

Hanukkah
Day Three Readings
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The reading for today is **Psalm 115: 1 – 8**

NOT unto us, O Yahweh, **NOT** unto us, **BUT** unto Your Name give glory, for Your Mercy, and for Your Truth's sake.

Why should the heathen say, Where now, is their Elohim?

*But our Elohim **IS** in the heavens: He has done whatsoever He has pleased.*

Their idols are silver and gold, the work of men's hands

*They have mouths, **BUT** they do **NOT** speak*

*Eyes have they, **BUT** they do **NOT** see*

*They have ears, **BUT** they do **NOT** hear*

*Noses have they, **BUT** they do **NOT** smell*

*They have hands, **BUT** they do **NOT** handle*

*Feet have they, **BUT** they do **NOT** walk*

Neither do they speak through their throat

*They that make them **ARE LIKE UNTO THEM;***

So is every one THAT TRUSTS IN THEM.

Antiochus Epiphanies and all other people who come against the Elohim of Abraham, Yitzchaq and Ya'aqov, and His Living Word, the Words of His Torah of Life made flesh, our Messiah, believe that their man made imaginary god or gods, are **BETTER** and **MORE POWERFUL THAN Yahweh**, who according to Scripture, created **ALL** things. They erect statues and idols and monuments to them, and pray to them, we even have some people that pray directly to the devil, Yahweh's dedicated self proclaimed eternal enemy.

What has been the outcome of any and all challenges between these so called false imaginary gods and Yahweh, in times past, as recounted to us in Scripture? What power have they shown and what good or evil have they done? Scripture makes it very clear that **ALL** of these so called man made imaginary gods, are gods that have been dreamt up in men's imaginations, and all they have ever done **IS SHOW THE WORLD THEIR IMPOTENCE**, because, as I said, they are **ALL** figments of men's imaginations, as we have just read above. Even the devil **IS IMPOTENT AND POWERLESS**, except for what Yahweh **ALLOWS HIM TO DO**.

The devil is simply one of the **TOOLS**, the implements that Yahweh **USES** in meeting out His disciplinary punishment for **NOT** obeying the Words of our heavenly Father's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, the Words of His Torah of Life. Yahweh is **NOT** mocked, for everyone truly does reap what they sow.

Let's read what James had to say in *James 4:7* and see for ourselves how much power the devil actually has, according to James. *James 4:7 **Submit YOURSELVES therefore to Elohim; RESIST the devil, RESIST EVIL and he and he and ALL OF his EVIL WAYS, will flee from you.***

Let's look at yet another *verse* of the many *verses* in Scripture that points out the **impotence of the devil** when it comes to his confrontations with Yahweh:

*Revelation 20:1-3 And I saw an angel come down from heaven, having **THE KEY** of the bottomless pit and a **GREAT CHAIN** in his hand. And he laid hold on the dragon, that old serpent, **WHICH IS THE DEVIL**, satan, and **BOUND HIM A THOUSAND YEARS**, 3 And cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal upon him, that he should **NOT DECEIVE the nations ANY MORE**, until the thousand years should be fulfilled: and after that, he must be loosed a little season.*

According to Scripture, it takes only **ONE** messenger from Yahweh, and **NOT** an army, **BUT ONE messenger**, to subdue, and bind up the devil, and we are told that the devil has **NO** choice but to comply with the orders of the messenger of Yahweh, and, as you can see, the messenger of Elohim proceeds to bind satan up in chains, and then, he takes him to the pit, and throws him in the pit, and locks him in that pit for a thousand years. We have to understand, and get it well ingrained in our consciousness, that **THE ONLY POWER THAT** satan has my friends, **IS** the power of deception, and he only has that, because Yahweh allows him to have it, other than that, he is impotent.

In *Revelation 20:1 – 2* we read that a messenger of Elohim comes to the devil with a key in one hand and a chain in the other hand and says, satan, put this on, and satan does **NOT** resist because **HE CANNOT RESIST, FOR HE IS MERELY A TOOL, A PAWN OF YAHWEH**, and the tool **CANNOT** tell the journeyman **WHAT TO DO**.

Does that sound to you like the devil is some kind of powerful entity? My friends, we have to realize and understand that satan gets his power **FROM US, WHEN WE willingly** give in to our flesh, our lusts, and commit Sin, commit acts that transgress the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of Life, and, if and when we choose to continue in that Torahless or sinful behaviour, we become servants of **SIN**. Now, whether you believe that fact or not, doesn't matter, for when we continue to Sin, when we continue to transgress the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of Life, **WE ARE ACTUALLY WILLINGLY PLACING OURSELVES UNDER BONDAGE TO THAT SIN**. It is very important that we understand, that Fact. For when we Sin and do **NOT** repent and confess our Sins, then we are actually **WILLINGLY GIVING THE DEVIL POWER OVER OUR LIVES, which means that we are in bondage to him, the enemy**. Therefore the key **to actually resisting ALL of the devils ploys**, his trickery and deceitful ways, **IS to willingly choose to surrender our hearts, minds, souls and strength to our heavenly Father in loving surrendered obedience to ALL the Words of His Torah of Life**, and Yahweh, through the Holy Spirit will do the rest.

*Job 24: 13 They are of those that rebel against the **LIGHT**; they do **NOT KNOW the Ways thereof, NOR do they abide in the paths thereof**.*

*Job 24: 17 For the morning is to them, even as the shadow of death: if one know them, they are in the terrors of **the shadow of death**.*

That is why so many people willingly chose to take the vaccine, they were deceived by **LIES**, and those **LIES** scared them enough that they believed the **LIES**, and like lemmings, they then

willingly lined up to allow some stranger to inject them with a totally untested vaccine, thinking that they were saving their lives and the lives of their loved ones. But, just like Sin is destructive to our lives, so too, can believing the lies that the world system tells us, is good for us, be detrimental to our physical and spiritual well being, as many people have now found out, after they took the shot.

Job 18: 5 *Yea, **THE LIGHT (LIFE) OF THE WICKED SHALL BE PUT OUT**, and the spark of his fire **SHALL NOT SHINE**. 6 The **LIGHT SHALL BE DARK** in his tabernacle, and his candle **SHALL BE PUT OUT with him**.*

In 165 BC, which is when the re-dedication, the Hanukkah, of the Temple took place. There were many people at that time that chose to rebel against the **LIGHT that emanates out of people when they willingly and lovingly choose to believe, follow and obey the Words of the Father's Torah of Life**, and, in today's world, the world, that you and I are now living in, we also have those that rebel against **THAT SAME LIGHT**, for there **IS** nothing new under the sun. What is **THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD** according to Scripture? The Scriptures make it very clear that Yeshua our Messiah, who **IS** the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of Life made flesh, **IS THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD. NOW, IF** we, you and I, willingly and lovingly choose to abide in Him, **IF** we choose to abide in the Words of the Living Torah of our heavenly Father made flesh, then Scripture makes it very clear, that Yeshua, who **IS** the Words of the Living Torah, will **ABIDE IN US**, and the result of Him making His abode within us, means, that we too, will become a **LIGHT** unto all nations and peoples of the world that are mired in darkness.

*Psalm 119:105 Your **Word** is a Lamp unto my feet, and a **LIGHT** unto my path.*

*Proverbs 6:23 For the Commandment **IS a Lamp**; and the **Torah (Law) IS Light**; and reproofs of instruction (the Words of the Torah) **ARE the Way of Life**.*

Please understand that the definition of the Hebrew word Torah, **IS the inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions of our heavenly Father**.

Therefore, as believers, we **ARE** to live a life of preparedness, for we too, **WILL** indeed encounter those, that rebel against **the LIGHT, the LIGHT** of Messiah, that is emanating from within us, because we have willingly chosen to surrender our will to our heavenly Father and committed to zealously believe, follow and obey **ALL** of His Ways, and the Words of His Torah of Life. We also have to realize that the brightness of the **LIGHT** that will emanate from all people, who willingly and lovingly choose to **ABIDE IN THE LIGHT, WILL BE DIRECTLY PROPORTIONAL** to the level that they have chosen to surrender their lives and their will to our heavenly Father.

For those who make the choice to walk in the darkness, Yahweh tells them in **Jeremiah 25:10** **Moreover I WILL TAKE FROM THEM THAT CHOOSE DARKNESS**

The voice of mirth

The voice of gladness

The voice of the bridegroom

The voice of the bride,

*The sound of the millstones
And The light of the candle.*

In the book of Jeremiah, Yahweh tells the people that have willingly chosen to walk contrary to the Words of His Torah of Life, those that reject and cast the Words of the Torah aside, as if it were worthless, what their eventual outcome will be. **THE REASON THAT THEY IGNORE THESE DIRE WARNINGS, IS BECAUSE THEY DO NOT BELIEVE YAHWEH**, and therefore, they have placed themselves directly in the path of His wrath.

Yahweh says to them, **YOU LIKE THE DARKNESS? THEN I WILL GIVE YOU WHAT YOU LIKE.**

*Ezekiel 32:8 All the bright lights of heaven will I make **DARK OVER YOU**, and **SET DARKNESS** upon your land, says Yahweh.*

Now **IF THE BLIND**, which **IS** a reference to being in darkness, willingly and lovingly choose to turn to our heavenly Father, in total loving surrendered obedience to **ALL** the Words of our heavenly His Torah of Life, **THEN** Yahweh says in *Isaiah 42:16*

**I WILL bring the BLIND by a way that they did NOT KNOW
I WILL lead them in Paths that THEY HAVE NOT KNOWN
I WILL make DARKNESS, LIGHT BEFORE THEM
I WILL make crooked things STRAIGHT
These things WILL I YAHWEH do unto them, and NOT forsake them.**

Can you see the incredible Grace, Mercy, Love, Compassion and forgiving nature of our heavenly Father? The only thing that anyone **NEEDS TO DO, TO RECEIVE HIS INCREDIBLE GRACE, IS, REPENT AND RETURN** (Teshuvah) to Him and **ALL** His Ways, the Words of the Father's Torah of Life, and He, Yahweh, **WILL MAKE EVEN THE DARKNESS AS LIGHT FOR YOU.**

When I read passages like this, **IT ACTUALLY GIVES ME GOOSE BUMPS**, because, I realize and understand what we truly deserve, and yet, **IT WILL NEVER BE METED OUT TO US, IF** we will simply, and earnestly repent and return to His Ways, which are **WAYS OF LIFE, AND NOT DEATH, WAYS OF LIGHT, AND NOT DARKNESS.** *Deuteronomy 6:25 And IT SHALL BE OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS, IF WE OBSERVE TO DO ALL these Commandments before Yahweh our Elohim, as He has Commanded us.*

Additional Recommended Readings:

The menorah represents Messiah/Yahweh's attributes as described in *Isaiah 11: 1 – 3*, and as we discussed above, Messiah is indeed the **LIGHT** of the world.

Exodus 25:31 – 39 (the Menorah)

*31 And you shall make a candlestick of pure gold: of beaten work shall the candlestick be made: his shaft, and his branches, his bowls, his knops, and his flowers, shall be of the same.
32 And **SIX** branches shall come out of the sides of it; **THREE** branches of the candlestick out of the one side, and **THREE** branches of the candlestick out of the other side: 33 **THREE***

*bowls made like unto almonds, with a bulb and a flower in one branch; and **THREE** bowls made like almonds in the other branch, with a bulb and a flower: so in the **six** branches that come out of the candlestick. 34 And in the candlestick shall be **FOUR** bowls made like unto almonds, with their knops and their flowers. 35 And there shall be a bulb under **TWO** branches of the same, and a bulb under **TWO** branches of the same, and a bulb under **TWO** branches of the same, according to the **SIX** branches that proceed out of the candlestick. 36 Their knops and their branches shall be of the same: all it shall be one beaten work of pure gold. 37 And you shall make the **SEVEN** lamps thereof: and they shall light the lamps thereof, that they may give light over against it. 38 And the tongs thereof, and the snuff dishes thereof, shall be of pure gold. 39 Of a talent of pure gold shall he make it, with all these vessels.*

Now before I continue, I want to give you some facts about the Menorah and what it stands for. On the Menorah there are **seven** branches and **twenty two** bowls, and **IT IS** said that the **twenty two** bowls represent the **twenty two** letters of the Hebrew Alephbet. That would mean that since Hebrew is written from right to left, that the first **three** letters of the Alephbet, the Aleph, the Bet and the Gimel, would be on the right hand branch, and then, the next **three** letters, would be on the next branch to the left, and so on. When it gets to the middle portion of the Menorah, the centre branch, there are **four** bowls on the middle stem rather than only **three**. That would mean that the letters that are attributed to middle stem are the letters, Yod, י, Kaf, כ, Lamed, ל and a final Mem, or a Mem Sofit, ם. Together, they spell the Hebrew word Yekalim, יכלם, and this word is from the word Yekal, which means, **to be able, have power to prevail**, as Ya'aqov did with the messenger of Elohim. And when we attach the suffix letter, Mem, to this word Yekal, we form the word Yekalim, and this word, means, **He will make them able**, in other words, our King, Messiah, the Words of the Living Torah, the Words of our heavenly Father's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions made flesh, **WILL FILL US WITH HIS HOLY SPIRIT, WHO IN TURN IS TASKED BY OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, TO CAUSE EACH AND EVERY LOVING SURRENDERED CONTRITE OBEDIENT HEART THAT ALLOWS HIM, TO TEACH THEM HOW TO WALK OUT THE WORDS OF OUR HEAVENLY FATHER'S TORAH OF LIFE**, which is found in *Ezekiel 36:27* and simply stated, it means, **He WILL MAKE THEM WHOLE**.

I also want to point out, that in the word Yekalim, the first letter, is the letter Yod, which represents a working hand, and since that it is also the first letter in the Name Yeshua, ישועה we can deduce that it represents the Right Hand of our heavenly Father, who of course is Messiah. Therefore, we can say that Yeshua, the Right Hand of our heavenly Father **IS** the One that will make all who willingly and lovingly choose to believe, follow and obey the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of Life, as He willingly and lovingly did, that doing so, will make them **WHOLE**. Now, **IF** we were to take away, this letter Yod, that represents the working Hand, or Messiah, from the word Yekalim, we would be left with the letters Kaph, Lamed and Mem, which form the word, Kalam or Kelim, כלם, and this word means, **put to shame, was humiliated**. Therefore, through the use of this word, Yekalim, our heavenly Father **IS** giving us a Scriptural lesson. He is telling us that without the letter Yod, which represents Messiah, the Son of His Right Hand, in our lives, we **WILL** be put to shame and be humiliated on judgement Day.

And there is more to glean from this word, in case there are any question as to whether this beautiful Hebrew language is the designed language of the Creator of the universe or not. If we read this word Yekalim יכלם, from left to right, then the letters spell the word Melek, מלך, which means *King*, and if we read it with the letter Yod attached to it is as a suffix, then the word Melek, becomes the word Melekiy, which means, *my King*. So, regardless of how you look at it, you will see that the centre branch, represents Yeshua, who **IS** our Messiah, our conquering King, our bridegroom, and **IT IS** only by, and through Him, that we are able to do anything.

Does not Messiah Himself tell us in *John 15:5* ***That apart from Him we can do nothing?***

Furthermore, **IF** you read the very first sentence in Scripture; it reads, *in the beginning Elohim created heaven and earth*. That statement in English, is by itself, very beautiful, **BUT IF** you read it in Hebrew, you get an even more beautiful picture. It reads, *Beresheet Bara Elohim Et HaShamayim V'et Ha'Aretz*. בְּרֵאשִׁית בָּרָא אֱלֹהִים אֶת הַשָּׁמַיִם וְאֶת הָאָרֶץ.

There are seven words in this opening sentence of the Scriptures and they represent the seven says of Creation, and the seven branches of the Menorah, and the middle word, in this opening verses, is the stand alone **Aleph Tav**, אַת, which are the first and last letters of the Hebrew Alphabet, and these two letters, represent our Messiah, the First and the last, the Beginning and the End, and the middle stem or branch of the Menorah, supports all the other six branches.

By the way, in Scripture, the number **SIX** is the number that represents man or mankind. Therefore, the picture that is painted here, in the very first verse of Scripture, is that the Living Word of our heavenly Father, which was eventually made flesh, **IS THE VERY SAME WORD THAT CREATED THE WHOLE UNIVERSE, and ALL that is in it, AND IT IS** through this Word, and this Word **ALONE**, that the world continues to **EXISTS**, and it is He, and He alone, the Creator of the universe, that supports **ALL life on earth**.

Zechariah 4:1-14

*1 And the angel that talked with me came again, and woke me, as a man that is wakened out of his sleep, 2 And said unto me, What do you see? And I said, I have looked, and behold a candlestick all of gold, with a bowl upon the top of it, and his seven lamps thereon, and seven pipes to the seven lamps, which are upon the top thereof: 3 And two olive trees by it, one upon the right side of the bowl, and the other upon the left side thereof. 4 So I answered and spoke to the angel that talked with me, saying, What are these, my lord? 5 Then the angel that talked with me answered and said unto me, do you **NOT** know what these are? And I said, No, my lord. 6 Then he answered and spoke unto me, saying, **This is the Word of Yahweh** unto Zerubbabel, saying, **NOT BY MIGHT, NOR BY POWER, BUT BY MY SPIRIT, SAYS YAHWEH OF HOSTS.** 7 Who are you, O great mountain? Before Zerubbabel you shall become a plain: and He shall bring forth the headstone thereof with shoutings, crying, Grace, grace unto it. 8 Moreover the Word of Yahweh came unto me, saying, 9 The hands of Zerubbabel have laid the foundation of this house; his hands shall also finish it; and you shall know that Yahweh of hosts has sent me unto you. 10 For who has despised the day of small things? For they shall rejoice, and shall see the plummet in the hand of Zerubbabel with **those seven; they are the eyes of Yahweh, which run to and fro through the whole earth.** 11 Then I*

answered, and said unto him, *What are these **two olive trees** upon the right side of the candlestick and upon the left side thereof? 12 And I answered again, and said unto him, What be these **two olive branches** which through the two golden pipes empty the golden oil out of themselves? 13 And he answered me and said, do you **NOT** know what these are? And I said, No, my lord. 14 Then said he, These are **the two anointed ones, that stand by Yahweh of the whole earth.***

In these verses in *Zachariah*, we have the Menorah and *two* olive trees standing on either side of the Menorah. Who do these **TWO OLIVE TREES REPRESENT**? We are told that they are the *two anointed ones*? I believe this speaks of the house of Judah and the house of Ephraim, the two houses of Yisrael becoming one again, and doing the will of the Father, and it says that they, meaning the divided houses of Ya'aqov are **THE TWO ANOINTED ONES, THAT STAND BY THE ADON (MASTER) OF THE WHOLE EARTH.**

In Hebrew, the words translated as anointed ones, are בְּנֵי־הַיִּצְחָר, Beney HaYitzhar, where the word Beney is the plural of the word Ben, and therefore the word Beney, means, the sons, or the children of, and the word Yitzhar, יִצְחָר, is the name of one of the sons of Qehat (Kohath) and his name means, he will shine. It is from the word Tzahar, צָהַר, which means, to dazzle, sheen, white, whiteness, bright, clear, and in those days, a person needed oil in order for their lamp to shine brightly, and oil, in Scripture, often represents two things, it represents the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of Life, and it also used, at times, to describe the *Holy Spirit*.

Therefore, the spiritual message that I believe Yahweh is conveying to us here, is that, the **TWO SONS OF LIGHT** are filled with the Holy Spirit of Elohim, **AND**, that because of it, they stand by the Adon, the Master of the whole earth, הָעֹמְדִים עַל־אֲדוֹן כָּל־הָאָרֶץ, HaOmdiyim Al-Adon Kal HaAretz. We have to understand that Yahweh only has **ONE FAMILY** my friends, and that one family, because of their sinful ways, their transgressions of the Words of the Torah of our heavenly Father, were separated at the end of Solomon's reign, and Messiah has come to earth to restore that family, to bring both of these **houses back together into ONE FAMILY, ONE HOUSE**, the house that was separated because of Sin, because of our rebellious disobedient transgressions of the Words of our heavenly Father's Torah of Life, and to make these two houses **ONE**, make them whole again. These are, the house of Judah and the house of Ephraim, who together make up the house of Ya'aqov and in *Luke 1:33* we are told that *Messiah shall reign over the house of Ya'aqov FOR EVER; and of His kingdom there shall be no end.*

John 1: 4–9 *In Him was life; and the life was the LIGHT of men. 5 And the LIGHT shines in darkness; and the darkness does NOT comprehend it. 6 There was a man sent from Elohim, whose name was John. 7 The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the LIGHT, that all men through him might believe. 8 He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that LIGHT. 9 That was the TRUE Light, which lights every man that comes into the world.*

This my friends **IS THE PURPOSE OF HANUKKAH** for all believers. We are to rekindle the flame that Messiah **HAS LIT WITHIN US, BY REDEDICATING OUR TEMPLE** to the most High Elohim, and teshuvah, or return to the Words of our heavenly Father's pure inerrant and

everlasting teaching and instructions, the Words of His Torah of Life, His Directives on how to be Holy as He is Holy.

John 8:12: *Then spoke Yeshua again unto them, saying, **I am the LIGHT of the world: he that follows Me, SHALL NOT walk in darkness, BUT shall have the LIGHT of LIFE.***

This is a very beautiful picture, in Scripture, painted for us by Messiah, in *John 8*. **BUT WE MUST TIE IT TOGETHER WITH** *verse 1 of John 1* because Messiah is indeed the Words of the Living Torah, the Living Word of Elohim made flesh, therefore the **LIGHT of LIFE IS** indeed our Messiah, **BUT HE IS ALSO** the Words of our heavenly Father's inerrant and everlasting teaching and instructions, the Living Torah made flesh, therefore **LIGHT** and **TORAH** are to be understood as being synonymous terms in Scripture.

Revelation 1:12- 13, 20: *12 And I turned to see the voice that spoke with me. And being turned, I saw **seven golden candlesticks**; 13 And in the midst of the seven candlesticks **one like unto the Son of man**, clothed with a garment down to the foot, and girt about the paps with a golden girdle. 20 The mystery of the seven stars which you saw in my right hand, and the seven golden candlesticks. **The seven stars are the angels of the seven churches: and the seven candlesticks which you saw are the seven churches.***

Make no mistake, our heavenly Father **IS, WAS AND ALWAYS WILL BE** in charge of all things, and it is only because of His grace, mercy and forgiving nature, that He has chosen to offer us an incredible opportunity of coming alongside of Him, and be part of His redemption onto salvation plan, and enjoy all of His blessings, His protection and His provisional power.

Let us therefore take this time which has been **SET ASIDE, AS THE COMMEMORATION OF THE REDEDICATION OF THE TEMPLE, TO DO THE SAME WITH OUR OWN TEMPLES** and **LET US REDEDICATE OURSELVES TO WILLINGLY AND LOVINGLY SURRENDERING OUR HEARTS, MINDS, SOULS AND STRENGTH TO THE ELOHIM OF ABRAHAM YITZCHAQ AND YA'AQOV, in total loving obedience to all the Words of His Torah of Life.**

May you have a glorious and happy spiritual renewal this Hanukkah! Amein

Studying and keeping Torah together as a community.

Have a great Elohim blessed day and may Yahweh bless your every thought, and your every deed. Until we meet again; Shalom Alechem! Amein!