Hanukkah – The eighth day

Luk 2:43  But after the festival was over, when his parents returned, Yeshua remained in Yerushalayim. They didn't realize this;

* Don’t leave your Yeshua behind!

Hanukkah: the festival of victory, dedication and light.

* We cannot have victory without a battle
* Looking at the story of Hanukkah,
* It wasn’t that the enemy wanted to destroy the people at first,
* It was that enemy wanted to change who they are.
* Wanting the people of Israel to compromise into a Hellenistic culture.
* Giving up and compromising your morals, beliefs and values.
* And where does the battle start?
* With the priest.
* The Maccabees
* We are in a culture that wants you to change your morals, beliefs, and values.
* We know we cannot change or compromise our morals, beliefs or values,
* Because all our values are founded on the scripture.
* Scripture tells us what is right and what is wrong.
* It is written down for us.
* Our Father has already established His principles for me.
* We cannot go against our Heavenly Father, because He will always lead us back to His paths of righteousness.
* He loves us enough to correct us, discipline.
  + Rev 3:19  As for me, I rebuke and discipline everyone I love; so exert yourselves, and turn from your sins!

The Maccabees, a priestly family of Jews organized a successful rebellion against the Seleucid ruler Antiochus IV.

* This battle lasted about 3 years.
* After the victory, there was a dedication of the Altar and the Temple.
  + After the abomination on the Altar and the setting up of the image of Zeus.
  + Pagan rituals and sacrifices that were carried out in the temple of God.
* When the Maccabees returned to this horrible scene they wept and cried.
* They got up and began to clean the temple (us)
  + Our Father loves to clean temples up, too. Ask Him too.
* The Maccabees began cleaning and rebuilding the Altar.
  + The tradition of the oil comes in at this part of the story.
  + The oil used had to be blessed.
  + Oil that was set apart.

Exodus 27:20  "You are to order the people of Isra'el to bring you pure oil of pounded olives for the light, and to keep a lamp burning continually.

* There were two processes for rendering olive oil.
  + The olives would be placed into a press called a “Yom” “A sea”
  + This first pressing was the purest oil and was used for lamps and holy anointing.
  + This process crushed the olives. This oil would have been used in the Temple.
* The second process was pressing.
  + The crushed olives were gathered and pressed.
  + This was called, “Gethsemane”
  + Everyone else uses this oil.
  + Gethsemane is the oil for everyone.

The Maccabees found this temple oil for the Menorah for light.

* The tradition is that the oil was only enough for 1 day but the oil lasted 8 days.
* 8 is the number of new beginnings.
* Infinity…

John 8:12  Yeshua spoke to them again: "I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will **never** walk in darkness but will have the light which gives life."

* You will not walk in darkness, even though you may be in darkness or experiencing darkness.
  + We don’t walk after darkness.
  + Yeshua is your light, the light of the world.
  + We can trust Him, He is truth.