

# A MESSIANIC HANUKKIAH GUIDE

WELCOME TO OUR HANUKKIAH PREPARATION AND BLESSING GUIDE  
As you prepare for the Hanukkah season, use this guide to lead you in preparing your Hanukkiah and reciting blessings over the Hanukkiah on each night of Hanukkah.

## *Preparing the Hanukkiah:*

Let's start with the candles. Candles are added to the Hanukkiah (menorah) from right to left but are kindled from left to right. The newest candle is lit first. On the first night, place a candle in the space for the shamash and a candle in the space on the far right hand side of the hanukkiah. Light the shamash, then use its flame to light the first candle before returning it to its slot. On each subsequent night, a new candle is added just to the left of the previous night's lights. On each night, begin by lighting the shamash, and then use it to light the candles on the hanukkiah. The candles are always lit from left to right. Here is an easy way to remember which ones to light first. Just remember, "The first will be last and the last will be first" (Matthew 19:30). That is, the first (candle) will be (lit) last and the last (candle) will be (lit) first.

## *Hanukkiah Blessings:*

The following blessings are intended to be said each night at sunset. As you light your Hanukkiah each evening, repeat the following blessings:

1. Blessed are You, Yahweh our God, Sovereign of all, who reveals Himself through His Son, our Messiah, Yeshua the Light of God and the Light of the World!
2. *Baruch atah Yahweh eloheinu melech ha'olam she'asah nissim la'avoteinu bayamim hahem bazeman hazeh.* Blessed are You, Yahweh our God, Sovereign of all, who performed signs, wonders, and miracles for our ancestors in days of old at this season.
3. We kindle these lights in memorial to the wondrous deliverance You performed for our ancestors. During these eight days of Hanukkah, these lights are sacred; we are not to use them but only to behold them, so that their glow may rouse us to give thanks for Your wondrous acts of deliverance which come into their fulfillment in the deliverance and salvation offered to all through Yeshua the life and light of every human being!

In addition to the above blessings, you can add an additional blessing each night:

Night 1: *Baruch atah Yahweh eloheinu Melech ha'olam shehecheyanu vekiyemanu vehiggi'anu lazeman hazeh.* Blessed are You, Yahweh our God, Sovereign of all, for giving us life, for sustaining us, and for enabling us to reach this season.

Night 2: May we be blessed to grasp the spiritual elements of this season and allow this revelation to motivate us in greater love for God.

### *Hanukkah Blessings Continued:*

Night 3: Yeshua said, “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.” May we like the Maccabees hunger and thirst for righteousness, keep the commandments of God, and hold our faith in the Messiah.

Night 4: Blessed are You, Yeshua our Messiah, whose light shines in the darkness and dispels it. May we follow your light and walk as children of light.

Night 5: Blessed are You, Yahweh our God, Sovereign of all, whose Word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path.

Night 6: Blessed are those whose light shines before others, whose good works glorify the Father.

Night 7: Blessed are those who build their family value and ideals from the light of the Word of God and become united in vision and goals for His service.

Night 8: May the anointing Spirit of Messiah be pure oil which fuels the flame of our faith, proclaiming the brilliance of the Kingdom to all those around us.