



**Celebrate Hanukkah!**  
**Day 12 Devotion: Your Testing from the Past Year Will Cause You to Overcome!**  
**Day 13 Devotion: Light in the Darkness!**

Wednesday, December 17, 2014

*Dear Light-Filled Friends:*

We are presently celebrating **Hanukkah**. Further below, I share about the significance of this eight day celebration, also known as the Feast of Dedication (see John 10:22). This is a time for allowing the Light of the world to shine! I hope many of you were able to join us last night for our **Special Hanukkah Service**. If not, please be sure to catch the [webcast replay](#). Join us in declaring that the Light of the world is shining brightly! Also, make plans to join us this **Saturday at 6 PM** for our **Special Christmas Service**. This is a great opportunity to invite your family and friends to join us at the Global Spheres Center – both for the service and a time of fellowship with snacks, drinks and music in the Gardens to celebrate the Festival of Lights.

**Day 12 of 21 Days: Your Testing from the Past Year Will Cause You to Overcome!**

I feel it would be very beneficial for each one of us to review why Hanukkah was celebrated. *Antiochus IV Epiphanes*, a Syrian king, was adamant that the Jews reject their faith and adopt a Greek mindset. He erected a statue to Zeus in the Temple, and then profaned the holy altar by sacrificing a pig. A family living outside Jerusalem made a stand. The father, *Mattathais*, was a priest with five sons. One of his sons was named Judah. Judah came to be called *Maccabee*, the “**Hammer**.” They revolted, retook the Temple, cleansed it, and rededicated it to the Lord. **Hanukkah** is the Hebrew word for *dedication*. One of the major principles is **PERSEVERANCE IN THE MIDST OF YOUR WARFARE**.

**When you are being tested, never forget: GOD IS ABLE! GOD IS ABLE TO BRING FORTH THE RESOURCES, STRENGTH, VALOR, POWER, STRATEGY, & RICHES YOU NEED!** Many of us are moving forward, but have grown weary in our journey and are saying, “Lord, I need help!” Moses was in the same place, when Jethro told him that he was not able to do everything for the people and needed help. Let the Lord give you His creative strategy of help! **Memorize Ex. 18:18.** A testing produces a testimony!

I hear the Lord saying: “*What you were tested with in this past season... the enemy will come again with that test. But this time you will arise and say, ‘I’m not who you tested in the last season!’ And the enemy will now say, ‘I have stepped into the place of my demise.’*”

“*The LORD would remind you: ‘I will form you as a new, sharp, threshing instrument and you will be victorious in your next test.’ The next 3 months will be a forming time for you! I AM forming something within you. In My hand I will form you! I WILL RELEASE SUPERNATURAL DISCERNMENT, POWER AND GIFTING TO YOU! I have dunamis power. If you ask for wisdom, rather than riches, I will give abundantly. If you need riches to*”

*accomplish My covenant purpose, then I will give you wisdom to overthrow the power that is covering your supply. Let Me activate the gifts in you, so you accomplish all you place your hand on to do. **Let Me form you as a new weapon and instrument that is ready for My use! I AM ABLE TO MAKE YOU PREVAIL OVER YOUR ENEMIES!** Listen not to the devil, or his messenger, as he attempts to convince you that some things are too big to overcome. Remember Goliath who spoke for 40 days to remove the faith and triumphant strength of My children. Be like David! Remember my CAUSE! Keep a pure, simple, faith in MY covenant word. Your faith and My power will destroy the giant that was contesting My cause and promise.”*

### **Day 13 of 21 Days: Light in the Darkness!**

On the second full day of Hanukkah, we need to remember that LIGHT SHINES in the DARKNESS! I remember being in New Orleans during Hanukkah one year. The Lord was having me pray along the river and in the French Quarter. I went by one shop where the evidence of voodoo was present and I felt the Lord impress to go in and look around. I was startled at first, knowing that our family had spiritism in our blood line. The year prior, I had spent time renouncing the occult practices from my life so I could hear the Lord speak more clearly. However, I knew His voice and consequently obeyed. When I got in the shop, my thoughts were: "This is so dark in here and the people who are involved are dark. What am I doing in here?" The Lord immediately spoke to me and said, "I visited the depths of hell. I sent My Word as Light into darkness! I sent you in here. In days ahead, I will have many assignments for you in many dark places!"

During this Hanukkah season, watch how the Light in you pierces the darkness around you. Penny Jackson sent this yesterday:

“It's dark outside today. While it's only noon, there's no sun to be seen, and the clouds look heavy and wintry. As I look out my front window, I see my neighbors putting up their Christmas lights, white twinkling lights that stand out clearly against their gray backdrop. Inside, I am home from work, sitting with the lamps off, enjoying the lights on my Christmas tree and garlands. Their glow warms the darkest corners of the house today. Yesterday it was sunny with blue skies. Once again I had only Christmas lights on. While I was aware that they were on, the effect was just not the same as today against the clouds. It's really against dark that light shines brightest, isn't it? It's in the dark where a lighthouse helps sailors navigate. It's in the dark that a flashlight shows us the path in front of us. It's even the little nightlight that shines to keep a child from being afraid in the dark.

Scripture says in both Isaiah and Matthew that ‘*the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death, a light has dawned.*’ Jesus, the Light of the world, was born into a time of great darkness and hopelessness. In John 8:12, He promises, ‘*I am the Light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.*’ I don't think anyone likes seeing the events of the world right now. But it is IN this darkness that the Light of the world will shine brighter and brighter, as the day approaches when it will be light always. Enjoy the lights in your life this season and celebrate Jesus, the great Light who shines brightly amidst the darkness, and always will.

*'There were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them, and they were sore afraid. And the angel said to them, fear not; for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior which is Christ the Lord.'*" (Luke 2: 8-11)

Blessings,

*Chuck D. Pierce*

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