

Full Sermon Transcript:
Hanukkah for the True Christians
November 18, 2023

Disclaimer: This transcript is computer-generated and may have mistakes or inaccuracies. Though for the most part, the software does a really good job.

Let's go into prayer. Lord Heavenly Father, praise Your Holy Name of Jesus. Thank You, Lord, for getting us through this week, last month, thus far this year, and throughout all the years and decades of our lives.

Thank You for getting us through all the storms and trials, all the sorrows, mountains and valleys. Thank You for getting us through.

And You are faithful to finish the work that You started in us. You are faithful to fulfill all the promises of the Bible and all the prophecies thereof.

You are faithful, Lord. You are the Great. Amen. You are the beginning and the ending, first and the last, the Alpha and the Omega. We praise You and worship You.

We thank You, Lord, for this blessing that we're about to receive, this message. We ask You, Lord, that it will reach more and more people, that Your truth will reach more, meaning more people, in the coming days, weeks and months and years ahead, that more people will be confronted with Your Word, with Your truth.

We pray, Lord, that You would gather us together with true brothers and true sisters that will not forsake You and who would not move outside of the center of Your will, but stay in the ministry that You have called, the ministry of truth, righteousness.

We ask, Lord, for fellowship, help and support, co-workers in Christ, our true family.

We ask them that we may receive in the mighty and holy name of Jesus, so be it, and we accept Your blessing upon these services and on this message, the sermon.

We accept Your anointing, Your Word and Your presence, the movement of Your Spirit. We accept it all in the name of Jesus, and we denounce and make void of a curse, spell and hex against us.

We make them void and null in the name of Jesus Christ, by the blood of the Lamb, by the name of Christ Jesus, and by the power of the Holy Ghost and the power invested in us.

We claim victory and restoration in Christ Jesus, so be it. And all of this we say, amen. And the church said, amen.

Praise God.

Let us turn to the book of Maccabees. First Maccabees 4 in the history volume of the Alpha and Omega Bible. And the book of Maccabees is missing in a lot of people's Bibles.

But we know for a fact that the books of Maccabees were in the original Bibles. In the Greek Septuagint, as well as even in the King James Version of 1611, it was there.

It became the Geneva Bible of the 1500's when they came out with the Geneva Bible before the King James. The book of Maccabees was there as well.

It is Scripture. It is part of the Bible. Just because they took it out does not mean it's not Scripture when we know for a fact that it was part of the Bible in those B.C. years and in the first century A.D. as well.

So it is part of the Bible. And we're reading it from the Alpha and Omega Bible, which is a restoration of the original Scriptures using older manuscripts than what the King James was based upon.

We're in 1 Maccabees 4, and we're going to start with verse 52, and this is on page 279 if you have the paperbacks of the Alpha and Omega Bible.

Page 279, and we'll let people continue to find their way to 1 Maccabees 4 starting in verse 52.

And the subject today is Hanukkah for true Christians. Most people see Hanukkah as being only a Jewish holiday, but they also see even the weekly Sabbath as being for the Jews, but we don't see that written in the Bible. Amen.

There's no reason in the Bible that says that God's holy days and His Sabbaths are for the Jews only. The closest they can come to that would be that God is speaking to the children of Israel, but there's a reason that it says that.

And that is that the other nations of that day and time had rejected the true God, the God of Israel. So He's speaking to the audience. He's speaking to those present. He's speaking to those that are willing to listen, even if they were rebellious. Amen.

They had gathered at the mountain. They had followed the servant of God, Moses, to Mount Sinai to receive the Ten

Commandments and some of the other law, but there was already commandments and laws even before that. Laws of God, commandments of God. Abraham was before Moses, way before Moses, and the Bible says he kept the law and the statues and the commandments of God. It says it that way, the laws and the statues and the commandments of God, which shows that there was a lot of law of God way back before Moses.

And most Christians don't realize that, even though that's in the Bible. Amen. So, what they see as Moses' law, and what they see as being Jewish, is actually for anybody that's willing to listen and obey, for anybody that's willing to serve the true God, the true God of Israel, the Alpha God of Israel, the Original God of Israel, the true God of the entire world, the Creator. Amen.

If we're willing to serve Him, it's the same law for everybody. Amen. He's both God of the Jews and of all the other Israelite tribes, and of the Gentiles, if they would embrace Him.

And even in the times of Moses and before and after, at all times of history of the Bible, Gentiles were welcome, absolutely, and they were welcome to convert and to accept and follow and obey the God of Israel.

They would convert by having baptism, even in the time of Moses and other times throughout biblical history, they would be baptized, they would keep the Ten Commandments, they would keep the Sabbaths of God in the biblical holy days, and it was for anybody, any race, any person, any color, any tongue, any language, that chose to serve the God of Israel.

That's the way it always was. That's never changed. Amen. These are facts, absolutely undeniable facts. Amen.

Let's read here, starting in verse 52. We're going to read from there all the way down through the end of this chapter. Verse 52 says, When we think about the ninth month, it's talking about God's calendar, not the Roman Catholic calendar that the Western world uses today.

So, we're actually talking about November, December, and that would vary year to year because God's calendar does not match perfectly or stay in line with the Roman Catholic calendar that is being used.

So, this can vary between November through December, and even the day of the month will also not match the Roman calendar.

But we would start counting the days from the first view of the crescent new moon. We would start counting the days up to 25 days of that month.

Now, in this year, that would bring us to December the 8th of 2023, December the 8th of 2023, for this year.

But whatever date it would have been in the Roman calendar in that one, whatever the date would have been in the Roman calendar of that time, of course the Roman calendar hadn't been invented yet, but it says, which is called, in the Assyrian Babylonian tongue, it was called Casleu.

And in the 148th year, that would have been 164 B.C., they rose up early in the morning.

So, maybe the Roman calendar was in existence at that time, I don't know, but a different version of it would have existed, a different version of it than what we have today.

And they rose up early in the morning and offered sacrifice, according to the law, upon the new altar of burnt offerings which they had made.

And look at what time and what day the heathen had profaned even in that same time that it had been dedicated with songs, citherns, hearts, and symbols.

Then all the people fell on their faces, not backwards, but fell on their faces, that would be forward, worshipping and praising the theos of heaven who had given them good success.

But the context is good success after having been defeated. It was an immediate victory. They had been defeated, they had been conquered in many different ways, they had lost a lot of different battles, a lot of people had died.

A lot of their best men, women, and children had died. There was great destruction, they had lost the temple of God, the temple of God had been desecrated, had been defiled greatly.

They had suffered a great loss. It was not immediate success. But here, the temple had been restored, and they were happy for it, and they were celebrating the restoration of the temple and the dedication of the restoration of the temple.

So, verse 56, and so they kept the dedication of the altar eight days, which today we call Hanukkah, which is actually a Syrian word, but that's okay to use it as just vocabulary. Amen.

But here they were calling it the fiesta of dedication. It's also known today as the festival of lights, Hanukkah. But here it calls it the dedication. It also calls it that in the New Testament, I believe.

So they kept the dedication of the altar eight days. And it's interesting, eight days, because we think of the Feast of Time and Apples as being seven plus one, that's the way we think of it. We think of it being eight days, and then you've

got Passover and Unleavened Bread, it's also seven plus one, eight days.

So that's very significant that this is also eight days showing divine, heavenly, anointing, opponent. It was God that had gave them the final victory, even though they had lost many battles. God gave them the final victory. God gave them the restoration. Amen.

Eight days, therefore a confirmation of anointing and blessing, to be just like any of the other holy days. A lot of people who keep, say, Feast of Tabernacles and Passover and the other biblical holy days, a lot of them don't keep Hanukkah and Purim because they don't have where Moses wrote. That you must keep it.

But the reality is that the Maccabee family, who did instruct and command the people to keep Hanukkah, what we call today, they were the servants, they were the equivalent of Moses.

They were the ones basically sitting in the seat of Moses. Those are the ones sitting in the office of administration of prophet, apostle, servant of God.

So it doesn't matter whether it's Moses or Noah or Daniel or Jeremiah or the Maccabees or Mordecai and Esther.

Or even apostle Zimmerman. It doesn't matter. As long as they are true servants of God, with the authority of God upon this earth, it doesn't have to come from Moses. Right?

It doesn't have to come from the apostle Paul either. Amen? It can come from any of God's chosen servants, if they have proven themselves as God's chosen servants.

If God has also proven that person, they do have to prove themselves as God's person, but God also proves that person as well. Amen?

8 days and offered burnt offerings of gladness and sacrificed the sacrifice of deliverance and praise.

So we don't today, we don't sacrifice a lamb and animals and stuff like that, but we still have the burnt offering of gladness and the sacrifice of praise. Amen?

Verse 3 to 7, And they decorated also the forefront of the temple with crowns of gold, and with shields, and the gates and the chambers they renewed and hanged doors upon them.

Thus was their very great gladness among the people, for that the reproach or the shame of the heathen was put away. Moreover, Judas and his brethren, with the whole congregation of Israel, declared that the days of the dedication of the altar should be kept in their season from year to year by the space of 8 days.

From the 25th day of the month, what was then called Casleu, with mirth and with gladness.

So we need to remember that the festival of Hanukkah, the festival of lights, the festival of dedication, whatever you want to call it, is a time of joy, worship, praise, rejoicing, being glad. Amen?

And we can decorate our homes, we can decorate, we can put up different types of decorations. It's not pagan to decorate. It's not even pagan to exchange gifts.

What is pagan is the fairy tale of Christmas, and the fairy tale of Easter, and the fairy tale of Sunday, because those are all based upon absolute lies.

Absolute lies. Amen. But it's not pagan or wrong, or wrong in any way, shape, or form to decorate appropriately for Hanukkah, Purim, Feast of Tabernacles, and Unleavened Bread, and Pentecost, and so forth, the Day of Atonement, and Trumpets, any of the biblical holy days.

It's okay to be glad. It's okay to feast. It's okay to celebrate. Amen. Verse 60, at that time also they built of the Mount Zion of high walls and strong tires around about, lest the Gentiles would come and tread it down as they had done before.

And they said they were garrisoned, a guard, to keep it, and fortified the town of Bethshura to preserve it, that the people might have a defense for Judea.

Now, we also read about this in 2 Maccabees. Let's go to 2 Maccabees chapter 10, page 311.

2 Maccabees 10, verse 1. And Maccabees and his company, his people, the Lord guiding them, received the temple and the city, or recovered, it says recovered, restored the temple and the city.

But the altars which the heathen had built in the open street, and also the chap-tiles, they pulled down. And having cleansed the temple, they made another altar, and striking stones, they took fire out of them and offered a sacrifice after two years, and set forth incense and menorah and bread of visible purpose, which other Bibles call what the bread, the showbread.

And verse 4, And when they had done, when that was done, they fell flat down, that would have been forward on their faces, and besought the Lord, besought the Lord, that they might come no more into such troubles, but if they sinned any more against Him, that He Himself would chastise them with mercy, and that they might not be delivered into the

blasphemous and barbarous nations.

Now, upon the same day that the strangers profaned of the temple, but a different year, on this very same day, it was cleansed again, even the twenty-fifth day of the same month, which is Casleu.

And they kept the eight days of gladness, as in, as they did in the fiesta of tabernacles, remembering that not long ago they had held the festival of the tabernacles when they had wandered in the mountains and caves like bees.

Therefore they bore branches and fair broths and palms also, and sung songs unto Him that had given them great success in cleansing His place, and they ordained also by common statute and decree by law that every year those days should be kept of the whole nations, or the whole nation of the Judeans.

And people would say, okay, just for the Jews. But again, what does the New Testament say? The New Testament says a true Jew is one that has been circumcised in the heart, not in the flesh. Amen?

The Bible is very clear, the Apostle Paul, that so many Christians idolize so very strongly, he himself very, very much taught that a true Christian is a Jew in the eyes of God.

And when we look at Revelation 2 and Revelation 3, where God is speaking bad against the synagogue of Satan, who say they are Jews but are not, that's not at all talking about a race of people, or people claiming to be of the bloodline of the Jews.

It's not talking about the fake tribes of Israel. What it's talking about are people claiming to be saved, claiming to be spiritually God's people.

It's talking about Christians who claim to be saved, because saved Christians who are truly, truly called of God and truly saved of God, they are Jews in the eyes of God. They are.

We are Judean Christians. That is the real and true and official name of Christianity, is Judean Christians.

Realizing that true Christianity came from the basis, the foundation of the Ten Commandments, the biblical law, even the old covenant, all of it was a foundation for Christianity.

The only thing that changed with Christ is that he explained how to do it the proper way, and what was the original law before additional law was added on because of transgressions.

So he did away with the clean and unclean meats, and the need for circumcision, things like that, because those things were foreshadowings of what would be truly accomplished in Christ Jesus.

That his body and his blood became the Lamb of God, and that that is the only animal symbolism that we really need today in relationship to our salvation, is the Lamb of God.

We have no need of the symbolism of clean and unclean pork and different things of different animals, because the Lamb of God, his blood is powerful enough, his crucifixion was powerful enough to put a separation between the old covenant and the new covenant.

He tore the veil in the temple. Exactly. He tore the veil in the temple. Exactly. The curtains were ripped into, to allow us access into the Holy of Holies. Amen.

So a lot of people think we're old covenant because we keep the biblical commandments, but obeying God is not an old covenant thing alone. Even in the new covenant, we're still required to obey God. Amen.

We have several prophecies in the Bible about still yet keeping the Sabbaths of the Lord even after he returns, throughout the millennium and beyond, until paradise, until we reach paradise when there will no longer be the counting of time, days and weeks and months. Amen.

So, just because it was proclaimed for the Judeans at that day and time of Maccabees, does not prove that it should not be kept by Christians today, because we are Judeans, spiritually.

And we don't have that phrase for the Feast of Tabernacles and Passover every day. It doesn't say the Judeans when you look at those Holy Days. Amen.

And let's go to chapter 2 of 2 Maccabees. 2 Maccabees chapter 2, we're going to read 19 verses here.

And it's good to see Brother Adri listening in South Africa and others that are listening from South Africa today because of the situation.

So, in 2 Maccabees 2 verse 1, it is also found in the records that Jeremiah, the prophet, commanded them that were carried away to take of the fire as it had been signified.

And how that the prophet, having given them the law, that is, Jeremiah had given them the law, commanded them not to forget the commandments of the Lord, and that they should not err in their minds when they see the images of silver and gold with their ornaments.

As with other such speeches, he demanded them that the law should not depart from their hearts. It also was contained in the same writing that the prophet, being warned of Theos, commanded the tabernacle and the ark to go with him as he went forth into the mountain where Moses climbed up. So, Jeremiah went to the very same mountain that God gave the Ten Commandments to Moses and to the people. Isn't that interesting? Isn't that wild and wonderful? Amen. And saw the inheritance of God. Verse 5, and when Jeremiah went there, he found a hollow cave wherein he laid the tabernacle and the ark and the altar of incense and so sealed the door. And some of those that followed him came to mark the way, but they could not find it. Which, when Jeremiah is perceived, he blamed them, saying, As for that place, it shall be unknown until that time that Theos gathers his people again together and receives them unto mercy. And that speaks of restoration. Amen. And restoration is the theme of the fiesta of dedication of the altar of the temple, the festival of lights that we call Hanukkah.

Restoration. That even though the people had lost many battles in the time of the Maccabees, during the time of Antiochus Epiphanes, evil be his name, they had lost many battles. Many people had been murdered for righteousness, for serving God. But God restored the people and restored the temple and restored the nation. God restored his people. Hanukkah is about restoration, and that is something that New Covenant Christians should honor and respect. Restoration is important to New Covenant Christians. It's a good thing to think about. It's a good thing to really examine and to remember and to learn lessons from.

Did not Paul say that all scripture was profitable for doctrine and teaching and edification? And when he said that, he wasn't talking about New Testament whatsoever at all, because in that day and time, scripture in the mind of Paul and the church was the Old Testament. Amen. That was the scripture he was referring to. All scripture is all of the Old Testament, and in that day and time that Paul said that to the Corinthian church, or whoever church, whatever he was writing to at the time when he said that, the book of Maccabees was in the Bible. So he was saying that even the book of Maccabees. Amen. If he was able to interview Paul today, if he was alive today, or if he was allowed, we know that you're not supposed to talk to the dead, but we know that the fifth seal, some of the saints of the past, come awake for a few minutes and have a conversation with God. Amen. If we were able to interview Paul and ask him, when you wrote that all scripture is profitable for doctrine and edification and so forth, did that include Maccabees? He would say, absolutely yes. And when we get into the millennium, or actually into the second resurrection, well actually the millennium, Paul would be there in the millennium, in the first resurrection. When we get to speak to Paul, we will be able to speak to Paul, some of us, during the millennium, and we ask him at that point of time, did you mean Maccabees? I guarantee you he's going to say, yes, of course I meant Maccabees. I'll let you take that out. Amen. Of course he meant Maccabees. I'm sure that Paul was extremely familiar with the book of Maccabees, extremely familiar with it. He would have been just as familiar with Maccabees as he was the book of Jeremiah, and Daniel, and Genesis. Amen.

But continuing here, verse 8, So here we're talking about that there's a connection between Hanukkah, which it starts talking about in the very next verse, verse 9, there's a connection between Hanukkah, and what Solomon did with the temple, and what Moses did with the tent of Tabernacle that had at one time contained the Ark of the Covenant, and so forth. All these different time periods of a place of worship, whether it was the tent of Tabernacle, or the first temple, or the second temple, all these different times, time periods, of a place of worship that God had appointed, that there was a connection between all of them. Amen. And verse 9, and it was also declared that he, being wise, offered the sacrifice of dedication and of the finishing of the temple. And as when Moses prayed unto the Lord, the fire came down from heaven and consumed the sacrifices, even so prayed Solomon also, and the fire came down from heaven and consumed the burnt offerings. Dedication, in verse 9, is the key word here, connecting Hanukkah in connection with what Moses did, and with what

Solomon did.

Verse 11, And Moses also, because the sin offering was not to be eaten, it was consumed, so Solomon kept those eight days.

Footnote here says that, according to the Jews, the tabernacles of witness built by Moses in the desert were also finished on that same day of the twenty-fifth day of the ninth month, although not assembled until three months later. Nevertheless, that's a significant connection in Moses' time, that the tabernacle of witness of the tent built by Moses was finished on the twenty-fifth day of the ninth month.

Verse 13, The same things also were reported in the writings and commentaries of Nehemiah, and how he found in a library gathered together the acts of the kings, the prophets and of David, and the epistles of the kings concerning the holy gifts.

So, that was a restoration right there of scripture that had been lost during the time of the Babylonian captivity.

So here, the Bible is being restored, found. Verse 14, In a like manner also, Judas gathered together all the things that were lost by reason of the war that he had, and they remained with us.

So, there's a restoration here. So, it connects what Judas Maccabees did. In verse 14, it connects what Judas Maccabees did in the time of the Maccabees, Antiochus Epiphanes, and Hanukkah.

It connects it with a great theme of a connection that he was doing similar to Moses and Solomon.

Verse 15, And if you so have neither of, send some ones to fetch these things unto you.

Whereas we then are about to celebrate the purification, so we could also call it the dedication of purification.

We have written unto you that you shall do well if you keep the same days. You would do well if you keep the same days.

You know what that reminds me of? We need to have a cross-reference here at it. Paul said that. Or did Jesus say that? Jesus.

For sure Jesus had said something about in connection with Passover, so we'll find that.

It's a very, very, very, very similar phrase of what Jesus said about the communion.

Or maybe Paul had said it about the communion. We'll find that reference that I'm trying to think of.

And we'll post it on Parrhesia later on. Do you know what it is? I don't know what that is, but... Do you know what it is, Brittany, that I'm thinking of? Or anybody?

Anybody? Adri? Or Kareem? Or A.J.? Was it Paul said it, or did Jesus say it? We'll come back to that if anybody thinks of it.

But verse 17, verse 17, that the theos that delivered all his people and gave them all a heritage. I think it's Paul said it. And gave them all a heritage and a kingdom and the priesthood and the sanctuary. Verse 17, again, that word delivered all his people. So it's about deliverance.

Deliverance and restoration. Isn't deliverance an important theme for even New Covenant Christians, even in the end time? Deliverance and restoration are still important elements, points and principles that are still important to this very day. Those things, a need for understanding of deliverance and a promise of deliverance, a promise of restoration, these promises are not done away with by the blood of Christ. Amen.

Verse 18, as He promised in the law, we'll shortly have mercy upon us and gather us to gather out of ever laying under heaven into the holy place. That's talking about the resurrections.

You're talking about something that is edifying for New Covenant end time Christians?

That is important for end time Christians. Amen. Restoration, deliverance in the context of resurrection.

To gather us out of ever laying under heaven, meaning every nation under heaven, into the holy place, talking about for the marriage sufferer. Amen.

Brother Adri says it's the words of Paul, and I think he's right. We'll find that later on, post it on social media. Thank you, Brother Adri.

Now, the person that wrote this book of Maccabees did not know, did not understand, that he would not rise in the first resurrection. They did not understand everything.

The people in the old covenant times, they will have to rise in the second resurrection.

But nevertheless, it's still a resurrection, it's still a deliverance, and it's still a restoration. Amen.

For He has delivered us out of great tribulations and has purified the place. Verse 19, now as concerning Judas

Maccabees and his brethren, and the purification of the great temple, and the dedication of the altar. Amen.

So the lesson of Hanukkah is very important for our current end time. End time, since he does bring up the resurrection. But I'll tell you something else. I came to my mind last night, I'm sure the Lord laid it on my heart, as I was working on preparing for the sermon for today.

And that is, this is very important in the context of what's occurring right now in world events in Israel, in the Gaza Strip, with the war between Hamas and the world.

It's really not Hamas and Israel, but Hamas and the world, the whole world. Hamas has a goal of destroying the whole world of anyone that's not an Arab, of anyone that's not a Muslim, anyone that sides with Israel, anyone that sides with America.

All Americans and all Jews and all Israelites. It's Hamas versus the world. Amen.

This message of Hanukkah, a message of deliverance and restoration, and a message that in all the different lessons that come from observing Hanukkah and from reading the book of Maccabees, all these different lessons are profitable for preaching and teaching and edification and correction and rebuke.

All these are very important in the context of what's happening right now in the Middle East, and all these protests against Israel, and all this anti-Semitism that has risen up all across the world.

Was it not a war against the Judeans in the time of the Maccabees? Amen. Was it not a war of a Gentile against the Jews? Amen.

Was it not that in the Babylonian conquest and the Assyrian conquest and in the Roman conquest?

Was it not Gentile versus Jew? Was it not tribe against tribe, nation against nation? Amen.

It's exactly what we're experiencing now occurring in the world. It's the same thing in every generation. Amen.

And will not Israel be plundered again, even though there's not a temple standing there right now?

Will Israel and the Jews and the Judeans, will they not be plundered again and conquered again? Of course they will.

Absolutely.

History repeats itself over and over and over. We need to realize and understand that the Bible does promise and predict the coming conquest of Israel again, the land of Judea.

It will happen again. And much defilement. Amen. Murder and martyrdom. It will happen again. A repeat of Hanukkah without a temple building.

But yet, God saw His people through the storm, through the war. Many people died, but He preserved a remnant.

That is a great promise that He always, the Bible says He always preserves a remnant of His people.

That He will not allow all of Israel to be completely wiped out, even though Hamas and Hezbollah, Iran and Syria, Russia and China, would love to wipe out every, every Israelite and every Jew off the entire surface of the planet. They would love to do that.

But God will not allow that. By God's supernatural hand, He will not allow ever last human, nor ever last Israelite, to be wiped off this earth. Simply, simple as that. Amen.

It's promised that He will always preserve a remnant. That He will always protect some of His people.

And that those that He does not protect, they may die but be resurrected, or they may live and endure the trials, the sufferings.

Famine, disease, captivity. He doesn't promise that we won't get sick. He doesn't promise that we won't be arrested. He doesn't promise that we won't be taken captive.

Even Jeremiah was taken, well not Jeremiah but Daniel, was taken captive. Even Joseph was taken captive. Many mighty men of God throughout the Bible was taken captive. Even John the Baptizer, right?

Many of the apostles and prophets, both in Old Testament and New Testament both, were martyred, arrested, greatly persecuted. Paul was arrested repeatedly. Peter was arrested repeatedly.

Jeremiah was arrested. Jeremiah was arrested. And Jeremiah was thrown down in a pit. Joseph was thrown down in a pit. He doesn't promise us victory on every occasion.

And that's why I hate it when I constantly, constantly see all these memes on the internet, social media, that's always saying, you don't have to do anything. God will fight your battles for you.

Yes, there are multiple verses that does say all you have to do is stand still and the Lord will fight your battle for you.

Yes, there are Bible verses that say that.

But what about all the other Bible verses where God's people had to fight? They ignore that because that doesn't tickle

the ear.

So I think just to pad out these verses that are one-sided, as if God promises that He will fight for you and win the battle for you on your behalf every time, that's not healthy.

To get the people into that mentality of thinking that they'd never have to fight. The devil uses scripture to make the people weak, weak-minded, infant-minded, feeble-minded, not prepared for the reality of battle.

The same thing with the pre-tribulation rapture fairy tale. To get people to think that they don't have to endure suffering, that they're not going to be tested much greater than what they already are, that they're not going to have to worry about the Antichrist and the Mark of the Beast and who the Antichrist is.

That they don't have to worry about it. Get the people to think as babies that don't realize the dangers of the real world. As a weak mentality, to use the Bible and twist it and to take things out of context and to share it and to get all these Christians to think that God will do everything for you, that you never have to do anything for yourself.

Let's go to the book of John in the New Testament. John chapter 10. Because a lot of people are going to be like, everything you read so far is Old Testament. And they hate the Old Testament even though the Old Testament is still the Word of God.

But let's go to John chapter 10 verse 22. John 10 verse 22. At that time, the fiesta of dedication as Hanukkah took place at Jerusalem. Amen.

Verse 23 says, And it was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portica of Solomon.

And we see the Judeans gathered around him and was talking with him and they had this next conversation.

Even though this doesn't focus on their observance of Hanukkah, we know by logic, by common sense, if we have just a little bit of a brain, we know that the reason that Jesus and His disciples were there and the other Judeans were there, it doesn't say it was the weekly Sabbath, right, but rather it was the dedication. It was Hanukkah.

There were other people there too, the Judeans, not just the disciples, but the Judeans. So it was other than the disciples. There were people there because it was Hanukkah.

He was there because it was Hanukkah, of course, if we have a little bit of a brain. People say that we don't have any evidence that Jesus kept Hanukkah, but yes we do. Amen.

It doesn't have to say it out, straight out, A, B, C. We have some common sense. And here we're to be in a perfect place to say, even though it's not necessary, but it doesn't say that. Amen.

I also don't see any words where Paul wrote later that Hanukkah was done away with or that it's not necessary for New Covenant Christians.

To say that it's not necessary, we need a verse to actually tell us that in some way, some shape, some form. Even if it's not A, B, C, we need something to say that it's not important for us today, and we don't have that in any way, shape, or form.

Now there's some other reason why we may want to keep Hanukkah as well.

Let's go to John chapter 1, and it's very relevant that the one time that the New Testament does mention Hanukkah is in the book of John, which is the very same book of John 1, and also chapter 8, which we'll look at next, but chapter 1, talking about Jesus being the light of the world.

And we know that Hanukkah is also called the Festival of Lights. In John 1, I don't have the verse written down. If we can find, we can go through here, right here, verse 8 and verse 7, John 1, even verse 5, even before that.

So let's just start in verse 1. Verse 1, In the beginning existed the Word, and the Word was in Theos, and the Word was Theos. He was in the beginning in Theos, and all things came into being through Him, and apart from Him, nothing came into being that has come into being.

In Him was life, and the life was the light of mankind, and the light shined in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. Then came a man sent from God, whose name was John, John the Baptizer.

He came as a witness to testify about the light, so that all might believe through Him. He was not the light, John, but He came to testify about the light. Amen.

So we know He's talking about Jesus being the light.

Then look at chapter 8, John chapter 8, verse 12. John 8, verse 12.

Then Jesus 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.

So twice in the book of John, at least twice, we see Jesus being called the light.

Then not far from that is chapter 10, that's only two chapters next, past this, where we see that He is in the temple during the time.

So I don't think that's coincidence, that it appears in the same book and in the same part of the book as being the first 10 chapters, the first 10 chapters, the festival of lights.

We know for a fact that Jesus was not born in the month of Christmas, the ninth month of God's biblical calendar and the tenth month of God's biblical calendar.

Sometimes December 25th would fall in the ninth month, sometimes December 25th would fall in the tenth month of God's calendar.

We know that Jesus was not born around the Christmas season. We know that for a fact, absolute fact, absolute fact, undeniable fact. That's an absolute thing, it's absolute fact.

It's just that Christmas is a lie, is a lie, is a straight out lie. We know it's a lie. Amen. A bad lie, an evil lie, a forbidden lie, that type of lie. Amen.

We know that actually He was born around the time of either trumpets or tabernacles in the seventh biblical month. We know that for a fact.

We may not know for a fact 100% absolute whether it's trumpets or tabernacles or the first day of tabernacles or the second or third day of tabernacles.

We can debate those things, but we know it was the seventh month. Amen. The reason we know that with absolute certainty is the fact that we do, we can find about His cousin, John the Baptizer was His cousin, and that there was only six months difference in their ages.

That's fact. We can't debate that. We know there was only six months difference in the age of His cousin, John the Baptizer, and Jesus.

That He was born only six months apart. We also have the ability to look at when John's dad was ministering in the temple of God as a priest.

We know that that was a certain time of year and that John the Baptizer was conceived at a certain time of year. We know that. We can figure that out.

We can figure that out and we can calculate the difference. And when you calculate the difference of six months, we can determine that Jesus would have been conceived by the Holy Spirit of God at, around, either at or very close to the time of Hanukkah.

And I believe it was at the time of Hanukkah. So that would make complete sense. That would make complete sense that the light of the world coming into the world during the fiesta of lights. Would not that make complete sense?

Amen.

The light of the world coming into the earthly realm, the physical realm, during the fiesta of lights would make complete sense and would line up perfectly with the time frame of when He would have needed to be conceived in order to be born around the time of trumpets or tabernacles. Most likely, tabernacles.

A perfect alignment. I don't believe it's coincidence that the one time the New Testament talks about Hanukkah in the New Testament is within the ten chapters of John, the same region book of John of, the same part of the book of John that speaks about Him being the light of the world.

We know that Christmas is Satan's counterfeit of Hanukkah. Christmas to the lost world is a festival of lights.

Decorating with lights all over the place. Christmas lights is a major huge part of Christmas.

That would be Satan's counterfeit of the festival of lights. Even as Easter is Satan's counterfeit of Passover. Amen.

We know that the Bible never, ever, ever approves or promotes annual birthday celebrations. Jesus walked on the earth and the flesh for around 33 years. We believe it was 33 years. And not one time did the apostles in those last three and a half years that they walked with Jesus everywhere as He went.

Out of those three and a half years we don't have any example at all. Any example. Absolute moon. None. Zero. Of the apostles observing His birthday during His lifetime. And we also have absolutely zero examples of them observing His birthday after His crucifixion and resurrection.

Even though the apostles continued to write four and five decades and even John the apostle, not John the baptizer, but John the apostle wrote the book of Revelation even later than that. And none of those people wrote anything about the observance of His birthday. Not even once. But there is writing about the observance of Pentecost and Passover. There is writing about that.

Even decades after the crucifixion and the resurrection. Even though the typical lost Christian believes those days were done away with, the New Testament actually speaks about it decades after the crucifixion that the new covenant church was keeping the biblical holy days. Amen.

If people would just read their Bibles. Amen. Another thing we should consider is that the world, the lost world, wants us to celebrate a birthday, a physical birth, which the Jews would have considered a pagan celebration. The first century church did consider, absolutely did, we know that for a fact, that the first century church considered physical birthday celebrations as a pagan thing that the heathens would do because of self-worship. It absolutely is self-worship.

So they would rather us to do a self-worship, self-idolization, self-glorification, pagan self-birthday, and a birthday of other people, rather than celebrating conception.

There is a comparison and there is a difference between celebrating the conception of Christ and the physical birth of Christ, which there's not even the physical birth of Christ in that particular month. It's a lie.

But nevertheless, we can compare a celebration of physical birth, which the Jews considered as pagan pride, pagan self-worship, self-glorification, and the good and acceptable biblical thing of celebrating conception.

They did celebrate conception.

And there's nothing wrong with celebrating when the woman gets pregnant and they're going to have a child. That's a reason for celebration in the Bible. Amen. That was a good thing. That was a blessing from God. Amen.

There's nothing wrong with celebrating the conception of Christ, which is when Christ really came into the world. He was alive before He was born. He was alive in the earth before He was born. He was alive in the flesh before He was born. Amen.

He came into the earth nine months before He was born. The Savior, the Messiah, came to the earth in the form of a flesh nine months before His birth. Amen.

The lost Christian church, the fake Christian church, don't want you to celebrate when He really came into the world. Amen.

They don't want to celebrate conception because they would rather murder the babies in the womb. Amen. They celebrate abortion. Even some so-called Christian churches celebrate abortion.

There are thousands and perhaps even over a million fake Christians that celebrate abortion. What a great blasphemy that is. Amen.

And they call themselves Christians, such as Biden and others, Nancy Pelosi and all those Democrats that celebrate the murder of babies in the womb all the way up to the very birthday and even after.

It's insane. They are so insanely wicked. How can anyone claim to be a Christian and a Democrat at the same time?

That is such a blasphemous statement.

Another thing we should consider is how many holy days do we have in a year? We know that God's number of perfection and completeness is seven.

We start out in the spring in the northern hemisphere in Israel. In the spring we start it with Passover and unleavened bread. Now we could count that Passover and unleavened bread as two, but really it's just one.

But really it's just part of the one festival, especially for the Jews that consider it as one. Then we come to Pentecost in the summer. That's two.

Then in the autumn of the year we come to Trumpets. That would be three.

After Trumpets you have atonement. That would be four.

Then we have Tabernacles in the last great day, which we also count as one. That would be the fifth holiday of the year.

Then after that you come to Hanukkah.

Then after that you come to Purim.

And only if you do count Hanukkah and Purim, we come out to seven biblical holy days.

As far as holy day, you count the eight days of Tabernacles as one, you count the eight days of Passover as one. Then if you do it that way, only by including Hanukkah and Purim do you come out to the number of completeness of seven biblical holy day seasons per year. So that makes complete sense. Amen.

The truth is logical. The truth makes sense. We don't need a commandment directly from God telling us to keep Hanukkah in the new covenant time. We have His personal example that He was present during Hanukkah at the temple at the same time as other Judeans.

We have that example and He did set us the perfect example. We are to follow His example.

We also have the commands of His chosen servants, the Maccabee family, which were the people sitting in the authority of God on the earth, His chosen apostles of the time, people at the seat of Moses at the time.

And we should continue to honor and respect what they wanted the people to do. We also have the good fruit and the good edification and the good lessons that come from observing Hanukkah. Lessons that are very important for us today.

The importance of deliverance and restoration and the importance of understanding and comprehending and remembering that we're not guaranteed to win every battle along the way.

Many people may get sick, many people may get killed, many people may be murdered, but that God will restore His people.

That God will always preserve a remnant and that He will preserve even those that die. He will preserve and restore His people.

That is a very, very significant, very majorly important edification and things for New Covenant. In time, Christians. Amen.

Good fruit. There's no evil fruit that comes from it. And we have the common sense to observe it. Common sense to observe it.

There's absolutely no reason not to observe it. Amen. No reason not to observe it. No reason at all.

God will not condemn us for observing it. Amen. Amen. God will not condemn us for observing it. Even though you've got a lot of pastors and fake Christians that would claim that He would condemn you for observing it. They obviously don't know God. Amen.

The Bible says if you say that you know me and keep not my commandments, you're a liar.

And the only Christians and pastors that would say that God would condemn us for observing Hanukkah are the same ones that are not keeping His commandments of the Ten Commandments, the Fourth Commandment, the Second Commandment, the First Commandment. They're breaking them all. Amen.

And they say they know God better than us, and that God would condemn us for keeping Hanukkah. They don't know God. Amen.

Was it not the religious people that was God's, Jesus' greatest enemy when He walked upon the earth? Amen.

It was the religious people that was His greatest enemy. Nothing changes. It's the same today. It is the religious people who think they are holier than thou and that they think they know what they know when they don't know crap. It is those people that will put us down for observing God's holy days.

Now, we do have an article already on the website that we've had on there for multiple years about Hanukkah. I'd encourage you, if you've never read the article on our ministry website about Hanukkah, I would encourage you to go ahead and read that between now and December the 8th.

It does start December the 8th this year, and we observe Hanukkah this year of 2020 through 2023 from December the 8th through the 15th for eight days.

How do we observe Hanukkah in the New Covenant time?

We observe by lighting seven candles or seven light bulbs. It does not have to be a menorah. Not everybody can afford a menorah or have access to one. If you have one, that's fine as well, but it should be only a seven-candle menorah.

We do not believe, nor do we accept, a nine-candle menorah. Only a seven-candle. Because you only find seven candles of a menorah in the Bible, anywhere in the Bible. Old Testament and New Testament. Maccabees, anywhere in the Bible. We only read about a seven-candle menorah.

We know that there are Jewish traditions, but we don't trust the traditions of people. We want to go by the Bible, and we only have the example of a seven-candle menorah in the Bible. But you don't need a menorah. You can use seven candles, or you can use seven light bulbs. It doesn't matter.

It would be better to use real candles or a real fire. It would be better. But some people have small children, some people have dogs and cats and turtles or whatever that might knock off the candles. So you have to be careful. We don't want anybody to burn their house down.

So if a real fire of seven real candles, if that would be a danger in your house because of small children and animals, then seven light bulbs would be fine. You can find very small miniature light bulbs. You can find electronic candles, especially during the Christmas season.

You might be able to find seven small bulbs or seven fake electric candles during the Christmas season. We can take advantage of that. There's nothing wrong with going into the Christmas section of the store, even though we're going to be like, yuck, yuck, yuck, all the pagan stuff.

But there's nothing wrong going into that section to seek out appropriate, acceptable decorations for celebrating the true God with righteousness and truth. Amen.

Of course, we do not do the wreaths, which are funeral wreaths. We don't do that crap. We don't do the nine candle menorah. We don't do the Christmas tree. But it is acceptable to exchange gifts only among other true believers, true brothers, true sisters who are observing Hanukkah for the same reason you are.

We should not be exchanging gifts with the Christmas people for Hanukkah, because if you do that, to them it's going to feel like they're receiving a Christmas gift from them. Amen.

You can't be exchanging Hanukkah gifts with Christmas people. That's opening the door up to Satan. That's compromise.

So if you exchange gifts, it should only be with true brothers, true sisters that are observing the Hanukkah for the same reason you are, not with the Jews who are observing Hanukkah.

Why would you not exchange gifts with them? If you have a friend, a neighbor, a roommate, a family member that's a Jew, and they're celebrating Hanukkah, why should you not exchange gifts with them? Or why would you not go to their house and celebrate the same holiday? I'll tell you why. Because they're not serving the same God. Amen.

They're not serving the same God. They're not doing it for the same reason. Amen. We do Hanukkah for Christ. We do Hanukkah in a new covenant observance, to learn the lessons of restoration and deliverance and endurance, God's promises, a new covenant meaning, knowing that Christ said example for us.

When they do it, it's just out of tradition and out of an old covenant mindset, an entirely different mindset. Don't be compromising with the dark, wicked, lost world. If you exchange gifts for Hanukkah, it should only be among the true church.

We can have a special meal on the first night or the first day. It don't matter whether it's lunch or supper or dinner, but it would be good to have a good special meal if that is at all possible with you, which I believe it is possible for almost anyone to have a special meal.

And of course we'll be having worship services on the first day of Hanukkah, which I believe is going to be on a Friday. Let me double check. Yeah, that's going to be on a Friday. So we'll have services two days in a row there on the first and second day of Hanukkah. We will.

And let's see the last day of Hanukkah. The last day of Hanukkah, December the 15th, will also be on Friday. So again, two days in a row for services. Two weekends in a row. We'll be having services two days in a row.

Now there's no commandment saying that you must rest on those days. However, I think that if we follow the pattern of all the holy days, usually we would rest on the eighth day of Tabernacles, not the seventh day of Tabernacles, right?

We would rest on the first day and the eighth day. So that would be December the 8th and December the 15th. And December 15th is on a Saturday anyway. But the 8th would be on a Friday. So if a person could ask off from work and get that time off from work on the 8th on a Friday, that would be a good thing. It would not be a bad thing.

I'm not saying that you must take December the 8th off, but I'm saying that it would definitely be a good thing if it is at all possible with you.

Now, there is a commandment to keep the observance for eight days. A commandment that was given by the Maccabee family would sit in the seat of Moses and the authority of God upon the earth. But they didn't say that you had to rest on any particular day of Hanukkah.

I did not command that part as far as I know, as far as I understand, as far as I have read and remembered. So it's up to each person and their heart of what they feel God wants them to do.

But we will be having worship services on December the 8th, the first day of Hanukkah. And as far as me and my household, we will be resting on the first day of Hanukkah as if it was a commandment of Sabbath.

For me and my household, and the example that I set for the church, even though I'm not commanding it for the church, I'm setting an example for the church. And each person can take it from there between them and God.

Christ is the reason, the reason for the Hanukkah season. Christ is not the reason for Christmas. Christmas is a lie. But Christ is the reason for Hanukkah because He is the light of the world. Amen.

He is the light of the world. And He was probably most likely, very much, very, very likely to have been conceived during Hanukkah, even though we cannot say that absolutely. It's a very extremely strong possibility.

And we should take that seriously. Amen. I think that it should not always be a commandment of the Lord, Thou must love me, and Thou must do this, and Thou must do that. God is looking for people that are willing to willingly surrender and willingly follow what His will is, even when He doesn't command it.

I think God is looking for people who willingly know His will and follow His will even when not commanded. Christ is the reason for the Hanukkah season.

Christ gave the Maccabee family and the Judeans the victory against Antiochus Epiphanes.

And we have our own version of Antiochus Epiphanes today, do we not? Amen.

The president of Syria, it will be him. We have our own Antiochus Epiphanes today that will plunder Israel. Real, absolutely. And it is very close, and it's getting closer now than it ever has in the past two thousand years of the Antiochus Epiphanes of our time. If you read Daniel 11. Amen.

Daniel 11, when it talks about Antiochus Epiphanes from verse 40, even before verse 40, it's talking about Antiochus Epiphanes, and then when it gets to verse 40, it transitions into the end time Antichrist, but makes no difference in identity between who it's talking about.

It doesn't. It doesn't. It doesn't even indicate it's a different person at all, but yeah, it does go into a context of the end time. Why is that? Why is that? Daniel 11. I'll say it one more time because that is so important. That is so huge. That is huge, man. Amen. That is huge.

Daniel 11, before verse 40, is talking about Antiochus Epiphanes, the Syrian that came against the Maccabees and against the Judeans in that day and time, and did do the abomination of desolation spoken of by Daniel at that time, which was a foreshadowing of the end time abomination of desolation of our time.

And yet, verse 40, through the end of that chapter, going into the context of the end time, as almost any minister of any denomination would agree, that it does go into the context of the end time Antichrist, and yet it makes no difference in the identity of who it's talking about.

Why is that? It's still the Assyrian king.

And all these people that think the president of Turkey is the end time Assyrian, when you only have between, I think, what was it, between 5,000 and 12,000 Assyrian people in Turkey? How can he be the Assyrian king?

Would you have only 12,000, maybe 20,000 maximum in Turkey of the Assyrians? How can he be the king of the Assyrians when he barely has any Assyrians in his nation? That's silly.

We know for a fact that it is Syria that traditionally has had the majority of the world's Assyrian population.

Before the civil war, or what they call the civil war, before all the war started in Syria quite a few years ago now, there was as many as 800,000 Assyrians. And now they want to just say, well, we don't know how many there are there.

There might be 250,000. There might be more, there might be less. They don't want to say because it's a chaotic situation, a lot of bombings, ever, ever, ever day in Syria, every day. It's a chaotic situation.

But I think really it's a poor excuse, and I think really it's just a matter of people, really a matter of Satan trying to deceive people about the number of Assyrian people that remain in Syria.

I'm very confident that the number of Assyrian people in Syria, when you start out with 800,000, that Syria would still have the most Assyrian population in the world beyond Iraq, Iran, Turkey, Jordan, any of them.

Some people think that the president or king of Jordan is the Antichrist, but he's not Assyrian, he's not of Assyrian bloodline, and he doesn't have hardly any Assyrians in that nation either, so how can he be the Assyrian king? It doesn't make any sense.

I know that there are a lot of reasons to suspect the president of Turkey, or the president of Jordan, and the president of different people, and even King Charles.

I know there are many different reasons given in videos and on the internet. By Google search, you can find multiple websites to give a ton of reasons to believe in any one of those as being the end time Antichrist.

But guess what? Google is not the apostle of the Lord. Google and YouTube videos, they are not scripture. The church of YouTube is not where you need to be getting your information. Amen.

Why don't you just read the Bible and see where it calls him the Assyrian over and over and over, and then just think

logically what is the largest population of Assyrians on earth today, and is undeniably Syria, and use a little bit of common sense. Amen.

And not reject the word of the Lord passed down through his chosen church, his chosen ministry. Not reject the word of the prophets and apostles that we have today, because God changes not. He's always used apostles and prophets in every generation, and is no saint, no different today.

Why would it be different? Why would it be different? But people want to go their own way, and their own imaginations, as they are led by Google and YouTube. And then they claim that God showed it to them. No, it wasn't God. It was YouTube and Google that showed it to you.

The computer picked at random. I believe it was the hand of the Lord, as it often is. Song number 41 was the first one, I think it was the first one that the computer picked today, or one of the first ones. No, it was through a, maybe it was a different one, but verse 41, I mean, I'll get it right in a second.

Page 41 of our songbook was one of the songs that the computer picked at random, one of the first songs. And through, it's called Through It All. Through It All. And what that song speaks about is that we suffer, we have trials.

We go through the mountain, we go through the valley, we go ups and downs in life. We have a lot of suffering. But through it all, we have learned to endure, to trust in God's word, to trust God.

We might get sick, we might have financial problems, we might have persecution, we might have war, we might lose a lot of battles, but God will restore His people. God will deliver His people. Even if we die, there is still the resurrection to come.

We will be restored, and we are promised the ultimate and final victory to be able to live forever in happiness and joy and peace and prosperity. Forever without end. Forever.

And it is a promise that He will keep if we pass the test. If. If we pass the test and do our part and surrender to Him. And Hanukkah teaches us that lesson. That lesson.

And yet, traditional churches want you to not learn that lesson. To say that Hanukkah is wrong.

They don't want you to do the right thing. Pure and simple. False religion does not want you to do the right thing. Amen.

The Bible says if you know how to do right and don't do it, then it's a sin to you. Amen. Amen.

Okay, I've opened up the chatroom at this time. Brother Jared can think about what he wants to share. I've also opened up the chatroom on Mixlr. I'm available also on WhatsApp and Telegram also for anybody that wants to type anything there.

As well. Not only type, but if you want to sing a song, play a musical instrument, share a dream or a vision that you've had recently. Testify. Say something for the goodness of the Lord of how He's been good to you.

If you want to do anything for the Lord now or have a question about anything I've said today, then now is the time to do it. Amen.

Chatroom is open. Mixlr. Let's see. I'll check my messages on WhatsApp and Telegram for the people that know how to contact me there.

Brother Jared, what do you have to share?

"It's very disappointing to see in the world by and large the ones who say they stand with Israel and the so-called Christians don't celebrate Hanukkah or Purim for the simple reason that the original spirit of these holidays is to celebrate God's deliverance in Israel."

Yes, celebration of Israel's victory. And at such a time right now that we're having a war with Israel is in the midst of a war. This is a tremendous time.

And this ain't the only time Israel has had a war. They had multiple wars with Gaza and others throughout history and within our lifetime. This is not the first time, not only with the major wars of 1967 and so forth, but even a few years back, not that long ago, there was a war in Gaza as well.

There have been multiple wars with Gaza, but not as big as this one. This has been the biggest war with Gaza, statistically, ever in modern history. This is the biggest war of Gaza in the modern time frame.

So it is significant. It is different. There's a lot of things different about the entire world that we're going through right now that makes it unique. That is not just something that's going to go away and resolve itself, but it will escalate

absolutely.

Even Israel has said repeatedly that this ain't going to be over with in a few days, a few weeks, but rather it's going to continue for months and months and months and maybe even years. Even Israel has said that. And that they are absolutely expecting it to increase and expand to be a war of Hezbollah eventually, as far as a full-scale war of Hezbollah.

They are predicting that. The Israeli military and government is predicting that. That it will eventually expand to a full-scale war of Hezbollah. And then there's that possibility, very strong possibility, that as it goes into several months, that it will expand beyond Gaza, Hamas, and Hezbollah over into a direct war of Iran, Russia, and China.

It is extremely likely, especially as we get closer and closer to the American election and all the powers that be around the world, how they would take advantage of that situation.

So whether the Great Tribulation begins this next spring of 2024 or the following spring of 2025, regardless of what year, that's a year and a half max. And that's not a lot of time.

There's not a lot of time. We praise the Lord for all the extra time He's already given us, and for any extra time that He might still yet give us, if He does wait until the spring of 2025 to start the tribulation, which is a possibility.

But whether we're talking about six months or we're talking about a year and a half, it's going to be a difficult time before we get into the Great Tribulation. It will still be a tribulation.

It's still a difficult time that will continue to get more and more and more difficult.

And as things become more and more difficult for everyone, we should be drawing closer and closer to Christ, becoming more and more obedient to Him, more and more surrendered to Him, and stop making all the excuses we can think of to not surrender fully.

Everybody's got a lot of excuses of why they are not surrendering fully. I'm not ready for that yet. I can't do that yet. It's just excuses.

But God's going to turn on the pressure. Amen. He's going to turn on the pressure. He doesn't like to force people to worship Him and surrender to Him, but He does have to turn up the pressure and turn the wrench a little bit tighter, a little bit tighter, a little bit tighter. Amen.

But it would be better and more pleasing to the Lord if we surrender willingly. And God would be so much better to you. God would be so much better to you when you do it willingly. Amen.

What else, brother Jared?

"When it mentions in 2 Maccabees chapter 2 about Nehemiah and Solomon 2, it's got the 25th day of the 9th month in reference to Solomon's initial dedication. And I think Nehemiah has done some kind of dedication too."

Yeah, I think we do see historically and biblically, I think we have several examples of that specific date in history being important to the people of God and to God Himself. I think it's an important date to God, to His heart, to His mind.

God keeps the Holy Day, why shouldn't you? Amen. What else? I can also add a few more points I had seen about the Christmas birthday being alive.

How when Jesus was actually born, there were two things that were happening that indicated it was fall. The sheep were still in the fields, one, and the pull tacks, which happens around the fiesta pattern.

Yes. Amen. Anything else? Okay, let's see. Brother Adri said that Hanukkah symbolizes also the victory and celebration over the Gentile armies after the abomination of desolation.

Absolutely, that there's a repeat of history of the same Antiochus Epiphanes' character, a president king of Syria, committing the end time abomination of desolation, the defilement of Israel, the martyrdom of Israel, and then Israel being restored through the final year of the great tribulation, the final year of the great tribulation, and the final months, the final days, and then the battle of Armageddon, and the first resurrection.

So there is that theme of an end time abomination of desolation by the same Spirit, fallen angel, to be committing a repeat of history of the abomination of desolation without a temple, but still yet the people of God and the land of God. Amen.

And that we are going to have that restoration. The Israel, even though they will temporarily be conquered by the Syrians, Iranians, Chinese and Russians, even the Saudi Arabians and Egyptians, all these people are going to gang up against our brother Israel.

But ultimately we're going to get, we, Israel, is going to get the ultimate victory, the ultimate victory, and we will be

restored. This is important for all Christians to understand that because we're Judean Christians. Amen.

Okay. Thank you everybody for listening. Please be praying for the South African congregation. Please be praying for both congregations in Nigeria. Please be praying for our brothers and sisters around the world and other nations. Please be praying for our local congregation and for me specifically, my energy, my strength, my health, and always be praying also for the next sermon and the next sermon and the next sermon. Always be praying for God's guidance and direction upon the next topic for me, for me to share with you what He wants me to speak, what He wants me to teach. Amen.

I appreciate your support. I appreciate those that also support the ministry of God financially through tithes and offerings. We appreciate that very much. It comes in very, very helpful as we also take that money and help others as well.

We're not like other churches where we're trying to build a giant mansion here on earth, putting it in the bank account to rot until we build a giant mansion or to buy fancy cars or things like that. We're not like those churches, which is your typical everyday church.

But rather, a lot of this money goes into helping people with medicine, food, doctors, emergency room visits, and other things like that. And the church knows that this is the truth, that I'm speaking the truth. The church that's in contact with me, that's actually talking with me, they know that I'm speaking the truth. Amen.

Anybody got a song or anything else to be said or done? Okay, then we'll put on the final song. And I'll see you all on the 25th of November. And of course, we've got Thanksgiving in America coming up the 23rd.

I hope that everybody, the Americans that are celebrating Thanksgiving, I hope you have a really good and blessed Thanksgiving. And I'll see everybody again on November the 25th, one week from today. Thank you for listening. In Jesus' name.

Copyright 2023 I Saw The Light Ministries
www.isawthelightministries.com