceedingly: and when he was strong, the great horn was broken; and for it came up four notable ones toward the four winds of heaven." (Verse 8:8) Four kingdoms shall stand out of the nation, but not in his power (8:22)

The four kingdoms that arose out of the empire of Alexander at his death were those of

"the Seleucids at Antioch, of the Ptolemies in Egypt, of Lysimachus in Thrace, and of Cassander in Macedonia." Further, "out of them came forth a little horn, which waxed exceeding great," and profaned the altar in the sanctuary. (Verses 9-14) This refers to "a king of fierce countenance" (verses 23-25) whose name was Antiochus Epiphanes, the great persecutor of the Jews in the second century B.C. Antiochus desecrated the altar in Jerusalem by erecting on it a heathen altar. This altar remained for three years. Finally, the Temple was once again purified and the altar of the YHWH dedicated at a feast that lasted 8 days, the "first Chanukah". A record of these events is found in the Books of the Maccabees. 8 symbolizes a new beginnings, or the olam habah/age to come. THE END TIME ISLAMIC ANTI MESSIAH WILL ALSO COME FROM TURKEY. ANTIOCH IS MODERN TURKEY, THE EASTERN LEG OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE, OR THE "FEET OF CLAY-EDOM (ISLAM) AND LEGS OF IRON (ROME)."

How long will the regular offering be forsaken and the Temple desecrated because of the transgression? "2,300 evenings and mornings or 1,150 days or 3 years and 1 day, the day of the 1st Chanukah! Then the sanctuary shall be cleansed." -- Daniel 8: 9-14. So historically, 2,300 evenings and mornings are in play.

Epiphanies' name means YHWH made manifest. What were his goals? Hellenism; To force Greek culture and lifestyle on the Jews.

To force the Jews to abandon the faith of their forefathers and become 'westernized'. The introduction of Hellenistic cults and the worship of a multitude of pagan elohim.

In 170 BCE a law was announced requiring all citizens to present themselves four times a year to pay formal homage to Antiochus Epiphanies as the senior "elohim" of the Seleucids. The day chosen for these periodic submissions was Shabbat. They allowed...

No observance of the Sabbath Day.

No observance of Rosh Chodesh – or the Hebrew months, which marked the appointed moadim (holy-days).

Fathers were forbidden to circumcise their sons.

All were forbidden to study, or even possess a Torah.

Nashim – Jewish Brides – were required to spend one night with the Greek general before she was permitted marriage.

The introduction of "sports," sporting events, and physical competition into the Hebrew culture.

In addition, Antiochus Epiphanies dared to occupy Jerusalem, enter the Holy of Holies, desecrate the sanctuary by offering unclean animals (swine) upon the alter of burnt-offerings, pollute the entire building by sprinkling it with water in which flesh had been boiled, dedicated the Temple itself to Jupiter Olympus, and erected the statue of that deity in the Temple and plundered the Temple treasures. THE END TIME ISLAMIC ANTI-MESSIAH WILL ALSO ENTER THE ABOMINATION OF DESOLATION, THE AL

AQSA MOSQUE COMPLEX, INCLUDING THE DOME OF THE ROCK, THAT CURRENTLY EXISTS AND TRIES TO FOOL PEOPLE INTO THINKING THAT ANTI MESSIAH AND ALLAH ALONE DECIDE WHO CAN LIVE AND WHO MUST DIE.

Rav Kook found a connection between Yosef and the Greek persecution. The midrash describes the Greek, anti-religious persecution as follows. "'And darkness' (Beresheeth 1:2)- this is the exile of the Greeks, which darkened the eyes of Yisrael through their decrees. For they [the Greeks] would say to them: 'Write on the horn of a bull that you have no part in the YHWH of Israel' " (Beresheeth Rabba 2). The horn of a bull refers to the symbol of Yosef. This is because we find Yosef described in Moshe's blessing to the tribe as a bull and as possessing horns (Devarim 33:17). They attempted to have Judah follow in Joseph's apostasy. The spiritual aspect is represented by the assimilation of one's heart to seek a return to Egypt and Egyptian solutions such as healing taught by Assyrian-Greeks.

The root of the Maccabean uprising was this: Greek cities were built throughout Syria, Egypt and Israel, and they included pagan temples and sports arenas, which were outrages to the Jews. Nevertheless, many Jews assimilated . . . some going so far as to have cosmetic surgery in order to remove the mark of circumcision. These Hellenistic Jews joined forces with their rulers and betrayed their own people. The foreign rulers of Israel had no intention of exterminating the Jewish people, but they were bent on forcing the Jewish people to accept their culture and refute their faith, YHWH and the Torah. At the beginning of the Syrian rule, loyal Jews maintained control of the Temple. About 100 years later, Antiochus IV succeeded to the throne. Soon thereafter, a Hellenized Jew who called himself Jason bribed the king for control of the Temple, and was installed as the Priest over Israel.

Various political conspiracies took place after this, culminating on the 15th of month 9, 168 BCE, when an idol was erected in the Temple. On the 25th of that month, hogs were offered on the Altar to a pagan idol.

Mattityahu the Hasmonean was of a priestly family, and, refusing to yield to the Greeks, he fled from Jerusalem, after slaying a fellow Jew who had submitted to Jason, the Hellenized Priest, and offered the swine to YHWH. He took his sons and other loyal Jews with him, but the king's forces pursued them. Mattityahu decided to fight back, together with his five sons, Shimon, Yahudah the Maccabee ("Maccabee" is an acronym from the first initials of the Hebrew words me camochah bealeym YHWH"), Eleazar, Yochanan and Yonatan. These men believed that they could not free Israel from foreign rulers, but they were willing to risk their lives so that the Jewish people could enjoy spiritual freedom and control of their Temple. Mattityahu died, but the sons continued to fight under the leadership of Yahudah the Maccabee. The Maccabees, with four battalions of 1,000 men each, defeated an army of 40,000 soldiers and 7,000 cavalry. Then in 165 BCE, Yahudah gathered a force of 10,000 Jews and defeated an

army of 60,000 soldiers and 5,000 cavalry. The Greek-Syrians gave up control of the Temple and returned to their capital, Antioch in what is now Turkey.

When the Maccabees and their followers returned to the Temple, they saw it was desolate and defiled. They rededicated it back to YHWH after the cleansing exactly 3 years, 2,300 mornings and evenings after its desecration, fulfilling Daniel 8:14. yahshua will do the same after He returns to cleanse the temple Mount from the abomination that makes Yahwistic homage desolate nowadays.

Close Tesloniqyah Bet 2:1-12-It is possible that after 2,300 days of years, all that was defiled by ISLAM and Greco Roman paganism, will be cleansed as Yahshua returns? That means 2,300 minus 2,000 leaves us with Yahshua's return hinted to take place in ABOUT 300 more years. This is not date setting just "seasonal awareness acknowledgement." (:

Just enough time for all things to be wrapped up! All those who believed THE LIE of a Torah-less Messiah and that Allah and Islam is just a differing view of the same YHWH Elohim, and the subsequent resulting lifestyle of those believing such, will be "taken away" and thus the temple again will be cleansed as YHWH suddenly returns to His Hekel to purify the sons of Levi from Islamic oppression and defilement.