



HANUKKAH TELLS US HOW G-D DELIVERED HIS PEOPLE AND PREPARED THE WORLD FOR THE MESSIAH

I. THE BIBLICAL STORY OF HANUKKAH WHO CONTROLS ISRAEL

A. The Persian period from
539 BCE to 333 BCE

Daniel 11:2

"And now I will tell you the truth. Behold, three more kings are going to arise in Persia. Then a fourth will gain far more riches than all of them; as soon as he becomes strong through his riches, he will arouse the whole empire against the realm of Greece.

Daniel 8:1-4, 20

¹ In the third year of the reign of Belshazzar the king a vision appeared to me, Daniel, subsequent to the one which appeared to me previously. ² I looked in the vision, and while I was looking I was in the citadel of Susa, which is in the province of Elam; and I looked in the vision and I myself was beside the Ulai Canal

Daniel 8:1-4, 20

³ Then I lifted my eyes and looked, and behold, a ram which had two horns was standing in front of the canal. Now the two horns were long, but one was longer than the other, with the longer one coming up last. ⁴ I saw the ram butting westward, northward, and southward, and no other beasts could stand before him nor was there anyone to rescue from his power, but he did as he pleased and magnified himself.

Daniel 8:1-4, 20

²⁰ "The ram which you saw with the two horns represents the kings of Media and Persia.

I. THE BIBLICAL STORY OF HANUKKAH

B. The Kingdom of Alexander the Great
from 333 to 323 BCE

Daniel 11:3

**"And a mighty king will arise, and he will rule
with great authority and do as he pleases.**

Daniel 8:5-8a, 21

⁵ While I was observing, behold, a male goat was coming from the west over the surface of the whole earth without touching the ground; and the goat had a conspicuous horn between his eyes. ⁶ He came up to the ram that had the two horns, which I had seen standing in front of the canal, and rushed at him in his mighty wrath

Daniel 8:5-8a, 21

⁷ I saw him come beside the ram, at him; and he struck the ram and shattered his two horns, and the ram had no strength to withstand him. So he hurled him to the ground and trampled on him, and there was none to rescue the ram from his power. ⁸ Then the male goat magnified himself exceedingly. ²¹ "The shaggy goat represents the kingdom of Greece, and the large horn that is between his eyes is the first king.

I. THE BIBLICAL STORY OF HANUKKAH

B. The Kingdom of Alexander the Great
from 333 to 323 BCE

- Conquered the World

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- Hellenization

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B. The Kingdom of Alexander the Great
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- Conquered the World
- Hellenization
- Favored the Jewish People

I. THE BIBLICAL STORY OF HANUKKAH

C. The Division of the Kingdom

Daniel 11:4

"But as soon as he has arisen, his kingdom will be broken up and parceled out toward the four points of the compass, though not to his own descendants, nor according to his authority which he wielded, for his sovereignty will be uprooted and given to others besides them.

Daniel 8:8, 22

⁸ Then the male goat magnified himself exceedingly. But as soon as he was mighty, the large horn was broken; and in its place there came up four conspicuous horns toward the four winds of heaven. ²² "The broken horn and the four horns that arose in its place represent four kingdoms which will arise from his nation, although not with his power.

I. THE BIBLICAL STORY OF HANUKKAH

C. The Division of the Kingdom

- Cassander of Macedonia

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C. The Division of the Kingdom

- Cassander of Macedonia
- Lysimachus of Asia Minor
- Seleucus of Syria
- Ptolemy of Egypt

I. THE BIBLICAL STORY OF HANUKKAH

D. The Ptolemies gain control
from 331-198 BCE

Fight for Israel

Daniel 11:5,6,9,11

⁵ "Then the king of the South will grow strong, along with one of his princes who will gain ascendancy over him and obtain dominion; his domain will be a great dominion indeed

Daniel 11:5,6,9,11

⁶ "After some years they will form an alliance, and the daughter of the king of the South will come to the king of the North to carry out a peaceful arrangement. But she will not retain her position of power, nor will he remain with his power, but she will be given up, along with those who brought her in and the one who sired her as well as he who supported her in those times.

Daniel 11:5,6,9,11

⁹ "Then the latter will enter the realm of the king of the South, but will return to his own land. ¹¹ "The king of the South will be enraged and go forth and fight with the king of the North. Then the latter will raise a great multitude, but that multitude will be given into the hand of the former.

I. THE BIBLICAL STORY OF HANUKKAH

D. The Ptolemies gain control
from 331-198 BCE

- Fight for Israel
- Division in Israel

I. THE BIBLICAL STORY OF HANUKKAH

E. The Selucids gain control
from 198-164 BCE
Daniel 11:15,18,19

¹⁵ "Then the king of the North will come, cast up a siege ramp and capture a well-fortified city; and the forces of the South will not stand their ground, not even their choicest troops, for there will be no strength to make a stand.

I. THE BIBLICAL STORY OF HANUKKAH

E. The Selucids gain control
from 198-164 BCE
Daniel 11:15,18,19

¹⁸ "Then he will turn his face to the coastlands and capture many. But a commander will put a stop to his scorn against him; moreover, he will repay him for his scorn. ¹⁹ "So he will turn his face toward the fortresses of his own land, but he will stumble and fall and be found no more.

I. THE BIBLICAL STORY OF HANUKKAH

F. Antiochus rises up from 175-164 BCE

Daniel 11:21,25,28

²¹ "In his place a despicable person will arise, on whom the honor of kingship has not been conferred, but he will come in a time of tranquility and seize the kingdom by intrigue. ²⁵ "He will stir up his strength and courage against the king of the South with a large army; so the king of the South will mobilize an extremely large and mighty army for war; but he will not stand, for schemes will be devised against him

Daniel 11:21,25,28

²⁸ "Then he will return to his land with much plunder; but his heart will be set against the holy covenant, and he will take action and then return to his own land.

Daniel 11:29-31

²⁹ "At the appointed time he will return and come into the South, but this last time it will not turn out the way it did before. ³⁰ "For ships of Kittim will come against him; therefore he will be disheartened and will return and become enraged at the holy covenant and take action; so he will come back and show regard for those who forsake the holy covenant.

Daniel 11:29-31

³¹ "Forces from him will arise, desecrate the sanctuary fortress, and do away with the regular sacrifice. And they will set up the abomination of desolation.

I. THE BIBLICAL STORY OF HANUKKAH

G. The incident in Modiin in 168 BCE

Daniel 11:32

"By smooth words he will turn to godlessness those who act wickedly toward the covenant, but the people who know their G-d will display strength and take action.

II. THE SIGNIFICANCE FOR US TODAY

A. G-d prepared the world
for the Messiah

Galatians 4:4

But when the fullness of the time came, G-d sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law,

II. THE SIGNIFICANCE FOR US TODAY

B. Hanukkah is the festival of lights

Psalm 27:1

¹ The L-rd is my light and my salvation

Isaiah 42:1,6

¹ "Behold, My Servant, whom I uphold; My chosen one in whom My soul delights. I have put My Spirit upon Him; He will bring forth justice to the nations. ⁶ "I am the L-rd, I have called You in righteousness, I will also hold You by the hand and watch over You, and I will appoint You as a covenant to the people, As a light to the nations,

Isaiah 49:5-6

⁵ And now says the L-rd, who formed Me from the womb to be His Servant, to bring Jacob back to Him, so that Israel might be gathered to Him (for I am honored in the sight of the L-rd, and My G-d is My strength),

Isaiah 49:5-6

⁶ He says, "It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the preserved ones of Israel; I will also make You a light of the nations so that My salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

John 1:4,5,9-12

⁴ In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men. ⁵ The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. ⁹ There was the true Light which, coming into the world, enlightens every man. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. ¹¹ He came to His own, and those who were His own did not receive Him.

John 1:4,5,9-12

¹² But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of G-d, even to those who believe in His name,

John 8:12

Then Yeshua again spoke to them, saying, "I am the Light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of life."

II. THE SIGNIFICANCE FOR US TODAY

B. Hanukkah is the proclamation
of deliverance
Acts 26:17-18

¹⁷ rescuing you from the Jewish people and from the Gentiles, to whom I am sending you, ¹⁸ to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the dominion of Satan to G-d, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who have been sanctified by faith in Me.'

II. THE SIGNIFICANCE FOR US TODAY

C. Hanukkah is the proclamation
of deliverance
John 8:24

"Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for unless you believe that I am He, you will die in your sins."

II. THE SIGNIFICANCE FOR US TODAY

D. Hanukkah is the time for dedication
1 Corinthians 6:19-20

¹⁹ Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from G-d, and that you are not your own? ²⁰ For you have been bought with a price: therefore glorify G-d in your body.

II. THE SIGNIFICANCE FOR US TODAY

D. Hanukkah is the time for dedication
Romans 12:1

Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of G-d, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to G-d, which is your spiritual service of worship.

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HOW G-d DELIVERED
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