

Hanukkah for Modern Times

1999-12-03

Beloved and holy and child of the one Source, Child of Light divine. That is who you are. Take it deeply within the consciousness and contemplate what it means. I am the one known as Jeshua ben Joseph — Jesus, you have called me — and it is in great joy that I come to abide with you this evening in your timing as you have chosen to invite me to your holy festivity.

For indeed today is a holy day as is everyday. But a special day in our reckoning and I say "our" because we have celebrated together on other times in other lifetimes as you see them, this holy occasion. Now, beloved Elder, would you wish me to begin again so that you get the whole beginning on here?

You see we are doing things differently this evening for indeed always I have been with you this evening as you have been celebrating, laughing, passing the food, enjoying the food as we have done in what you call the olden days. And I thank the one who has prepared the food for doing it again. For in truth you felt a remembrance. It feels like I have done this before, you said, and it is very true. And not only you but others in this room as well have been amongst the ones who would fix, prepare the food and serve it. Each and every one of you serving another one as in this evening as you would pass the food. I thank you for inviting me. For remembering and asking to know in remembrance the deeper meaning of this holy day at the beginning of what we have celebrated as the week long festivities.

Now in truth when you celebrated with me so many, many years ago it was a holy day but not as it has become in this day and time. It was a holy day of remembrance and dedication which in truth is the meaning of the word Hanukkah, it means dedication. Therefore it is fitting and appropriate that we celebrate at least once a year a day of dedication and renewal.

In what you call ancient times and beloved one in some time this day that you call present will be known as an ancient time. Contemplate that. But in what you have called ancient times even before my birth, some 400 years before my birth, there was a great warrior who remembered his divinity and who knew that all things that one would want to manifest would be possible to do. And this one by the name of Alexander set out to in his perception civilize all land that he would set foot upon. And you remember him even unto this day, called Alexander the Great.

He did not, in his perception, know himself to be limited, therefore everywhere he could look and beyond horizons he knew his consciousness to go. There was nothing in his perception to hold him back. And he surrounded himself with others who held the same perception. Some motivated by temporal power wanting to use human power yes, but others wanting in their perception to share the culture, civilization that they "knew" to be the best in that day and time.

And so there was much of the what you call now the subjugation of lands, peoples who had other varying cultures. And the area known as Israel became one of the territories that was civilized in this way. Down through the centuries from that time there were various ones who ruled after Alexander the Great and there was much of a force to put in place the Hellenistic view, the view as you know it now, the Greek gods.

Now as you are remembering in this evening the family from which you have descended, remembered in those days quite clearly the family. It is not by accident that we often talk of the heart family in this day and time and we have said to you many times that the heart family is not a small biological family. It is a very great extended family. If you will receive it, all over the face of our Holy Mother the earth, and beyond.

In those days you remembered the family, the alignment of thinking, philosophical, religious thinking, and you took pride as you do in this day and time, with identity. You kept the customs, the forefathers and you believed in the values that were passed down from generation to generation and the values, the teachings, the history if you will, of the family were very important to you. You held them in your heart, the teachings and the values.

In a time before my birth, one hundred and sixty seven years as it is in the reckoning, before what you call this common era now, there was a king by the name of Antiochus. A great king who would see his influence carried out all over the land of which he was king. And it was thought in his perception, again in a sincere perception on his part, that what he believed in was true and others should understand this truth and come over to the truth. So he issued an edict that everyone within his territories should worship the Greek gods, put away the other gods and the other rituals and worship as he saw fit.

Now there were many, as there are in this day and time, who said, "Well, okay. It is not the teaching that I've been brought up with but that hasn't been altogether too important so okay, I will accept the new."

But there were teachers, rabbis, priests within the family who held very dearly to the truths that had been passed down generation by generation and the edict came to a small village that the temple was to be converted to the new religion. And everything that had to do with the one God that was of your family was to be put aside and the new gods were to be put in place and to be worshiped. And the old rituals which were so important to your family were to be set aside, the sacredness and the symbols of the rituals were to be forgotten, no longer practiced.

And it was ordered that in the temple there would be a sacrifice and one of the younger priests not wanting to cause a great commotion was going ahead with following out the edict, the order. But there was one among you, an old priest to whom the old values, tradition was so important. It symbolized very life itself as it had been given to him from the time when he was a small boy, passed down generation by generation and he would not see his temple defiled and he slew the younger priest who was about to, as he saw it, defile the temple.

And also the one, the messenger who had come with the edict and would enforce the edict, then the priest knowing that it would not be wise for him to remain in the village. A priest by the name of Matthias took to the hills with his family, his sons and from that vantage point they fought a war, a guerrilla type war where you would come down into the village and have skirmishes and try to drive out the ones who were supposedly in power. And he fought for two years to take back the village and to take back the temple and in the meantime Matthias released the body but before he did that he turned to his son, Juda and he said, "Carry on the sacred work of taking back the temple." So Juda carried on in his father's name, his father's way and became known as Juda the Maccabee. Maccabee means "hammer" as it is translated now, because of the strong strength, the force of strength, the hammer.

And in two years time they took back the village and drove out the Syrians who were the ones who thought themselves to be powerful and took back the temple and cleansed it and would dedicate it on this day. And they lit the temple light which was always to be burning. What they had to light it with was a small flask of oil. That was all they could find in the temple that was sacred oil. Enough to last one day but it burned for eight days.

So when I came to be a young lad and I was learning of the history of our family and what was important generation by generation this was a story that was told every year at this time and the celebration that was held every year at this time. And down through the ages the emphasis has changed. At first it was celebrated as a historical feat, military feat and was remembered also for the miracle of the light. In other subsequent years in the land of Israel as you well know even in this present time, came to be occupied by other forces, other lands and other cultures. The military aspect was not celebrated so much as the miracle of the light which is what you have now as a remembrance. For the rabbis were quite wise in their thinking that perhaps it was not too diplomatic to be celebrating a time when the outside forces had been driven away when you are again occupied by outside forces. Therefore the holiday has been kept in remembrance and the emphasis from historical military victory has shifted to indeed the truth of that holiday and the remembrance of light.

You have seen in your lifetime a holiday celebrated by the family that has come to rival a holiday held by many of the brothers and sisters who would call themselves of different persuasion, call themselves Christians and would celebrate another holiday. And yet the one Father, the one Creator is the Father of the whole. And it is wonderful to see that even in this day and time when you will have groupings who say that they are different in philosophy, different in rituals, yet are celebrating the birth and remembrance of light.

There is a broad common ground and even in this day and time when you will have certain brothers and sisters say that they celebrate the holiday by a certain name of Hanukkah and you have brothers and sisters who celebrate a certain festive time call Christ-Mass, Christmas.

In truth you are all celebrating the same thing. It is fitting and appropriate that we celebrate in this evening dedication to the remembrance of the light which is you.

The light become incarnate for a time upon this plane. That is you. You are the light of the world. In truth you are.

Oftentimes you have wanted to deny it. You have said, "That is not true. I feel so dim. I feel so heavy. I feel so burdened. How could I be the light of the world? Surely someone else, some Jeshua and Jesus, some savior, some great teacher, master, they could be light of the world. Not me. I know my doubts. I know my failings."

And yet I say unto you, you are light incarnate otherwise you would not be and I assure you that you are. That you do exist. That you do live and move and have being. You are the light and it is appropriate in this evening that you remember your origin and that you dedicate yourself, the conscious self to claiming the light and walking, speaking from that point.

This is truly a sacred evening. It is an evening of dedication. I offer to you that invitation. To dedicate the conscious awareness from this time forward to remembering the light which you are. No longer being the small self. Long enough have you walked in darkness. Long enough have you agreed with others when they have said that they are in darkness. Long enough have you kept your light on what would be the pilot light or the little small night light. It is time now to allow it to shine brightly, to have the smile on the face as I see you as I look around. Most beautiful smiles.

Know you how it lights up the face when you smile? You come alive in that light. Truly in the love light. This is your evening, your evening of dedication. It is a holy evening. It is a very special evening and it is not by accident that you have had a party, as you call it. A celebration, yes.

I see the lights being turned on. It feels good does it not? You can set aside all of the cares and worries of the world. For in truth as you will shine your light upon any of the cares, worries they diminish. It is as you would look into a corner and you can imagine all sorts of energies. I have heard that word from my beloved friend and teacher, energies. Perhaps lurking in the corner, the dark corner.

But when you take a flashlight you shine a beam into that dark corner. It is transformed. No longer are they the dark energies but it is the light. And what has transformed it? Yes, you, the light that you allow to be directed and the new perception that comes forth from that place.

Whenever you would be in a place of getting heavy, confused perhaps. Allow yourself first if all, yes, the deep breath. I knew you knew that. Allow yourself first of all the deep breath. Allow the peace that comes with the deep breath and then shine the light of your countenance which is the light of your consciousness, upon whatever you are contemplating. Whatever seems to be the worry, concern, confusion. Bring all of the light that you are to bear upon it. Be light-hearted, that is the key. And that which has seemed to be so heavy, so confusing, so dark will be transformed by the simplicity of your light, by the light-heartedness.

As I was listening to your conversation earlier in this evening there was much of light-heartedness and humor and there was a saying that the humor can turn anything around and this is true. For when you take yourself lightly and when you take situations

lightly, it transforms that which has been perceived as heavy or dark. It changes everything.

When ones will be wanting to abide in a certain heavy place as you are dealing with them from the light heart, seeing the Christ of them, seeing the long term vision, holding that for them, it transforms even the present moment. It allows you to get through what can be a bit of conflicting time and it also knows the truth and it holds the truth for the other one who may not be quite grasping it at the moment.

That is what is meant by letting your light shine. It is by letting your light-heartedness, taking yourself and everything else that happens in your experience, taking it lightly. Remembering your dedication to the light.

And when sometimes you keep on keeping on and you feel that perhaps the light, your not quite sure how long it is going to hold out. Remember the miracle of the eight days when it was looked upon there would be oil only enough for one day. And know that truly the light which you are is unlimited.

As you will ask for it, it will flow through you. For the Father's light and love is unlimited. As you will ask truly you are aware of it as it flows through you.

Now in truth always you are in the Father's light of love. It cannot be otherwise because you are His one creation. You are the light of the Father, of the creator, of the one Isness. So you are never out of it but you can sometimes perceive yourself to be out of it. And you have even said that, "I feel really out of it today." I've heard you say that. But in truth never can you be out of the Father's light and never can you be out of the Father's love.

For in truth the light and the love are the one and the same. The light as a concept is understood to be a flow of energy, a flow of Isness if you will. The love it is the understanding on the feeling nature, the understanding of the expansiveness, the unlimitedness, the Isness of you of the light.

So when we speak of light and love it is the same. It is the Isness, the true Isness. The divinity of you. And you can never run out of it. It is forever, you, you are in it all the time. But as you will ask for it, there comes an awareness. There is a clarity about it. As you will ask for it and then take the deep breath and receive, in other words, come to that realization, "Oh, I'm in it already. Okay, that's good." Ask and ye shall receive. Indeed you have already received even before asking. You are the light.

Whenever you will feel perhaps a circumstance, a relationship, all of the responsibilities are asking too much of you and you think you can only hang on for maybe one more day, one more hour, breathe and then drink in the light and the love of the Father. Know that you are in a sea of love and light. Allow yourself to feel immersed in it, and feel yourself to be expansive, unlimited light. For you know the light cannot be contained. It goes into all of the cracks, the nooks and crannies. It is forever ongoing. Where does the light go? You haven't seen the end of it. The light it expands. A beam of light, you can take a beam and even from your flashlight as it is called, and you beam it up into the sky, the night sky, where do those light particles, that energy of light

where does it go? Forever. Forever. Unlimited. And that is but a very small part of the light which you are and can comprehend.

If you could see yourself as I see you and in truth you can, you would see that there is a coalescence of light into form called the body. You have trained yourself from the time of being very small when you were an infant in arms, you have trained yourself to see form. But I say unto you that before you trained yourself and it was training that you had to do, before that you saw everything as a blobs of light. You saw the truth.

When the mother would walk into the room you as the infant would look at this being as light. This would be a light being, a blob of light that came to give you whatever you needed. Later as you trained yourself you became more and more focused upon from to the point where you for years, have gone about just seeing form. But now you are beginning to allow mellowness within and without you. A mellowness to perceive the light around other ones. To see form, yes, but to also see what is known as the aura, the halo around one. You have seen this from time to time. You blink the eyes because your training has said, "Oh, that can't be." You have wondered what is happening to my eyesight. I have heard brothers and sisters when they have begun to see a bit of the mellowness, a bit of the truth, say, "Oh I have to go see one of my facilitators and get these whatchamacallits changed, the spectacles. They must not be focusing right."

As you will allow the training to be relaxed and you look upon one with the eyes of love, you can see around that one a great light. No longer is there form. It is there yes, but that is not what you are focusing upon. You see the spirit of that one. You see the light and you see the light as it moves, as it dances around the form and after a while what has been just a small bit of the aura or the halo, it begins to extend until it blends with whoever sits next to that one and it flows therein. It becomes a great light. And that is in truth, what you are.

So there is the miracle, the celebration of the light at this time of year. And the deeper meaning of it is to remember the light which you are. To look for it on the physical as well as the spiritual. For it is fun to be able to see on the physical, the aura of another one. And it is fun to play with how saintly everyone is with their halo. The halos that go straight across. The halos that may be a bit tipped. I jest with you. It is fun to play.

And to remember the deeper meaning that yes, you can see the light which is incarnate in this day and time and to go deeper beyond that and to remember the light which you are and which every brother and sister is. It has to be otherwise you would not be activating the form that you value so much and to know the deeper meaning of the celebration of light in this day and time.

We have spoken often that your holy days, a most wonderful times. They are times to come together hopefully in love. Now I know that in truth you do come together in love and in truth when the families get together even if the buttons get pushed, the issues come up it is because of divine love. Not human love but divine love.

It is the awakening, the holy child desiring to remember his/her light. So sometimes yes, the issues in the families will come up. It is opportunity to allow your light to shine upon that issue until you get to the place of saying, "I love you. Most wonderful actor, actress that you are. You play your part so well." If ever you get into a certain energy, confrontation perhaps with another brother/sister they are taking themselves very, very seriously because they know they are right, as you will take that deep breath and stand back just for a moment and see how well they play their script a certain smile begins to spread across the face. And they get a little bit more annoyed with you because obviously you are not taking this seriously and you cannot because you are being light-hearted about it and they cannot after awhile resist a smile and it changes, transforms all of the energy that has been there incarnate before. Even if they choose to stomp away. It has changed the energy.

Every holy day, every holiday you bring the most wonderful opportunity to yourself to remember, to remember who it is you are celebrating. Not so much what as the holiday, but to remember who has decreed the holiday in the first place and what the deeper meaning is. And you will find that as you contemplate every holy day the deeper meaning, the purpose of it is always the same. It is to remember your holiness, to remember how wonderful you are and to be full of wonder.

For when you begin to realize how holy you are, you become filled with wonder. That is what I wish for you in this season of light. I wish for you to contemplate your holiness to the place where you become filled with wonder.

Could this truly be me who is so holy? Yes. Could this truly be me who is light incarnate? Yes. Could this truly be me who is so loved of the Father that He allows me all of my drama? Yes. You are His beloved child in whom He is well pleased.

Now, in remembrance of the light which you are, we will do a small ritual. As you will light your candle you will bring to mind one who has been a light in your life and you will give to that one in your memory and it matters not if it is a present memory or it goes back a long time. But you will give to that one your dedication that you will remember the light which they are and the light that they have kindled within you.

This you can do many times. In other words you don't have to do it just once with just one person who has been a light in your life. But to begin with we will do one. And so I will begin it and I will remember my mother who was a light unto me. And then I will allow you to light your light and this one and then you may say one who is a light in your life.

(Going around the room lighting and sharing)

We will have some water that would be good for a toast. There is yes, a jug.

(A sister pours a glass of water for each member in the group)

Now I would ask that we drink of the pure water which is so important upon this plane. It is most important to the bodily form as you know well therefore it is appropriate to drink a toast in the pure water. I would drink a toast to the dedication that this

evening signifies. The dedication to the remembrance of the light which is forever ongoing. To the Light.

To the Light.<D>

It has been my grand joy to be with you in this manner in this evening to celebrate with you once again as we have done in olden times. Remember this evening. Remember the joy of this evening. Remember the light. Remember the light-heartedness of the laughter. Take that light which is in your heart and extend it to the world. Extend it in every moment in every day. Truly you are the light of the world.

So be it.