

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT MBC:

1. Our monthly prayer meeting is this Saturday at 8:30 am.
2. Women of the Word resumes this Saturday. All women can register at the Welcome Table on Sunday or online: <https://makakilochurch.org/resources/registrations>
3. We will continue our ongoing Who We Are series on October 11th and 18th.
4. Communion Sunday will be on October 25th. If you would like to join the church that Sunday, please reach out to Pastor Spencer.
5. To prepare for the preaching of the word on this coming Lord's Day, we would encourage you to meditate on the passage ahead of time. This Sunday morning's sermon will be from Daniel 9 and the Evening service's will be on the topic of Missions.

WHAT WE BELIEVE: *Of the True God* - We believe that there is one, and only one, living and true God, an infinite, intelligent Spirit, the Maker and Supreme Ruler of Heaven and earth. He is inexpressibly glorious in holiness, and worthy of all possible honor, confidence, and love. We believe that in the unity of the Godhead there are three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; equal in every divine perfection, and executing distinct and harmonious offices in the great work of redemption. John 4:24; Psa. 147:5; 83:18; Heb. 3:4; Rom. 1:20; Jer. 10:10; Exod. 15:11; Isa. 6:3; 1 Pet. 1:15-16; Rev. 4:6-8; Mark 12:30; Rev. 4:11; Matt. 10:37; Jer. 2:12-13; Matt. 28:19; John 15:26; 1 Cor. 12:4-6; 1 John 5:7; John 10:30; 5:17; 14:23; 17:5, 10; Acts 5:3-4; 1 Cor. 2:10-11; Phil. 2:5-6; Eph. 2:18; 2 Cor. 13:14; Rev. 1:4-5

WISDOM: "The fact that men sin is their own doing; that they by sinning do this or that comes from the power of God, who divides the darkness as he pleases." – Augustine

WORD: "God's Sovereignty Over Evil Kings", Daniel 8:1-27

Suggested questions:

1. Read Daniel 8:1-27. Was there anything that particularly challenged, impacted, or confused you from this Sunday's message?
2. How does Daniel 8 instruct us on how to view the past and future?
3. How should we respond when we have evil rulers over our land?

DIGGING DEEPER: Hanukkah: The Festival of Lights

https://www.lifeinmessiah.org/feasts-hanukkah?gad_source=1&gbraid=0AAAAABmv9KTYpzPmRx_Y_17-8FcbODmj6

Hanukkah: The Festival of Lights

Life in Messiah

What is Hanukkah?

Hanukkah is the Hebrew word for “dedication.” Also known as the Festival of Lights, Hanukkah is an eight-day Jewish holiday celebrating the rededication of the Temple in Jerusalem that happened in the second century BC.

What is the background of Hanukkah?

Hanukkah is tied to a time when Israel was struggling for existence. In 167 BC, Israel was under the rule of Antiochus Epiphanes (Greek for “God Manifest”), who was known for his cruelty and delusions of deity. His enemies mockingly referred to him as Antiochus Epimanes (“madman”).

Among many atrocities he committed to Hellenize Israel, Antiochus desecrated the Temple in Jerusalem, dedicating it to Greek gods and even sacrificing a pig on the altar.

The apocryphal books 1 and 2 Maccabees describe Israel’s plight under Antiochus’ mad rule, as well as the successful revolt against Antiochus led by the Maccabees, a Jewish family of priests. After winning their freedom, the Jewish people rededicated the Temple to God.

According to Jewish tradition, when the Temple was rededicated, there was only enough pure olive oil to light the Temple menorah for one day. As the story goes, the oil miraculously lasted eight days, long enough to purify more oil.

How is Hanukkah celebrated today?

Today, in remembrance of God’s provision, Jewish people light the eight candles on the nine-candle menorah (the ninth candle, the *shammash*, is used to light the others). A new candle is lit on each night of Hanukkah, one candle for each day the oil burned. The candle lighting is often accompanied by readings of Psalms 113–118 and Numbers 7:1–8:4. Families also play games, exchange gifts, share meals, and attend plays and concerts at synagogues and schools.

What are traditional Hanukkah foods?

Since the legend of the miraculously burning oil is a central focus of Hanukkah, it is traditional to eat foods fried in oil during this festival. Eastern-European *latkes* (potato pancakes) are a popular choice for many; in Israel, *sufganiyot* (jelly-filled doughnuts) are a favorite.

What is Hanukkah’s significance to believers?

Hanukkah is a testament to God's faithfulness to the Jewish people by preserving them through war and persecution – and His faithfulness in fulfilling His promises to

produce a Messiah from the line of David. If the Jewish people had succumbed to Hellenizing pressures and lost their religious and ethnic distinctness, the Messianic prophecies could not have been fulfilled.

For believers in Jesus, Hanukkah reminds us of two important points. First, it is a sobering reminder of the force of antisemitism (hatred of Jewish people) in the world. As believers, we should emulate God's love and concern for His chosen people by standing against antisemitism.

Second, Hanukkah reminds us of God's faithfulness – past, present, and future – to His church. Similar to Jewish history, church history has been marked by periods of intense persecution, yet God has continued to bless the spread of faith in Jesus throughout the earth, preserving the church since its birth.