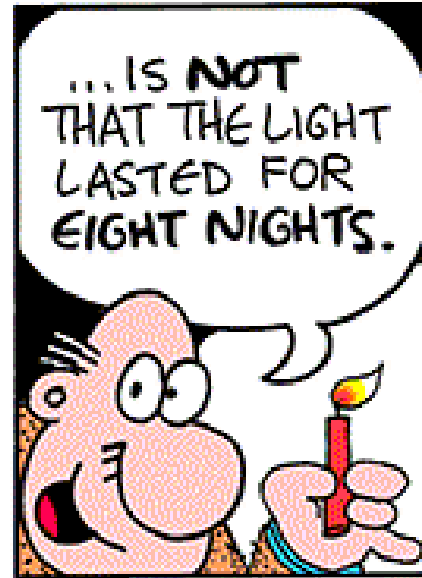


# Dry Bones



THIS YEAR, THE FIRST OF THE EIGHT CANDLES WILL BE LIT ON SUNDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 6TH. HAG SAMEAH.

Now what am I going to do with  
all these candles? What was  
I thinking?!




THE GRINCH WHO STOLE HANUKKAH

## **Mattityahu (Matthew) 9.35**

**Yeshua went about all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the Good News of the Kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and weakness.**



A dramatic scene featuring a large lion in the foreground, looking towards a city with a prominent temple under a stormy sky. The lion is positioned on the right side of the frame, its head turned towards the left. The city in the background is built on a hillside, with a large temple featuring a pediment and columns as the central focus. The sky is dark and cloudy, with a bright light source creating a lens flare effect in the upper left corner.

מַתִּיתָהוּ Mattityahu

(Matthew) 9:36-38

## Mattityahu (Matthew) 9.36

כִּרְאוֹתָיו אֶת הַהֲמוֹנִים נִתְמַלֵּא  
רַחֲמִים עֲלֵיהֶם, שֶׁכֵּן הָיוּ יִגְעִים  
וְנִדְחִים כִּצְאֵן אֲשֶׁר אֵין לָהֶם רוֹעֶה.

When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them because they were harried and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

Yekhezkael/Ezek 34.2, 5-6, 11-12 "Human being, prophesy against the shepherds of Isra'el. Prophesy! Tell them, the shepherds, that Adoni ELOHIM says this: '**Woe to the shepherds of Isra'el** who feed themselves! Shouldn't the shepherds feed the sheep? ... So they were **scattered**, without a shepherd, and became food for

Yekhezkael/Ezek 34.2, 5-6, 11-12 every wild animal - they were **scattered**. My sheep wandered around aimlessly on every mountain and hill; yes, my sheep were **scattered** all over the land, with no one to search for them or look after them.

Yekhezkael/Ezek 34.2, 5-6, 11-12 ""For here is what Adoni ELOHIM says: "I am taking over! I will search for my sheep and look after them, myself. Just as a shepherd looks after his flock when he finds himself among his **scattered** sheep, so I will look after my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places where they were **scattered** when it was cloudy and dark.



## Mattityahu (Matthew) 9.37

אָמַר אֶל תַּלְמִידָיו: "הַקָּצִיר רַב,  
אֲבָל הַפּוֹעָלִים מְעַטִּים.

Then he said to his talmidim, "The  
harvest is rich, but the workers are  
few.

## Mattityahu (Matthew) 9.38

לָכֵן הִתְפַּלְלוּ אֶל אֲדֹנָי הַקָּצִיר  
שִׁשְׁלַח פֹּעֲלִים לְקַצֹּר.

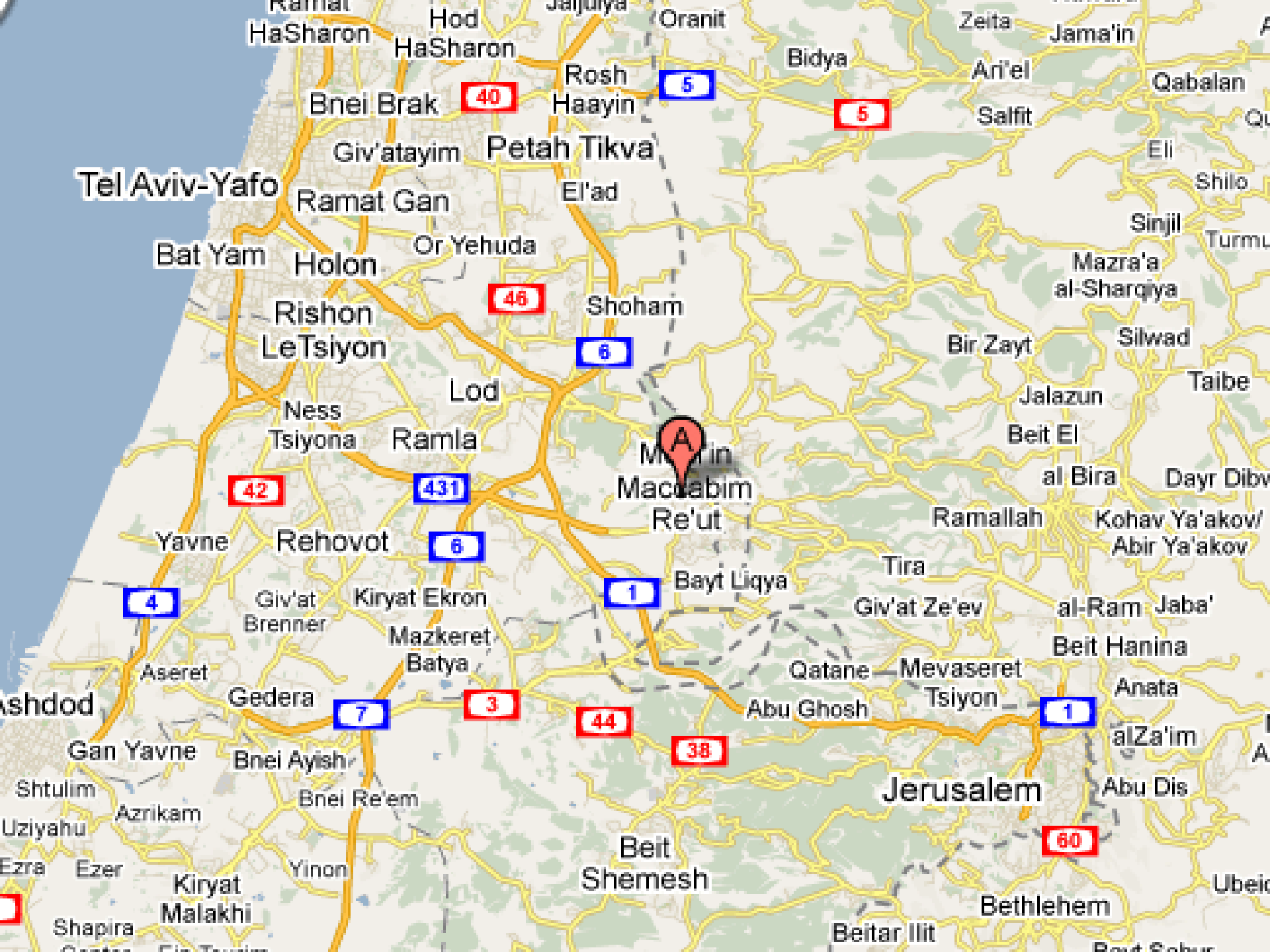
Pray that the Lord of the harvest  
will send out workers to gather in  
his harvest."

- Are we [Jewish believers in Messiah, and Gentiles identifying with us, grafted in] in any way, “harried and helpless, like sheep scattered without a shepherd”?
- Is there any Hanukkah analogy?

# Summarized Story of Hanukkah

When the Second Temple in Jerusalem was looted and services stopped, Jewish worship was outlawed. In 167 BCE Antiochus ordered an altar to Zeus erected in the Temple. He banned brit milah (circumcision) and ordered pigs to be sacrificed at the altar of the temple. The scrolls of the Law were confiscated and burned. Sabbath rest, and the dietary laws were prohibited under penalty of death.





1 Macabees 2.15-28 The king's officers, such as compelled the people to revolt, came into the city Modin, to make them sacrifice [a pig]. And when many of Israel came unto them, Mattathias also and his sons came together. Then answered the king's officers, and said to Mattathias on this wise,

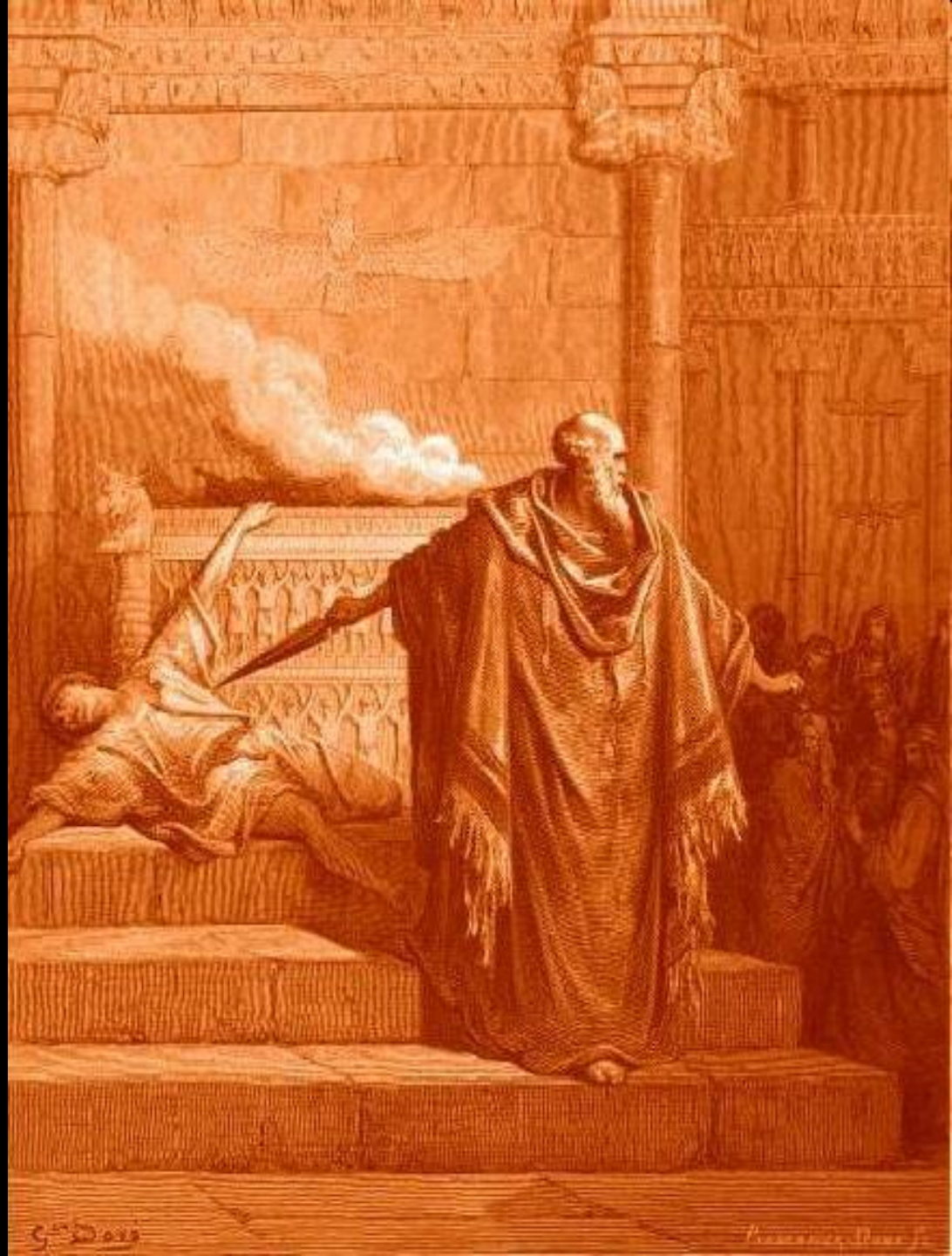
1 Macabees 2.15-28 You are a ruler, and an honorable and great man in this city, and strengthened with sons and brethren: Now therefore come first, and fulfill the king's command, like as all the heathen have done, and the men of Judah also, and such as remain at Jerusalem: so shall you and thy house be in the number of the king's friends, and you and your children shall be honored with silver and gold, and many rewards.

1 Macabees 2.15-28 Then Mattatyah  
answered and spake with a loud  
voice, Though all the nations that  
are under the king's dominion obey  
him, and fall away every one from  
the religion of their fathers, and give  
consent to his commandments: Yet  
will I and my sons and my brethren  
walk in the covenant of our fathers.

1 Macabees 2.15-28 God forbid that we should forsake the law and the ordinances. We will not hearken to the king's words, to go from our religion, either on the right hand, or the left. Now when he had left speaking these words, there came one of the Jews in the sight of all to sacrifice on the altar which was at Modin, according to the king's commandment.



1 Macabees 2.15-28 Which thing when Mattatyahu saw, he was inflamed with zeal, and his reins trembled, neither could he forbear to show his anger according to judgment: wherefore he ran, and slew him upon the altar.



1 Macabees 2.15-28 Also the king's commissioner, who compelled men to sacrifice, he killed at that time, and the altar he pulled down. And Mattathias cried throughout the city with a loud voice, saying, Whosoever is zealous of the law, and maintaining the covenant, let him follow me. So he and his sons fled into the mountains, and left all that ever they had in the city.

Daniel 11.32 Those who act wickedly against the covenant he will corrupt with his blandishments, but **the people who know their God will stand firm and prevail.**

(MSG) Those who stay **courageously** loyal to their God will take a strong stand.

NKJV the people who know their God shall be strong, and **carry out great exploits.**



**Mattathias exhorts the  
Jewish refugees**





Elazar 162 BCE

The Feast of Tabernacles (or *Sukkot*) is an eight day festival (*Leviticus 23:33-36*). The Maccabees liberated the Temple nearly two months after the passing of the Feast of Tabernacles. They had just missed celebrating this final festival of God's seven feasts as described in Lev 23. Now that the Temple was in Jewish hands again, this Feast could be celebrated – even if it was two months past due!

Following King Hezekiah's example (*2 Chronicles 30:1-23*), a second Tabernacles was instituted – not to replace the original feast, but to be a special memorial to the work of deliverance and military victory that Adoni had granted to His people. The eight days of Tabernacles was morphed into a new holiday of eight days – Hanukkah.

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**Auschwitz survivor Miroslaw Celka**

Wall St. Journal, Jan. 30, 2015 Last Tuesday, a group of Holocaust survivors, by now gaunt and frail, made their way back to Auschwitz, the West's symbol of evil—back to the slave-labor side of the vast complex, with its mocking inscription Arbeit Macht Frei (“Work makes you free”), and back to the death camp, where a million and a quarter human beings, most of them Jews, were gassed, burned and turned to ash.

They were there to commemorate the day, 70 years ago, when Soviet troops liberated Auschwitz and saw, for the first time, the true dimensions of the greatest crime since human beings first set foot on Earth. As they finished saying Kaddish, the Jewish prayer for mourners, one man cried out, “I don’t want to come here again.” Everyone knew what he meant. For once, the fear was not only about the past but also about the future.

- The murder of Jewish shoppers at a Parisian kosher supermarket three weeks ago, after the killing of 12 people at the offices of the satirical magazine Charlie Hebdo, sent shivers down the spines of many Jews, not because it was the first such event but because it has become part of a pattern

- In 2014, four were killed at the Jewish Museum in Brussels.
- In 2012, a rabbi and three young children were murdered at a Jewish school in Toulouse.

- In 2008 in Mumbai [Bombay, India], four terrorists separated themselves from a larger group killing people in the city's cafes and hotels and made their way to a small Orthodox Jewish center, where they murdered its young rabbi and his pregnant wife after torturing and mutilating them.

**As the Sunday Times of London reported about the attack, “the terrorists would be told by their handlers in Pakistan that the lives of Jews were worth 50 times those of non-Jews.”**

France's 475,000 Jews represent less than 1 percent of the country's population. Yet last year, according to the French Interior Ministry, 51 percent of all racist attacks targeted Jews. The statistics in other countries, including Great Britain, are similarly dismal. In 2014, Jews in Europe were murdered, raped, beaten, stalked, chased, harassed, spat on, and insulted for being Jewish. *Salé Juif*—"dirty Jew"—rang in the streets, as did "Death to the Jews," and "Jews to the gas."



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**Syed Rizwan Farook  
& Tashfeen Malik**



**Syed Rizwan Farook**



**Nicholas and Jennifer Thalasinis**



**From Channel 7 Israel News: San Bernadino health inspector and Messianic Jew received anti-Semitic threats less than 24 hours before being murdered. His wife Jennifer told local news her husband, a health inspector for San Bernardino County, identified as a conservative Messianic Jew and may have been targeted for his beliefs. He often went to work wearing a red *kippah*, a *tallit*, and a Star of David.**

**Nicholas Thalasinios, 52, passionately defended Israel, and actively debated religion in online forums and in person, his friends said. Only two weeks ago, Thalasinios was having a heated on-the-job discussion about the nature of Islam with Syed Rizwan Farook, his fellow restaurant inspector and the man police identified as the shooter.**

His grieving wife told...the media  
that she now “believes her husband  
was martyred for his faith and  
beliefs.”

**Authorities have not released any motive for the shooting, or suggested an intended target.**



His last post, as captured by a Facebook friend, described a message he had gotten from a Facebook member called "Med Ali Zarouk" who told him "you will never sucseed (sic) to make a country for jews ... soon you'll get your a-- kicked, you will die and never see Israel as country believe me never

From a friend:

I heard that on Nancy Grace's TV show last night that the Messianic brother was the first one shot at the Christmas party because he was wearing a talit and kippa.

**Nick's loss is devastating not only to his wife but to his community as well. He was a faithful congregant at Shiloh Messianic Congregation in Crestline, CA, led by senior leaders Bruce and Kathleen Dowell.**

# **Shiloh Messianic Congregation**





CNN “error” in mapmaking

Are we in any way, “harried and  
helpless, like sheep without a  
shepherd”?

Is there any Hanukkah analogy?

Several months ago I suspended my own FB account because someone “friended” me and it turned out to be someone with a fake FB profile. As soon as they became my “friend” they had access to all of my comments and posts and all of my other friends... then the individual de-friended me, and I could not trace the person. I too had posted things that were politically anti-Islam and critical of Palestinians etc...

**My wife and I became concerned for our personal safety. Since then I have refrained from posting anything political and only stuck to positive life encouraging ministry messages. I think if we are public figures in our communities and we own a home; we need to think about how easy it is for someone**



to get our names and home addresses and target us even as Messianic Rabbis.

I'm not saying we need to be in fear. However, we need to be very careful what we say online and post in Social Media.

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רַחֲמִים עֲלֵיהֶם, שֶׁכֵּן הָיוּ יִגְעִים  
וְנִדְחִים כִּצְאֵן אֲשֶׁר אֵין לָהֶם רוֹעֵה.

• When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them because they were harried and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.

**Greatest evidence of Messiah's  
shepherding, and a congregational  
leader's genuineness as an under-  
shepherd: The sheep are feeding on  
the Ruakh and the Word. Getting  
understanding and joy.**

Yet what started out as a movement to safeguard the calling and gifts of the Jewish people (see *Romans 11:28-29; 3:1-2; Numbers 23:7-9*) against the assimilationist influence of Hellenism, morphed within thirty years into a movement advocating Hellenism. The Maccabees were priests and were forbidden by the Covenant of Moses from becoming kings.

That privilege was only granted to the Dynasty of David by covenant (Psalm 89). When the Maccabees began to call themselves kings, they quickly adapted to the political swirls and eddies of Middle Eastern superpower politics, choosing Greek titles and opposing those Jews (Pharisees) who remained faithful to God's revelation in the Bible (see *Acts 23:6*).

**The Maccabean King Alexander Jannaeus ended up murdering 6.000 Pharisees who opposed his measures and even crucified 800 of them while dining luxuriously at their execution site.**

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