

DEVARIM CHAIM (WORDS OF LIFE)

A publication of
Kehillah B'nei Abraham



January 2025



From the Editors

Dr. Dee/Tiffany Dennis

Kehillah B'nei

Abraham (KBA) is

translated as

Congregation of

the Children of

Abraham where

Jewish and

Gentile Believers

live out their faith in the G-D of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and His Messiah Yeshua.

We worship and learn together from all the richness of G-D's Living Word (Genesis through Revelation); especially the revelation of G-D's Holy Son, Messiah Yeshua. We do this in the culture of Judaism (which is the culture our Messiah lived during His time on earth--His first coming) in order to better understand His teachings to live out His instructions in our daily lives.

Open Arms for Visitors: Visitors are always a cherished part of our community! We extend a warm invitation to you, your friends, and your family to join us for any of our services. Our *Shabbat Shacharit* services are **live streamed** right from our website www.kba.life.

KBA Website: We have a plethora of resources (under the **RESOURCE** tab), plus, our services are now archived. Feel free to peruse our website. If you have questions, please let us know.

SERVICES: Our weekly Shabbat services are held in person at World Life Church, 495 S. Perry Street, Lawrenceville, Georgia 30046, and also live streamed each Saturday at 11:00 a.m. Visit us at www.kba.life for more information.

Hanukkah

Each day during Hanukkah, Cheryl sent an email detailing the historical and contemporary application for believers in Yeshua as His little light and salt in the earth. As a reminder, why we celebrate Hanukkah is included again in this newsletter, and as a prayer, let us remember to always carry the "torch" of love, light and service in the Name of our Savior and L-RD, Yeshua. May your days be filled with glorifying **ABBA** and drawing others closer to Him. *Dee*

What Is Hanukkah?

Hanukkah (*Chanukah*) is the Jewish eight-day, wintertime "festival of lights," celebrated with a nightly menorah lighting, special prayers and fried foods.

The Hebrew word *Chanukah* means "dedication," and is thus named because it celebrates the rededication of the Holy Temple (as you'll read below). Also spelled *Hanukkah* (or variations of that spelling).



When Is *Chanukah*?

Chanukah begins on the eve of Kislev 25 and continues for eight days. On the civil calendar, it generally coincides with the month of December. *Chanukah* 2024 runs from Dec. 25-Jan. 2.

What *Chanukah* or *Hanukkah* Celebrates...



Artist Dominic Alves captured this image of a snowy *Chanukah* in Brighton, UK.

In the second century BCE, the Holy Land was ruled by the Seleucids (Syrian-Greeks), who tried to force the people of Israel to accept Greek culture and beliefs instead of *mitzvah* observance and belief in G-D. Against all odds, a small band of faithful but poorly armed Jews, led by Judah the Maccabee, defeated one of the mightiest armies on earth, drove the Greeks from the land, reclaimed the Holy Temple in Jerusalem and rededicated it to the service of G-D.

When they sought to light the Temple's *Menorah* (the seven-branched candelabrum), they found only a single cruse of olive oil that had escaped contamination by the Greeks. Miraculously, they lit the menorah and the one-day supply of oil lasted for eight days, until new oil could be prepared under conditions of ritual purity.

To commemorate and publicize these miracles, the sages instituted the festival of *Chanukah*.

At the heart of the festival is the nightly *menorah* lighting. The *menorah* holds nine flames, one of which is the *shamash* ("attendant"), which is used to kindle the other eight lights. On the first night, we light just one flame. On the second night, an additional flame is lit. By the eighth night of *Chanukah*, all eight lights are kindled.

On Friday afternoon, care must be taken to light the *menorah* before *Shabbat* candles are lit, and the following evening they are to be kindled only after *Shabbat* has ended.

Special blessings are recited, often to a traditional melody, before the *menorah* is lit, and traditional songs are sung afterward.

A *menorah* is lit in every household (or even by each individual within the household) and placed in a doorway or window. The *menorah* is also lit in synagogues and other public places. In recent years, thousands of jumbo menorahs have cropped up in front of city halls and legislative buildings, and in malls and parks all over the world.

We recite the special *Hallel* prayer daily, and add *V'Al HaNissim* in our daily prayers and in the Grace After Meals, to offer praise and thanksgiving to G-D for "delivering the strong into the hands of the weak, the many into the hands of the few ... the wicked into the hands of the righteous."

[Information taken from https://www.chabad.org/holidays/chanukah/article_cdo/aid/102911/jewish/What-Is-Hanukkah.htm]

According to the website *Hebrews4Christians*, *Hanukkah* is not mentioned in the *Tanakh* but appears in the Renewed Covenant in the Gospel of John 10:22-24 it mentions that Yeshua was at the Temple at the Feast of Dedication or *Hanukkah*.

During the season of remembering miracles, we would do well to remember that Our Messiah Yeshua is ultimately the *Menorah* that lights our path to *ABBA*, guides our daily walk and secures our place with Him in the World to Come.

Yeshua is the light and hope for the world and the reason we pledge allegiance to Him.

For further information please visit Chabad.org or Hebrews4Christians

Hanukkah Music:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wWskKG2f9VQ>

HANUKKAH 2024 AT KBA



HELPING HANDS NEEDED



We have wonderful leaders and helpers at KBA who tirelessly work to serve our Savior Yeshua, as well as the members of our Messianic Synagogue. If you are not part of a ministry, please consider lending a helping hand when you can. We are currently in need of help in the following areas:

- **Audio/Visual Ministry**
- **First Responders**
- **Greeters**
- **Ushers**
- **Oneg Help - See Cathy Smith**

If you are able to serve in a KBA ministry, please contact one of our leaders...Rabbi, Bobby, Steve or Cheryl.

PRAYER WITH THE RABBI 🙏



Yeshua warned His disciples to *watch and pray* lest you enter into temptation.

Matthew 26:41

At 10AM each Saturday morning before *Shabbat Shacharit*, Rabbi Rene invites all men for a time of prayer. The prayer group meets in his regular Torah Club classroom located downstairs.



Pray for *shalom* in Yerushalayim;
may those who love you prosper.
Psalm 122:6 CJB

SCRIPTURES FOR THE MONTH

Now if any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives to all generously and without reproach; and it will be given to him.

James 1:5 CJB

Music: For Unto Us a Son is Born - enjoy a song from One with Israel Ministry:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ePPPNkK_I_SQ

CALENDAR

Jewish Holidays for 2025

Please click on link for full details:

<https://www.hebcal.com/holidays/2025>

January 10: Asara B'Tevet

Dawn to Nightfall is a minor fast in Judaism commemorating the siege of Jerusalem by Nebuchadnezzar II of Babylonia.

