

137 – For the Sake of the Name

Before I begin anything tonight, I ask you please to have at your ready whatever versions of the scriptures you use for these studies, because we will need them for sure.

Today is the first day of Hanukkah, the Jewish Holiday, also known as the festival of lights. I confess that I have known almost nothing about Hanukkah, even at this late stage in my life. So, in anticipation of our study tonight, this holiday is especially significant.

According to the article I read today in the Detroit Free Press, “Hanukkah commemorates the Jewish uprising in the second century B.C. against the Greek-Syrian kingdom, which had tried to impose its culture on Jews and adorn the Jewish Temple in Jerusalem with statues of Greek gods.

“The holiday lasts eight days because according to tradition, when the Jews rededicated the Temple in Jerusalem, a single vial of oil, enough for one day, burned miraculously for eight.”

Oil enough only for one day, gave its light for eight. Turn quickly with me to John 8: 12:

"I am the Light of the world. He who is following Me should under no circumstances be walking in darkness, but will be having the light of life."

If there were ever a light worth celebrating, it is the Son of the Most High, and last night, my Father awoke me with this word:

“I have let this slide until now; restore My son’s name.”

No culture that you could visit on Earth today, would alter your name to suit themselves. Your name might sound different in their accented dialect, but they would make every effort to pronounce your name as it was given to you. Now, they might give you a name in their language, but it would be a sign of respect and of a sort of adoption into their own family. Neither would they presume to celebrate your birthday in December, knowing you were born in, say, late September.

Christians have long taken such liberties with the name of the Son of Yah-Ho-Veh, and we, today, are being put on notice that it is unseemly, disrespectful dishonoring to continue a tradition of men when we know better, simply because it is a tradition we grew up with. The excuse of habit won't wash any longer for the Body of Him Who gave His life that we might live in Him.

The father has impressed heavily on me in the last almost 24 hours, His sincerest will in the matter of restoring the name of His Son rightly, on the eve of His return to rule His kingdom on the Earth.

Soon after Barbara and I were married, we went to California, where she introduced me to her dear friend, Dr. Dorothy Davis, who is perhaps one of the most gracious women of God I have ever met. She teaches beginning Hebrew, and Hebraic and Christian studies at Bethel College in Riverside, California.

She is uniquely qualified to help us understand the significance of the Name of the Son of Ya-Ho-Veh, and why it is a pressing priority to the Father.