

## **Hanukkah - the Feast of Dedication     John 10:22**

Review :

Jewish Feasts - Leviticus 23 & Deuteronomy 16:16

- (1) Passover (unleavened bread) in Abib, 1st month
- (2) Pentecost (weeks) in Sivan, 3rd month
- (3) Tabernacles (booths) in Tishri, 7th month

Hist : These feasts were times of fellowship and rejoicing.

Spir : Our Lord desires His people to come before Him with praise and thanksgiving.

Doct : These feasts serve as type of things to come.

They give forth a prophetic picture of God's timetable of history.

Passover - the offering of Christ in his death

Pentecost - the coming of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the church

Tabernacles - the coming of Christ in his birth and his return to reign as King

There was a long period from Tabernacles (month 7) to Passover (month 1, next year).

So the Lord, in his goodness, allowed two additional ('extra-Biblical') feasts to be birthed during the *times of the Gentiles*.

The **first** was the 'week-end' feast of **Purim** (month 12) found in the book of Esther (chap 9).

This feast was established during the reign of the Medes and Persians.

The **second** was the week-long feast of **Hanukkah** in the 9th month.

Hanukkah was birthed during the reign of Greece.

### **I. The History of Hanukkah**

#### **A. The times of the Gentiles**

**Luke 21:24**

- 1. Babylon (606 BC) Daniel 2 & 7
- 2. Medes-Persian (538 BC)
- 3. Greece (333 BC)
- 4. Rome (58 BC) [Gallic wars of Julius Caesar 58-49 BC]

#### **B. Alexander the Great (356-323 BC) = notable, great horn of Daniel 8:5, 21**

**Daniel 7:6; 8:22** - four heads, broken . . . four kingdoms

Seleucus took Syria (N)

Lysimachus took Asia Minor = Thrace (E)

Ptolemy took Egypt (S)

Cassander took Macedonia = Greece (W)