

A Family Friendly Guide to the Celebration of Hanukkah



Table of Contents:

Welcome Letter……..…….....2

Introduction…….3

History of Hanukkah..……...4

Is Hanukkah in the Scriptures?..…….6

Hanukkah in the Heavenlies…….……...9

Hanukkah Traditions Overview…...……12

Lighting the Menorah Blessings……..……14

Dreidel History & How To's……15

Recipes…..……...…...…….…..17

Hanukkah Crafts…...……..22

Closing……..31

Letter from Manna

If you're not careful, when you first begin to study and keep the Feasts and other special days (and even sometimes when you've been doing it for years!) it can be easy to get caught up in the "do's and don'ts" so much that we miss the beauty of the festival & they become a burden!

The festivals were to be the highlight of our year! There are many traditions that surround each one because they each have thousands of years of history! But if we get so caught up in trying to "keep the traditions", we can miss the entire point of the feast itself!

First and foremost, this is a Divine Appointment with Yahweh! It's all about Him! Secondly, these festivals were to be a joyous time and they were family oriented! This "guide" is to help explain the basics of the festival and also give you and your family ideas to help make it your own.

Though Hanukkah is not listed in Leviticus 23, there are many powerful shadow pictures found within this rehearsal!

It's our family history, it's our future, & it's our story!

Introduction



Hanukkah is not found listed among the Festivals of Yahweh in Leviticus 23 (neither is Purim). Therefore it does not hold the same status as those festivals spoken forth from the Mouth of Yahweh at Sinai. However, it has become known as one of the minor winter feasts due to historical events that took place at this season. With that being said, oddly enough, Hanukkah is probably one of the most well known festivals worldwide due it's often overlapping timing with the holiday of Christmas. Hanukkah has become embedded in the mindset of the culture as the Jewish "Christmas"…we see this often in movies, television shows, and with the catch phrase "Chrismukkah".

On the one hand, it's great to be able to find Hanukkah décor in stores, and hear songs, and even have Hallmark movies (you read that right, for the first time this year there will even be Hallmark holiday movies specifically focused on Hanukkah!), but this also leads to Hanukkah adopting traditions that may have more to do with Christmas traditions than anything with the actual reason for this season! This does not mean that all of the traditions are necessarily bad (or even pagan), but it does require each of us to prayerfully decide how we will choose to look at this feast and what we will choose to incorporate into our own home.

As we dive into this topic, we will address it's historical significance, if and where it is seen in the Scriptures, and the traditions that are associated with this feast and why they probably got attached!



History Of Hanukkah

Hanukkah is an 8 day celebration during the Hebrew winter month of Kislev, beginning on the 25th of Kislev, commemorating the rededication of the Temple during the 2nd Century B.C. These events happened in between the time of the last books of the "Old Testament" and before the start of the "New Testament" with the birth of Messiah. Around 200 B.C. the land of Israel (Judea) came under control of Antiochus III, King of Syria. The Israelites (mainly made up of the remnants of the tribe of Judah) were allowed to remain in the land and continue their Torah lifestyle. Once his son, Antiochus IV Epiphanes rose to power however, all of that changed! The Israelites were ordered to worship the Greek gods, and following Torah was outlawed.

In 168 B.C., Antiochus and his soldiers descended upon Jerusalem, massacring thousands and desecrated the Temple by sacrificing un-kosher pigs upon its altar and erecting an altar to Zeus. (Abomination of Desolation…) In addition to all of this, Antiochus appointed a Hellenistic "High Priest" to the Temple, prohibited the study of Torah, banned circumcision, and upon threat of death attempted to force the people to eat pork. Anything that the Torah commanded us to do was outlawed and forbidden, and anything that the Torah prohibited was forced upon the people.

Due to all of these circumstances, it did not take long for a rebellion to rise! By 165 B.C. the Hasmonean family of Mattiyahu the High Priest and his youngest son Judah "Maccabee" ("the Hammer") organized a revolt that eventually led to the overthrow and eviction of the Syrian-Greeks from Israel! The Temple was liberated along with the people…however, much work obviously would still need to be done to restore the purpose of the House of Worship!

The time of the rededication of the Temple was Kislev 25 (hence the date of Hanukkah). According to Tradition (as found in the Talmud), there was not enough oil left for the Temple Menorah. Very little was found that had not been defiled, but the true dilemma was that it would take at least 8 days for more to be pressed and prepared. Miraculously the oil lasted for 8 days, enough time for more oil to be made. The light of the Menorah did not go out. It is because of this miracle that Hanukkah is celebrated for 8 days.

The majority of this story can be found in much greater detail in the books of the Apocrypha, specifically the Books of the Maccabees. Interestingly enough though, where the war and battle for the Temple are described, there is no mention of the miracle of oil. It is only much later in the Talmudic writings that this arises. Because of this, many scholars believe that the reason for the 8 day celebration was due to the fact that it was a postponed celebration of Sukkot (Feast of Tabernacles)! In the midst of all the fighting, Israel had been unable to celebrate and honor the Feast, so upon dedicating the Temple, they celebrated the 8 days of Sukkot starting at Kislev 25.

From this tale of Hanukkah arises many of the themes and traditions seen today that will be discussed further in greater detail.



Is Hanukkah in the Scriptures?



As we have already stated previously, Hanukkah is not listed in Leviticus 23 and the events of this story take place in between any "canonized" books! Though the tale is included in the Apocrypha…are there any clues that it is more than just a historical event?

Interestingly enough, this feast is seen in the New Testament!
John 10:22-24 – "And it was at Jerusalem the feast of the dedication, and it was winter. And Jesus walked in the temple in Solomon's porch."

The Messiah is specifically recorded and special mention is made that He was in the Temple at the Feast of Dedication (Hanukkah)! It is also amazing to read the dialogue that takes place at this encounter in the rest of chapter 10 between Yeshua and the people! The people question if He is in fact the Messiah, and yet many get outraged at His answers to the point they wish to stone Him for blasphemy! The Messiah declares in answer that He and the Father are one (John 10:30), and this begins to form a very interesting parallel.

At this same time and place, years before, Antiochus desecrated the Temple and declared himself "god made manifest". Now we find the Messiah making statements that would have probably echoed in the minds of the people with the same concept – He is the Manifest Presence of Elohim! Yet where Antiochus was a counterfeit, here the people are faced with the genuine – and He has the power, authority, and miracles to prove His position and identity!

Sadly though, we find that the man made religion of the day caused many to turn a blind eye to their true King…but those who had ears to hear flocked to Yeshua and were set free, delivered, healed, and transformed! It's no accident that it was at the time of Hanukkah we see this show down taking place…it's a time that has been marked again and again as a season of war between those who seek to do righteousness and those who seek to exalt self.

Other references to Hanukkah are not quite as obvious at first glance, but they are still there! It is amazing that it is quite evident, that Yeshua, the Light of the World, was conceived at Hanukkah, the Festival of Lights! You may be wondering can this be proven? Yes it can!

An important clue is found in ***Luke 1:5 – "There was in the days of Herod, the king of Judaea, a certain priest named Zacharias, of the course of Abia: and his wife was of the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elisabeth."***

The Course of Abia or Abijah was the 7th course or division of the 24 courses of the Priests divided by King David to serve in the Temple (**1Chron. 24:10)**. 24 courses of 2-weeks, with each course serving together during the 3 great feasts. The announcement therefore to Zacharias in the Temple as to the conception of John the Baptist took place between 12 - 18 SIVAN (June 13 - 19), in the year 5 B.C. After finishing his "ministration", the aged priest "departed to his own house" (**Luke 1:23**) which was in a city in "the hill country" of Judea (**verse 39**).

The day following the end of the "Course of Abia" being a Sabbath (Sivan 19), he would not be able to leave Jerusalem before the 20th. The thirty miles journey would probably occupy a couple of days at least. He would therefore arrive at his house on the 21st or 22nd. This leaves ample time for the miraculous "conception" of Elizabeth to take place on or about the 23rd of Sivan - which would correspond to June 23 -24 of that year. The fact of the conception and it's date would necessarily be known at the time and afterwards, and hence the 23rd of Sivan would henceforth be associated with the conception of John the Baptist as the 1st of Tebeth would be with that of our Messiah. John would have been conceived around June 24th and born during Passover the 14th of Nissan.

Luke 1:36 – "And, behold, thy cousin Elisabeth, she hath also conceived a son in her old age: and this is the sixth month with her, who was called barren."

This would make Yahshua's conception during Kislev 25 on the minor festival of Hanukkah. He would be born 9 months later on Tishri 15 (Sept – Oct) – Sukkot or the Festival of Tabernacles! Though not stated out right, Hanukkah is given recognition from the Father by choosing it as the time for the Messiah to be conceived and "enter" the earth!

There is still yet more references to this minor festival though! Did you know the date of the eve of Hanukkah (Kislev 24) is mentioned not just once, not just twice, but FOUR times in the book of Haggai as the day that Yahweh had marked for redemption of his people in the midst of the overthrow and upheaval of the kingdoms of the earth! This is the day that Antiochus would have been defeated in the time of the Maccabees, causing the "rededication" on Kislev 25/Hanukkah 350 years after Haggai's prophecy!

It's also interesting to note that the name Haggai means "My Feasts", yet the only festival of **Leviticus 23** mentioned in the book of Haggai is the Feast of Tabernacles in **Haggai 2:1**; yet the date of Hanukkah is mentioned 4 times as said above! In two of these mentions it is emphasized "from this day forward I will bless you", and twice Haggai gets a specific word from Yahweh on this day! Also with Hanukkah and Tabernacles/Sukkot being the only two referenced, it seems to further tie these two together in their meaning and significance (both 8 days, one being the time of conception of the Light of the World/Messiah and the other the time of His birth!)

It is seen in the following verses:
Haggai 2:10 – "In the four and twentieth day of the ninth month, in the second year of Darius, came the word of Yahweh by Haggai the prophet, saying…"

Haggai 2:15 – "And now, I pray you, consider from this day and upward (Kislev 24), from before a stone was laid upon a stone in the temple of Yahweh:"

Haggai 2:18 – "Consider now from this day and upward, from the four and twentieth day of the ninth month, even from the day that the foundation of Yahweh's temple was laid, consider it."

Haggai 2:20 – "And again the word of Yahweh came unto Haggai in the four and twentieth day of the month, saying,"

Further clues to the significance of this time can also be found in the book of Daniel! Not only does Daniel prophesy of events (the Abomination of Desolation in **Dan. 9:27**, **11:31**, & **12:11**) that Antiochus would fulfill in part (there is still a future fulfillment of this prophecy by the Anti-Messiah himself).

Hanukkah in the Heavenlies



Psalms 19:1-3 – "The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament sheweth his handy work. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge. There is no speech nor language, where their voice is not heard."

The constellational signs were created by Yahweh to declare His Glory and to deliver the message of His Word as well! Before the Torah was ever penned onto stone or scrolls, it was etched in the Heavens! Sadly, the pagans have understood the power of the stars far more than the Believing community who have for the most part shunned any mention of them for fear of being associated with astrology and horoscopes. However, though this is the pagan polluted form which turned into the worship of creation rather than worship of the Creator, it does not negate the fact that the constellations of the Zodiac, or the Mazzeroth as they are referred to in the Scriptures, contains within it messages written by Yahweh to give us understanding of the seasons!

Is there a message that confirms the season of Hanukkah written in the Heavens? Let's find out!

Hanukkah begins in the 9th month of the Hebrew calendar, known as Kislev. This month is associated with the Zodiac sign that we know as Sagittarius, yet the Hebrew original name is Keshet. We've understood this sign as an archer…yet the Hebrew term connects it to a different bow – the rainbow! The rainbow, a sign of the covenant specifically given to Noah in the aftermath of devastation! A reminder that we walk in covenant with Yahweh!

In this Constellation of Keshet, there are 3 decans or houses that continue the message:

Lyra: The Lyre or Harp (the musical instrument of King David in **Ps. 19** with 22 strings, one for each Hebrew letter).

Ara: The "upside down" Altar, just below the Scorpion's tail formed by an asterism of 9 *(Note that number – 9th month) stars whose fire points toward the earth hinting at a fiery judgment.

Draco: The Dragon, That Old Serpent. The Constellation sitting at the apex of the Polar heavens with its tail enfolding 1/3 of the other stars. ***Rev. 12:4*** – ***"And his tail drew the third part of the stars of heaven, and did cast them to the earth: and the dragon stood before the woman which was ready to be delivered, for to devour her child as soon as it was born.***

These "One Third" represent the dark months of the Hebrew Calendar: 9th – Kislev/Sagittarius, 10th – Tevet/Capricorn, 11th – Shevat/Aquarius, 12th – Adar/ Pisces (it is interesting to note that Purim takes place in Adar, with both Hanukkah and Purim, the minor winter feasts, being powerful prophetic shadow pictures of events in the end days).

Over 5000 years ago Draco was the Pole Star, true north. Due to the Earth's axis, it appears to be cast down. Didn't Isaiah 14 say that the morning star would be cut down?
Isaiah 14:13 – "For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north:"

Isn't it fascinating that by adding the above numbers corresponding to the winter months (9+10+11+12) the total equals 42. Is it possible that a hint is being given regarding the future desecration dealing with the Altar and the Anti-Messiah (Antiochus Epiphanies' all over again) and the casting down of Draco and 1/3 of the Angels which coincides with the beginning of the 42 months of Great Tribulation and these 'Dark Months' of the year?

Hanukkah….seems to be much more than a time of gift giving and candle lighting!

It's no accident that the very name of Hanukkah means dedication, from the Hebrew root word chanak meaning to train or train up. It's most well known usage is probably ***Proverbs 22:6 – "Train up a child in the way he should go…"*** – could Hanukkah be rehearsal where we are reminded and "trained" (chanak) in preparation for the difficult days ahead? Though it may be dark all around, Hanukkah reminds us that we have an eternal covenant with Yahweh, and as His judgment is being poured out, we've been given a promise (rainbow) and will be preserved if we choose to dedicate our lives and walk in His ways! We can have a song in the night! (Lyre of David – sign of Lyra).



Hanukkah Traditions

Overview



Lighting the Menorah/Hanukkiah: It is traditional during the 8 nights to light the Hanukkiah (a 9 branched version of the Menorah, 1 servant/Shamash candle and 8 other candles, one for each night). A blessing is said at the time of lighting, and the candles help keep track of the days! On the first night, only the Shamash and the first candle is lit. On the second night, the Shamash and 2 candles, and so on till all 8 candles and the Shamash are lit on the last night. We will discuss more details and provide the blessings in the next chapter!



Playing Dreidel: It is another tradition during this time to play the spinning top game known as dreidel for gelt (chocolate golden coins). The classic dreidel is 4 sided with the letters Nun, Gimmel, Hey, and Shin – forming the acronym for "nes gadol hayah sham", meaning "A great miracle happened there." If you are in Israel, the final letter Shin is exchanged for the Peh in order for the phrase to say "nes gadol hayah poh", meaning "A great miracle happened here." Today it is commonly seen as a children's game. Further dreidel history and rules later on!



Fried Food: With a festival associated with a miracle of oil…of course fried foods have to be big (it's time for our Southern roots to shine!) Two traditional foods eaten at Hanukkah that are fried are latkes (potato pancakes) and Sufganiyot (jelly filled doughnuts)! Both are delicious…recipes later!



Gifts: Another tradition (especially in America where Hanukkah coincides with Christmas) is the giving of gifts and sending of special Happy Hanukkah cards. It is obvious that this particular tradition has nothing to do with the warfare history of this day, but it is also not specifically wrong to bless others. It is definitely a way to make the time festive when there are 8 nights of gifts! However, there is no need to get caught up in the crazy commercialism that's seen in our culture. Make it special for you and your family! We even chose to take special family photos and create our own unique Happy Hanukkah cards to send out one year.



Music: Come December…we are bombarded with holiday music no matter where you go! One great thing about Hanukkah coinciding so close is that it as well gets extra attention! Of all the Festivals, Hanukkah has tons of great classic and modern songs to choose from! Youtube, Spotify, and Itunes are great sources to make you a rocking Hanukkah playlist to make your celebration ring out! One group that has become quite well known for their annual Hanukkah song is the Maccabeats! Check them out!



Lighting the Menorah Blessings

On the first night of Hanukkah, after the stars appear, the first candle is placed at the end of the Menorah, facing the right hand. First the Shamash (servant middle candle) is lit, and then the Shamash candle is used to light the first candle. On the second night, another candle is added, we now have two candles to the far right end of the Menorah and the Shamash. Once again the Shamash is lit first, and then the remaining candles are lit left to right (newest candles are lit first). Each night the candles are allowed to burn down all the way. And each night a new candle is added until on the last night, our Menorah is fully lit.

Traditional Candle Lighting Blessing:

בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה אֲדֹנָי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו וְצִוָּנוּ לְהַדְלִיק נֵר חֲנֻכָּה

Baruch Attah Adonai Elohenu Melech ha'olam asher kideshanu bemitzvotav vetzivanu lehadlik ner Chanukah.

Blessed are You, Lord our G-d, King of the universe, who has sanctified us with His commandments, and commanded us to kindle the Chanukah light.

Messianic Candle Lighting Blessing:

Barukh attah Adonai Eloheinu melech ha'olam asher natan lanu chaggim, chukkot, u'mo'adim l'simchah, likhvod Yeshua HaMashiach Adoneinu or ha'olam.

Blessed are You, Lord our G-d, King of the universe, who has given to us feasts, customs, and seasons for gladness, for the glory of the Lord Yeshua our Messiah, the light of the world."

The Dreidel:

History & How To's



There are many different stories associated with the dreidel, it was maintained by some sources that the dreidels history is as old as the Hanukkah story itself! The story goes that before the Maccabean revolt, when studying the Torah was outlawed, the people would go into the forest to study anyway, but in case a patrol came by they would pull out the spinning tops to disguise their studying. Dreidel did not start out as a children's game as it is seen today at all! Instead it was used to aide the study and discussion of Torah – the letter that landed on top would determine the topic of the study, tradition even says that the spinning of the dreidel even led to the haftarah portion. When the possession of Torah scrolls were forbidden, the dreidel letters helped remind them of what Torah portion they should be reading, and then they would find sections of the scrolls of the prophets that corresponded, giving us the haftorah section we know today.

The Rabbi's teach that the 4 sides represent the 4 exiles of Israel. First in Babylon, then Persia, the Greeks, and finally the Romans. Yet its always the hand from above that spins it and is in control, reminding us that it is the hand of Yahweh that controls the fate of His people.

The numbers associated with these letters also tell a story for us today. The Nun = 50, Gimmel = 3, Hey = 5, & Shin = 300 → 358, the value of nachash/serpent and Mashiyah/Messiah! This reminds us that we each have a choice, we can either follow the ways of the nachash/serpent or we can choose to serve the Messiah/Mashiyah and shine His light no matter what type of exile or oppression we maybe experiencing.

Dreidel Rules



The Setup:
All players sit around the playing area.
The "ante" or tokens (these can be any small objects, such as chocolate gelt, pennies, dried beans, or raisins) are divided equally among all players.
Players take turns spinning the dreidel; the player with the highest spin has first turn. (Nun is highest, then Gimmel, Hey, and Shin.) If there is a tie, the two who tied spin again.
Everyone puts one unit of the ante (penny, nut, etc.) into the pot.
Play moves clockwise.

To Play:
Each player begins with an equal number of game pieces (usually 10–15).
At the beginning of each round, every participant puts one game piece into the center "pot". Every player puts one in the pot after every turn.
Each player spins the dreidel once during their turn. Depending on which side is facing up when the dreidel stops spinning, the player either gives or takes game pieces from the pot.
If the dreidel lands on a...

NUN -נ
If נ (nun) is facing up, the player does nothing. The person to the left spins.

GIMMEL -ג
You get to take the whole pot!
Everyone, including the spinner, puts another ante unit into the pot, and the person to the left spins.

HEY -ה
The player gets half of the pieces in the pot. (If there are an odd number of pieces in the pot, the player takes the half the pot rounded up to the nearest whole number.)

SHIN -ש
Sorry! You now have to put another unit into the pot.

The End!

Recipes!



As we previously said, with this being a festival based off of a miracle of oil, many oil based or fried foods are traditional during this festival! Being from the South…there are soooo many foods that come to mind! Or if you've been to a carnival or fair, you can probably think of a few too! But as delicious as all of these are, there are a few very traditional foods you'll find wherever Hanukkah is celebrated!

Traditional Latkes



"A classic potato latke, you can't go wrong with these crispy hot cakes. Serve with applesauce, sour cream and chopped green onions! Happy Hanukkah!"

Ingredients

- 2 cups peeled and shredded potatoes
- 1 tablespoon grated onion
- 3 eggs, beaten
- 2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 1 1/2 teaspoons salt
- 1/2 cup peanut oil for frying

Directions

1. Place the potatoes in a cheesecloth and wring, extracting as much moisture as possible.
2. In a medium bowl stir the potatoes, onion, eggs, flour and salt together.
3. In a large heavy-bottomed skillet over medium-high heat, heat the oil until hot. Place large spoonfuls of the potato mixture into the hot oil, pressing down on them to form 1/4 to 1/2 inch thick patties. Brown on one side, turn and brown on the other. Let drain on paper towels. Serve hot!

From: ALL RIGHTS RESERVED © 2019 Allrecipes.com

Sweet Potato Latkes



Ingredients

- 1 large sweet potato, peeled and grated
- 1/2 onion, grated
- 2 eggs
- 1/4 teaspoon black pepper
- 2 teaspoons olive oil, or more if needed
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup applesauce
- 1 cup plain nonfat yogurt

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 200 degrees F (95 degrees C). Line a baking sheet with paper towels.
2. Fill a bowl with lightly-salted water. Rinse the grated sweet potato in the water, and drain into a sieve. Pat the grated sweet potato dry with a cloth or paper towels, then place into a bowl. Squeeze excess moisture from the grated onion, and place into the bowl with the sweet potato. Stir the eggs and pepper into the mixture until well combined.
3. Heat the olive oil in a nonstick skillet over medium heat until it shimmers, and spoon about 1 heaping tablespoon of the potato mixture per patty into the hot oil. Flatten the patties with a fork, and fry until golden brown and crisp on the bottom, 5 to 8 minutes. Flip and cook on the other side, sprinkle with salt, then set the cooked patties aside on the prepared baking sheet in the preheated oven while you finish cooking the latkes. Stir the potato mixture before cooking each batch of patties. Serve hot with applesauce and yogurt.

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED © 2019 Allrecipes.com

*Personal spin – we love to season with Cajun seasoning to spice it up! (Tony Chachere Creole season is a must for us!)

Sufganiyot



by CHOW Food Team

Difficulty: **Medium** |
Total Time: **About 1 hr 15 mins, plus 2 hrs rising time** |Makes: **30 donuts**

INGREDIENTS

2 cups all-purpose flour, plus more for dusting the baking sheet and rolling out the dough

1/4 cup granulated sugar

1 (1/4-ounce) packet active dry yeast (2 1/4 teaspoons)

1/2 teaspoon fine salt

2 large egg yolks

3/4 cup warm whole milk (105°F to 115°F)

2 tablespoons unsalted butter (1/4 stick), at room temperature

6 cups (1 1/2 quarts) vegetable or canola oil, for frying, plus more for coating the bowl

2/3 cup smooth jam or jelly

Powdered sugar, for dusting

***Alternate Fillings: Nutella, Boston Cream, Lemon Pie Filling**

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Place the flour, sugar, yeast, and salt in the bowl of a stand mixer and whisk to combine. Add the yolks and milk and mix, using the hook attachment, on medium-low speed until a shaggy dough forms, about 1 minute. Add the butter, increase the speed to medium high, and mix until the dough is smooth, shiny, and elastic, about 5 minutes.

2. Coat a large bowl with oil. Form the dough into a ball, place in the bowl, and turn to coat in the oil. Cover with plastic wrap or a damp towel and let rise in a warm place until doubled in size, about 1 to 1 1/2 hours.

3. Lightly flour a baking sheet; set aside. Punch down the dough, transfer to a lightly floured work surface, and roll until about 1/4 inch thick. Using a 2-inch round cutter, stamp out as many dough rounds as possible and place on the prepared baking sheet about 1/2 inch apart. Gather the dough scraps into a ball and roll out again, stamping rounds until you have 30 total on the baking sheet. Cover loosely with plastic wrap or a damp towel. Let rise in a warm place until puffy and about 1/2 inch thick, about 30 minutes.

4. Place the vegetable or canola oil in a Dutch oven or a large, heavy-bottomed pot and set over medium heat until the temperature reaches 350°F on a candy/fat thermometer. Meanwhile, line a second baking sheet with paper towels and place a wire rack over the paper towels; set aside. Place the jam or jelly in a piping bag fitted with a 1/4-inch round tip; set aside.

5. Using a flat spatula (don't use your hands—this will deflate the donuts), carefully transfer the dough rounds, one at a time, into the oil. You should be able to fit about 6 at a time, leaving at least 1 inch of space in between and keeping the oil temperature at 350°F. Fry until the bottoms are golden brown, about 1 1/2 minutes. Carefully flip with a fork and fry until the second side is golden brown, about 1 1/2 minutes more. (If air bubbles appear in the donuts, pierce with the tip of a paring knife.) Remove with a slotted spoon to the wire rack. Repeat with the remaining dough rounds.

6. When the donuts are cool enough to handle, use a paring knife to puncture the side of each to form a pocket in the center. Place the tip of the piping bag into the pocket and pipe about 1 teaspoon of jam or jelly inside. Dust with powdered sugar before serving.

SOURCE: https://www.chowhound.com/recipes/sufganiyot-israeli-jelly-doughnuts-10818



Hanukkah Crafts

Popsicle Star of David Banner

You will need:
Popsicle sticks in many different colors
Glue
String
Decorations like shiny gems or sequins



Start by picking out six popsicle sticks. Glue three each into a triangle. You should have two triangles now. Put your triangles on top of each other to make a Star of David shape and glue the popsicle sticks in place.





Now you can decorate your star with sticky gems, sequins or glitter glue. Make a whole bunch of stars! You can try out different ways of decorating them and different color combinations, too! When you have made as many stars as you like all you have to do is attach them to some string or ribbon and hang up your beautiful bunting!

http://punktorah.org/popsicle-star-of-david-bunting-jewish-crafts/

Handprint Menorah

Supplies- Blue & White Construction Paper, Blue & Yellow Paint, Paint Brush, Black Marker, Glue, Scissors.

1. Paint one little hand blue & stamp onto the white construction paper.
2. Repeat with the opposite hand being sure to overlap the thumbs (pictured below)... the menorah only needs 9 candles. Tricky when we've got 10 little fingers!



3. Use a fingertip & dip it into the yellow paint.
4. Stamp a yellow print on top of each of the 9 fingers or "candles."



5. Finish off your artwork with the words “Happy Hanukkah” and any other customized artwork! Proudly display for the Feast!

http://sbcreatively.blogspot.com/2010/12/handprint-menorah.html?m=1

Paper Dreidels Decor

Use the pattern to cut out your paper dreidels out of countless patterns, colors, and designs for a unique festive look! Use your paper dreidels to make a banner, hang individually down, as a place setting at the table, or fill with candy and other small items as a party favor or gift! The possibilities are endless!

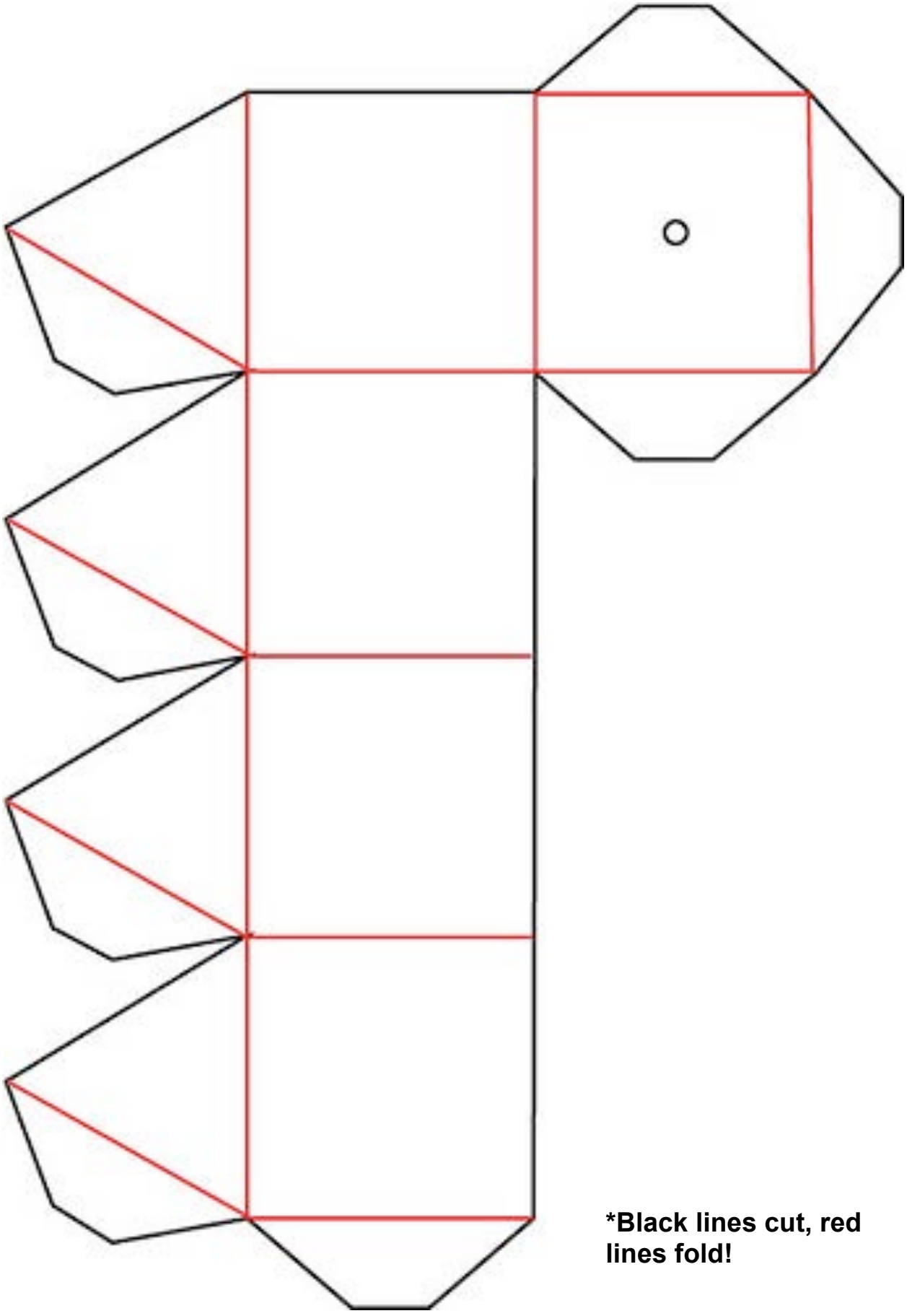
http://www.designmegillah.com/2011/12/paper-dreidels.html



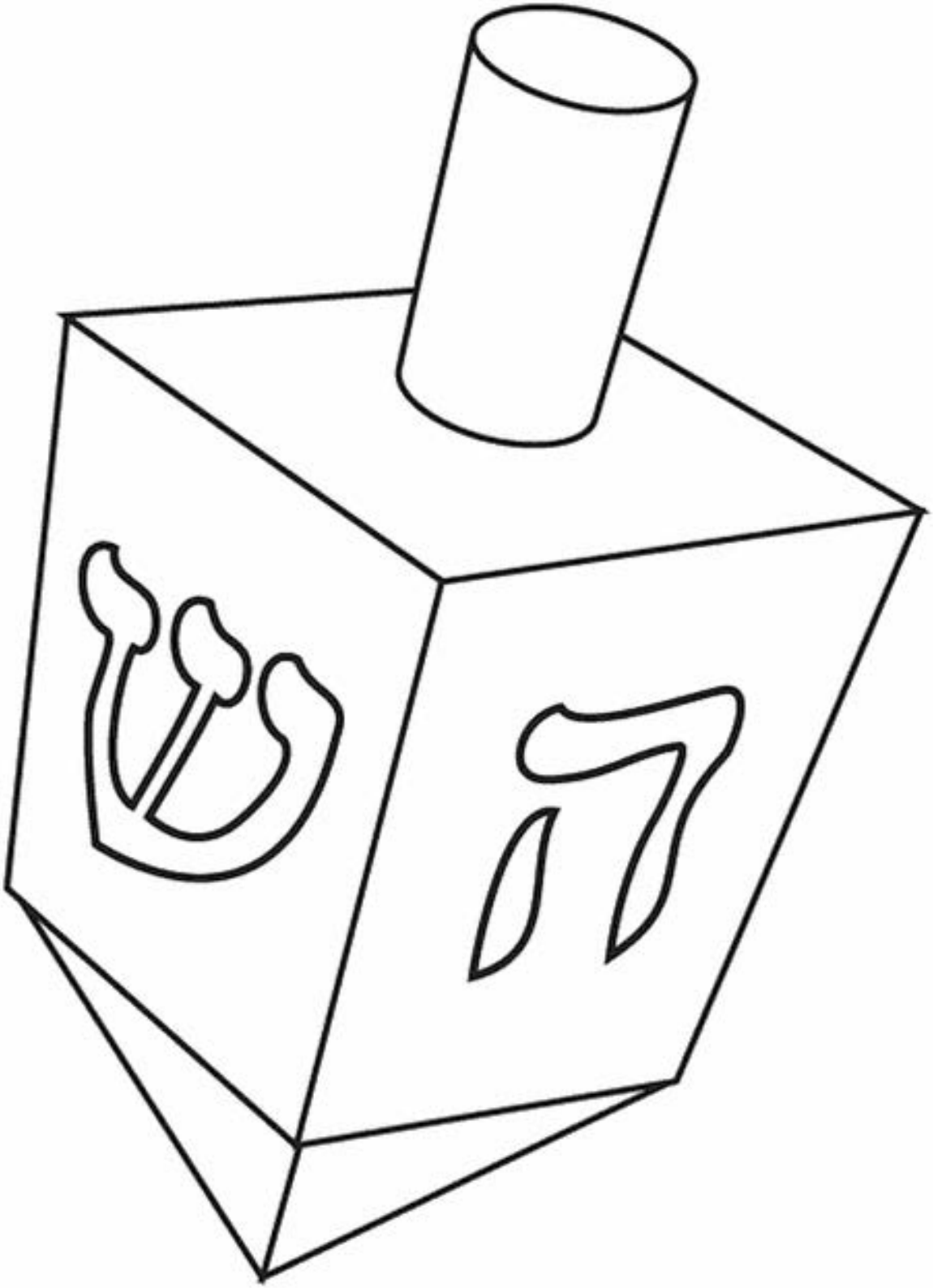


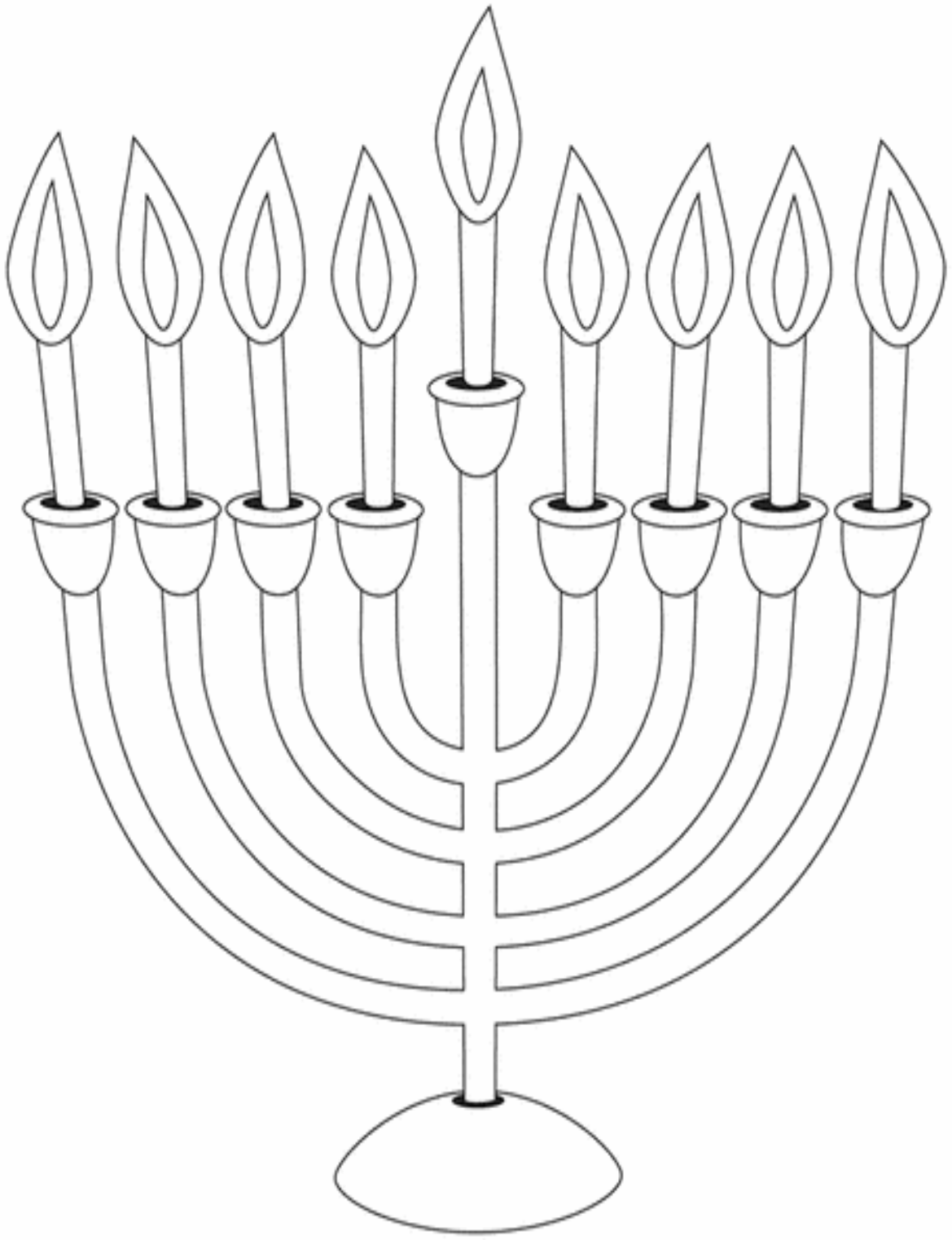






***Black lines cut, red lines fold!**



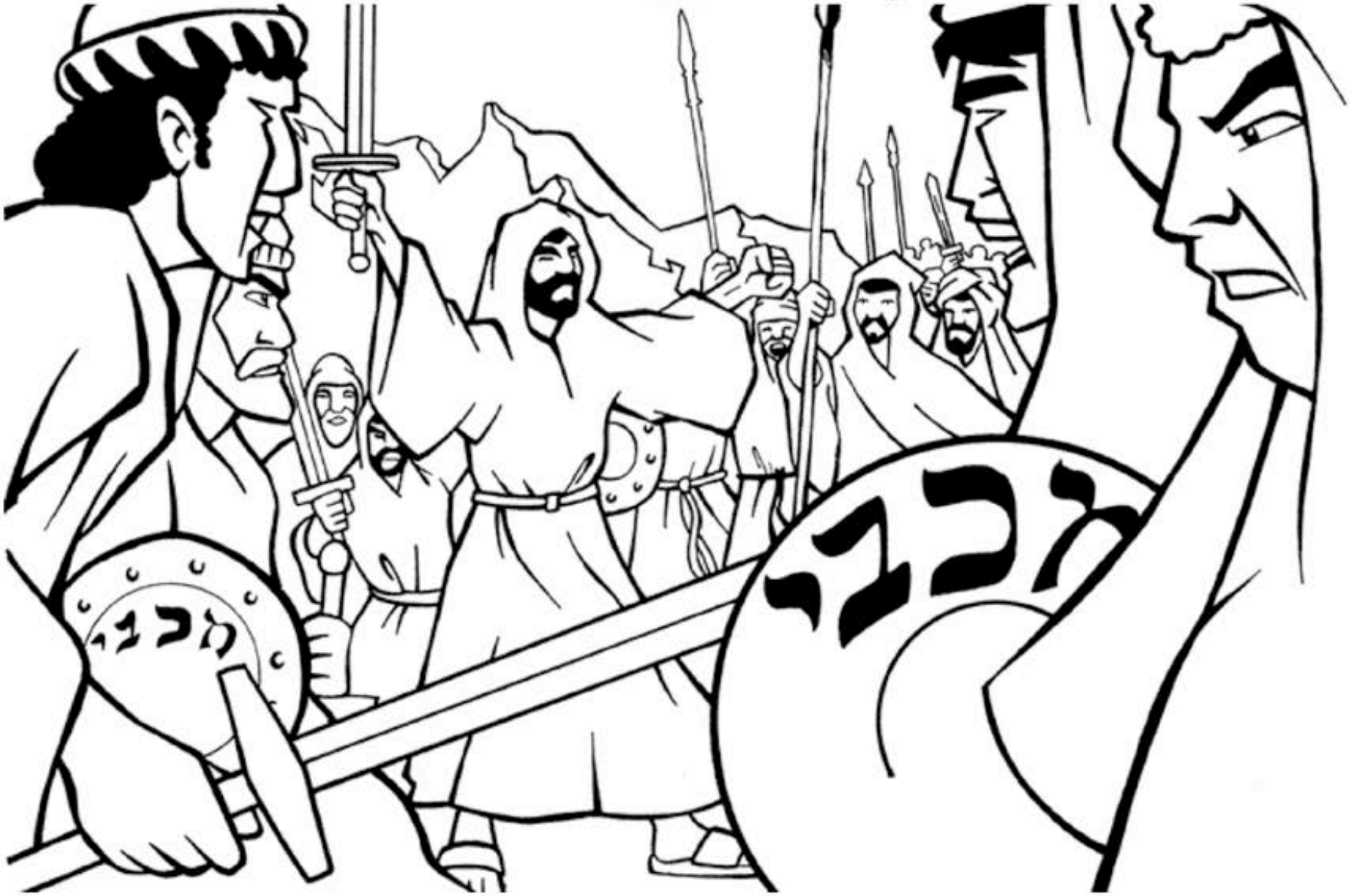



HAPPY
HANUKKAH!

BORUCH HASHEM

Kids Zone

Tzivos Hashem - Kids tzivoshashem.org/kids



Matisyohu had a son named Yehuda the Macabee. A lot of courageous Jews gathered around him and started attacking the Syrian army and destroying the altars.

Find the words about the **Hanukkah** that are listed below in the word search grid. Circle each letter one by one. Each letter of the Hanukkah word search grid may be used in more than one word. **When the word search puzzle is complete, read the remaining letters left to right, top to bottom, for a portion of the Hanukkah story.**

Hanukkah Word Search Puzzle

F T H E M A L G R C C A B E T
E E A S E N A I I T E R E H O
S D L T H E T H G M O L E Y I
T C H A N U K A H H M I T E N
I M A U P L E E T T T E O F A
V I N N H D S T E H A S L T G
A T I H A E D O O F D E I R F
L G S R K E C O U H S Y R I U
A L S N K S H E S A A D D E S
F E I I U L E D L T H L E O I
L D M E N O R A H C T E L H A
T I W A A S S U S E A A D E F
O E I G H T D A Y S R R T H L
E R T I E M P L E S M S I E N
O D N R A O L I V E O I L M H

HANUKKAH WORD LIST

AL HANISSIM
CHANUKAH
DREIDEL
EIGHT DAYS
FESTIVAL
FRIED FOOD
GIMMEL
HALLEL
HANUKKAH
ISRAEL
LATKES
LIGHTS
MENORAH
MIRACLE
NUN
OLIVE OIL
RIGHTEOUS
SHIN

Printables for Kids from www.PrintActivities.com

In Conclusion

Hanukkah is a time with multiple meanings and traditions! It is up to you and your family how you choose to celebrate and what lessons you choose to focus on. But above all, Hanukkah is truly a time where we are reminded to stand up for righteousness and truth. It is a time where we are to remember that the Light of the Torah cannot be extinguished and that we are charged in part with making sure it shines bright!

Matthew 5:14-16 – "Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid. Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

So whether you spell it like Hanukkah, or Chanukah, or Chanukka, or Hannukah….the list goes on…remember that the true lesson of this season is to be His light in a dark place, and that's much more than just lighting a physical candle…it's about keeping His fire burning on the altars of our hearts!



Chag Sameach!