

HOW DOES A CHRISTIAN CELEBRATE THE BIRTH OF YESHUA (JESUS), THE CHRIST WITHOUT FOLLOWING PAGAN RITUALS?

I've long since realized that Jesus/Yeshua came not to begin another religion, he came not to destroy Torah but came to fulfill. Although I am not Jewish and have been raised and taught as a Christian, I consider my self as Messianic Christian. This is not as strange as it sounds since I've been doing an extensive study back to my Israeli roots. Besides our brother Judah, who I love very much, I've realized that there is another House of Israel, the now understood branch-stick of Ephraim; the name of Northern Israel, aka: Lost Tribes/Sheep of Israel (Ezekiel 37:16-28) (Ephraim received the blessing of his grandfather, Jacob/Israel).

Many proclaim that the lost tribes migrated to the Caucus Mountains and since have become the Anglo Saxon countries. The peak of these now being Great Britain who is representative of Ephraim the younger who received the blessing from Jacob and Manasseh, now America, jerUSAlem.

While this all is intriguing, I've gone back to the Torah and the Tanak (Hebrew Bible) where I've learned so much by first studying the Feasts of Israel. It has to be noted that each day Passover is more understood by many Christians as when Yeshua/Jesus, the Lamb of God was sacrificed for the sins of the World. It must now be noted that the other feasts (not food but God's appointments) hold as much for us than Mainstream Christianity teaches. There are many Christians coming away from the replacement philosophy of the Church being the bride of Christ who replaced the stubborn unbelieving Jew; this new understanding finds us seeing the fullness of the Feasts of God and Christians as part of the Whole House of Israel.

These lost tribes (Northern Israel/Ephraim) were the first of Israel to be captured and scattered. But as described in Ezekiel 37, they are not forgotten by the Lord who still calls Ephraim his son. Although these were forced into assimilation with the Gentiles by the Assyrians, their DNA still exists in us today.

I was ecstatic when I came across this article on the internet:

DNA God's book of our members

Long before mankind discovered DNA, God was creating and using it to record us in His wonderful book of our members.

<http://www.eadshome.com/DNAPsalm139.htm>

Psalm 139:13-19 [KJV]

13 "For thou hast possessed my reins: thou has covered me in my mother's womb.

14 I will praise thee; for I am fearfully and wonderfully made: marvelous are thy works; and that my soul knoweth right well.

15 My substance was not hid from thee, when I was made in secret, and curiously wrought in the lowest parts of the earth.

16 Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being imperfect; **and in thy book all my**

members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them.

Through this means Ezekiel 37:16-28 it is possible to see the overall plan of Father God coming to fruition. One stick exists as the known people of Judah because they, although with flaw, were intended to preserve the oracle of God, the Torah and the Tanakh. However, the lost tribes/sheep, who will return to Israel as the prodigal son, are those Lost Sheep of the House of Israel Yeshua mentions in Matt 10:5 & 6. (Keep in mind when you read it, that although he said not to go into the way of the Gentiles ahs to do with the pagan path of the Gentile, but he's not telling the disciples not to preach and teach to them, but do not go by their way and cultures.)

From the early Church the Hebrew Apostles ventured out into many areas of Gentiles (Goy) as so was Paul directed to do. The early Christians were tormented and had to hide their way of worship so they would not be found. However, the word of the Gospel prevailed and became the heart of existence for many where God recorded on the DNA of these people.

In America we make reference to the Judeo-Christian religions as being part of each other. This was also by design. The major difference in the early Christian and the Jewish religions is the belief in Yeshua HaMashiach (Jesus the Messiah). However, they are both technically children of Israel. The Christian who was grafted in or should we say re-instated as one of the sticks to be brought together with Judah in Ezekiel's prophecy brings the Gospel. Judah however brings the well preserved Torah, and yet as the plan moves on we realize that Yeshua is the Living Torah who will make both religions one. (Go ahead remove that separation page from your Bible and read it as one continuing letter from our Father.)

Therefore the Gospel brings to light "Tabernacles" and Yeshua is the light of the World and the center of the Feasts of Tabernacles (Sukkot, booths) also known as Chag'ha Succot, the "Feast of Booths" (or Tabernacles), is named for the huts (sukkah) that Moses and the Israelites lived in the wilderness with the Lord in the tabernacle built for him as they wandered in the wilderness.

The Feast of Tabernacles begins **five days after** Yom Kippur on the fifteenth of Tishri (September or October). It is a drastic change from one of the most solemn holidays in our year to one of the most joyous. The word Sukkoth means "booths," and refers to the temporary dwellings that Jews are commanded to live in during this holiday, just as the Jews did in the wilderness. The Feast of Tabernacles lasts for seven days and ends on the twenty-first day (3x7) of the Hebrew month of Tishri, which is Israel's seventh month. (<http://biblicaholidays.com/tabernacles.htm>)

This was a type of shadow of when the light of the World himself would come to live among us (Also called Emanuel: God with us). We're taught from our Grecian version of the bible that the people were in coming to Jerusalem to be taxed; when in fact they were there for the Feast of Tabernacles and Augustus took advantage of this gathering to tax

the people (Luke 2:1). During this time there were so many people traveling to the already crowded Jerusalem that many of them had to stay over in neighboring towns such as Bethlehem. Although Mary and Joseph couldn't make it to Jerusalem we know that the Big Picture shows us that it wasn't by accident – which is why I love the Word of God. It was this feast of Tabernacles at which time Yeshua was born.

Yeshua was wrapped in swaddling clothes in a stall – sukkot – booth (which Jacob travelled to Succoth and built succah (plural is sukkot) for his animals in Gen 33:17) H5521; booths; Succoth, the name of a place in Egypt and of three in Pal.:-- Succoth.

Building and decorating a sukkah is a fun, family project, much like decorating the Christmas tree is for Christians.

WHAT ABOUT DECEMBER 25TH CELEBRATION?

Well since Tabernacles is when Yeshua was born then nine months prior would have been his conception. Therefore as a Messianic believer, I do not worship the birth of Yeshua at this time rather when the Holy Spirit (Ruach Hakkodesh) planted the seed in Mary and Yeshua was conceived. As for a Feast celebrating the Light of the World in December one can only think of the Jewish Celebration, the Feast of Lights, this is not a Feast of the Lord but is called Chanukah or Hannukah

“The only reference to *Chanukah*, or *Hannukah*, in most bibles is where it is recorded that Jesus went to Jerusalem to celebrate it. (John 10 v 22-23) The story of the events it celebrates is found in the book of 1 Macabees in the Apocrapha. The Apocrapha can be found in Roman Catholic Bibles and in one version of the New English Bible.

Chanukah falls on 25th of Kislev on the Jewish calendar; in either **November or December on the western calendar** .

Chanukah is also known as the Feast of Lights or the Feast of Dedication.”

<http://fp.thebeers.f9.co.uk/chanukah.htm> (*Chanukah or the Feast of Lights* -

חנוכה

SPEAKING OF CELEBRATION OF THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

I also find it interesting that during the celebration of Tabernacles the towers - giant torches at the Temple had bowls on the top of them which were filled with oil and the linen from the old priestly garments worn during the time of sacrifice, were ripped into strips and thrown in these bowls. These were the wicks which flamed as giant candles. Since Jerusalem sits on a hill when these were lit, the light shown for miles and Jerusalem was known as the “Light of the World”

Then we realize that the swaddling clothes, also strips wrapped in layers were the covering and warm thermal protection of the Light of the World who during this season came to tabernacle among us.

I pray with great respect and compassion for the Global Church to wakeup and come out, but it has been absorbed by pagan cultures where their cultural ceremonies were assimilated into our Church doctrines and by giving them the image of Christ, the Church felt this was sanctified. However, we know from Deut 12:29-31, the Lord would not have his people worship him in the way of the heathen/pagan. (“Go not the way of the Gentile”)

How would God have us worship the birth of His Savior? Well no differently than he already commanded us to celebrate his Light of the World, by celebrating his Feats of Tabernacles. However, he would not have us focus our worship him (Yeshua) in the way of the heathen (Jeremiah 10:)

- 1 Hear ye the word which the LORD speaketh unto you, O house of Israel:
- 2 Thus saith the LORD, Learn not the way of the heathen, and be not dismayed at the signs of heaven; for the heathen are dismayed at them.
- 3 For the customs of the people are vain: for one cutteth a tree out of the forest, the work of the hands of the workman, with the ax.
- 4 They deck it with silver and with gold; they fasten it with nails and with hammers, that it move not.
- 5 They are upright as the palm tree, but speak not: they must needs be borne, because they cannot go. Be not afraid of them; for they cannot do evil, neither also is it in them to do good.

Although I would not put condemnation on anyone for doing what they’ve been taught was right or even acceptable, I would suggest for them to re-examine the facts and put it all into perspective. I understand that for many it’s because of family and children (who have already been taught the mainstream Christian-Christmas doctrinal Celebration). There is the worry that they might become injured through lack of understanding, so it would be best “not to rock the boat.” However, if they would “give it a go” and all of the family shares this new understanding by leaving that concern up to God, then much light would come to the hearts and minds of all.

I have celebrated Christmastime by substituting the Menorah for my old Christmas tree. For me now to focus on the celebration of the Light of the World given to us, the Menorah seems to bring focus to the original for this occasion of Tabernacles celebration. Then I see back to Torah rather than a field of pagans bringing trees inside to offer thanks to their gods for the harvest. By doing this I’m not so much celebrating Hanukkah with the Jews but before Hanukkah the light in the Temple, which symbolized the Light of God.

The **menorah** ([Hebrew](#): מְנוּרָה), is a seven-branched [candelabrum](#) and has been a symbol of [Judaism](#) for almost 3000 years. It was used in the ancient [Holy Temple](#) in [Jerusalem](#). Lit by [olive oil](#) in the [Tabernacle](#) and the [Temple](#), the menorah is one of the oldest symbols of the [Jewish](#) people. It is said to symbolize the [burning bush](#) as seen by [Moses](#) on [Mount Horeb](#) ([Exodus 3](#)).
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Menorah_\(Temple\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Menorah_(Temple))

The Hanukkah Menorah is also a symbol closely associated with the Jewish holiday of Hanukkah. According to the [Talmud](#), after the desecration of the Jewish [Temple in Jerusalem](#), there was only enough sealed (and therefore not desecrated by idolatry) consecrated olive oil left to fuel the eternal flame in the Temple for one day. Miraculously, the oil burned for eight days which was enough time to make new pure oil. The Hanukkah menorah therefore has eight main branches, plus a ninth branch set apart for the *Shamash* (servant) light which is used to start the other lights. This type of menorah is called a *hanukiah* in [Modern Hebrew](#). [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Menorah_\(Temple\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Menorah_(Temple))

So as promised, the babe of Bethlehem came to us as the Servant of the Lord, The Lord of King David (Matt 12:36-37), and Yeshua, also the offspring of David and the Light of the World just as the Sun lights the planet, becomes the one who in the days of old was foretold to tabernacle with mankind; not once but twice and forever!

Rev 22:16 I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. **I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star.**

