

their glory into it. And in the daytime (for there shall be no night there) its gates shall never be closed; and they shall bring the glory and the honor of the nations into it; and nothing unclean and no one who practices abomination and lying, shall ever come into it, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life.



*This Messianic Jewish Chanukkah Candle Lighting Ceremony was created by Loren Jacobs, Messianic Rabbi of Shema Yisrael Congregation, Michigan
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A Few Guidelines For Lighting The Candles

Jewish celebrations begin on the evening before the day of the Holiday. Therefore, after sundown on the first night of Chanukkah, the *Shamash* candle is lit and used to light the first candle in the Menorah. On the second night the *Shamash* candle is used to light two other candles in the Menorah, and so on through the eight days of Chanukkah.

Order of kindling the Chanukkah lights:

On the first night, the first candle is placed at the extreme right in the Menorah and three benedictions are recited **BEFORE** kindling the light with the *Shamash*. On the next night, a second candle is added to the left of the first candle and only the first two benedictions are recited. **AFTER** reciting both blessings, the added candle is lit and thus working towards the right. This is repeated adding one candle each night till the last night.



Messianic Jewish Chanukkah Candle Lighting Ceremony



Each Night Recite The Following

Baruch Ata Adonai Elohaynu Melech ha-olam, asher kidshanu b'mitz-vo-tav v'tzee-va-nu l'had-leech ner shel Chanukkah.

Blessed art Thou O Lord our God, King of the universe, who has sanctified us with thy commandments and commanded us to light Chanukkah lights.

Baruch Ata Adonai Elohaynu Melech ha-olam, she-ah-sah niseem la- ah-vo-tay-nu ba-ya-meem ha-hem baz-man ha-zeh.

Blessed art Thou O Lord our God, King of the universe, who performed miracles for our fathers in those days at this season.

On the first night you can add:

Baruch Ata Adonai Elohaynu Melech ha-olam, she-he-che-yanu v'kee-ma-nu v'hi-gee-ah-nu laz-man ha-zeh.

Blessed art Thou O Lord our God, King of the universe, who has granted us life and sustained us and permitted us to reach this season.

Shamash "Servant" Candle

(lit first & used to light all other candles)

Messiah Yeshua stated in Mark 10:44-45:
Whoever wishes to be first among you shall be the servant of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.

First Candle

Genesis 1:3-4 describes the creation of the first light: **God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness.**

Second Candle

Exodus 13:21-22 reveals that God is the source of Israel's light: **And the Lord was going before them in a pillar of cloud by day to lead them on the way, and in a pillar of fire by night to give them light, that they might travel by day and by night. He did not take away the pillar of cloud by day, nor the pillar of fire by night, from before the people.**

Third Candle

King David reminds us that God Himself is the source of our own individual light: **The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the defense of my life; whom shall I dread (Psalm 27:1)? For You light my lamp; the Lord my God illumines my darkness. (Psalm 18:28)**

Fourth Candle

Psalms 119:105 and Psalm 119:130 describe the light that comes from God's Word: **Your word is a lamp to my feet, and a light to my path. The unfolding of Your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple.**

Fifth Candle

Messiah Yeshua is the greatest light of all: **In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. (John 1:4-5)**

As Messiah Yeshua was in the Temple in Jerusalem watching the illuminating lights, He declared: **"I am the light of the world; he who follows Me shall not walk in the darkness, but shall have the light of life." (John 8:12)**

Aged Simeon was promised by the Lord that he would not die until he saw Israel's Messiah. When he saw Yeshua as an infant in the Temple, he knew that this One was the light of Israel and the Nations. Simeon declared: **"My eyes have seen Your salvation, which You have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light of revelation to the gentiles, and the glory of Your people Israel." (Luke 2:30-32)**

For God, who said, "Light shall shine out of darkness," is the One who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Messiah. (2 Corinthians 4:6)

Sixth Candle

After we come to know Messiah, we are to be a source of light for the world. King Messiah tells us in Matthew 5:14-16: **You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do men light a lamp, and put it under the peck-measure, but on the lampstand; and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.**

Seventh Candle

The prophet Isaiah speaks of the future glory of a restored Israel in Isaiah 60:1-3: **Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you... And nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising.**

Eighth Candle

Revelation 21:22-27 gives us a description of our glorious eternal dwelling place in the New Jerusalem: **And I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God, the Almighty, and the Lamb, are its temple. And the city has no need of the sun or of the moon to shine upon it, for the glory of God has illumined it, and its lamp is the Lamb. And the nations shall walk by its light, and the kings of the earth shall bring**