

A friendly but unwise gesture,
yummy hot chocolate:



NO THANKS,
HOT CHOCOLATE
GOES RIGHT
THROUGH ME.



Why did the Jewish people win
gloriously in 168 CE Hanukkah?
But lost catastrophically in

- 70 CE Great Revolt
- 116 CE Diaspora War
- 135 CE Bar Kokhba

Why do the Jews win NOW,
against all odds?

DANIEL'S HANUKKAH BATTLE

HANUKKAH 2025

Rabbi Shmuel Wolkenfeld



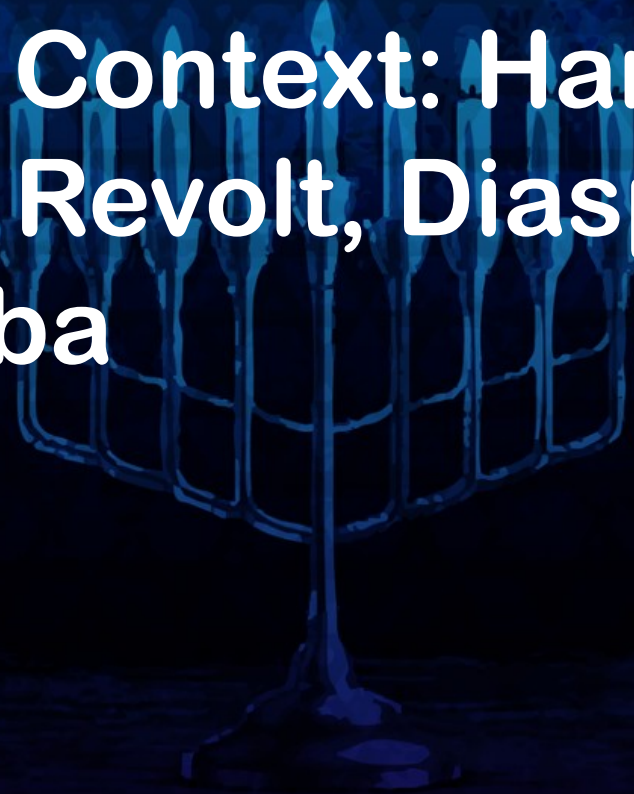
December 20, 2025 | 30th of Kislev, 5786

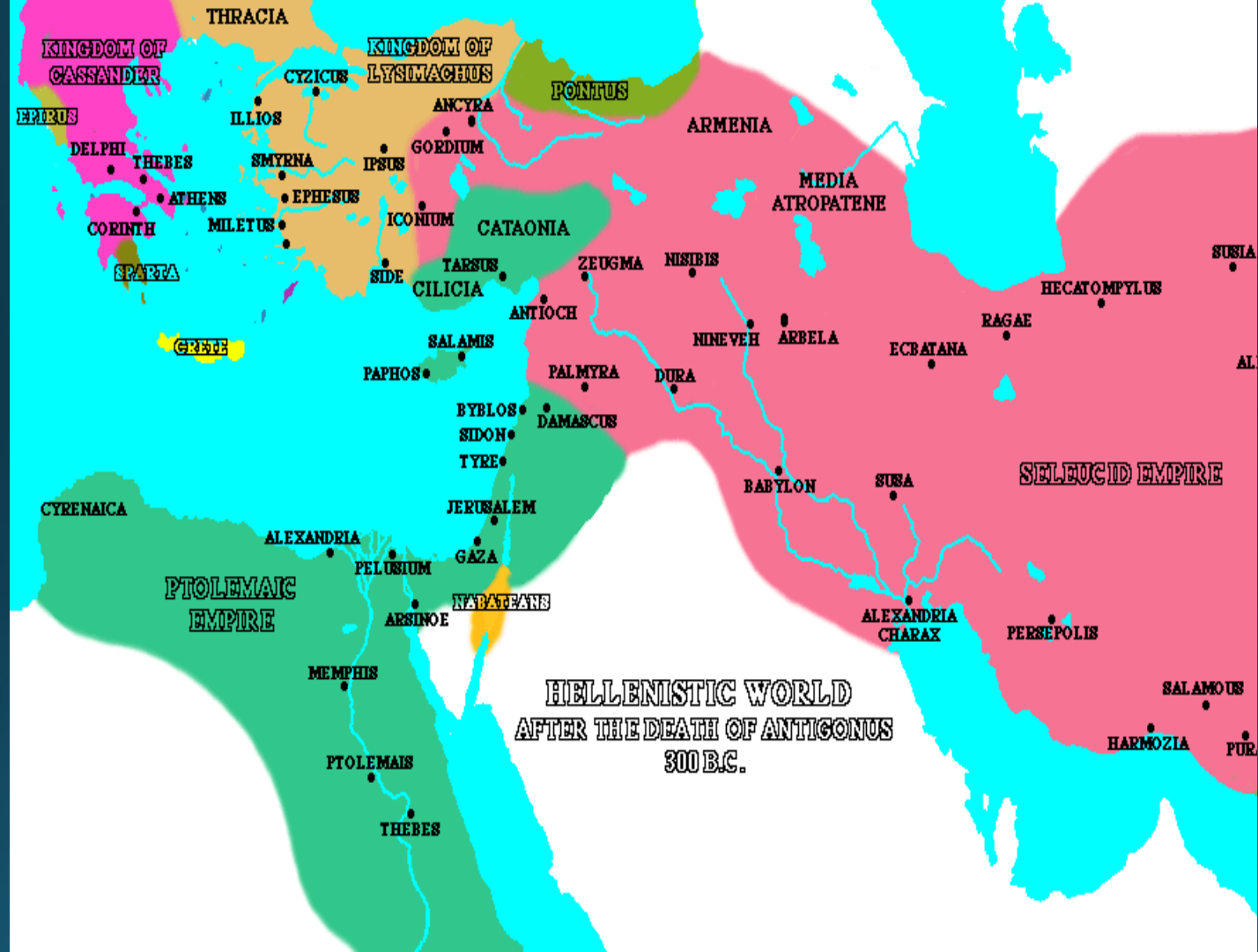
ל' בכסלו תשפ"ו

OR HAOLAM
MESSIANIC SYNAGOGUE

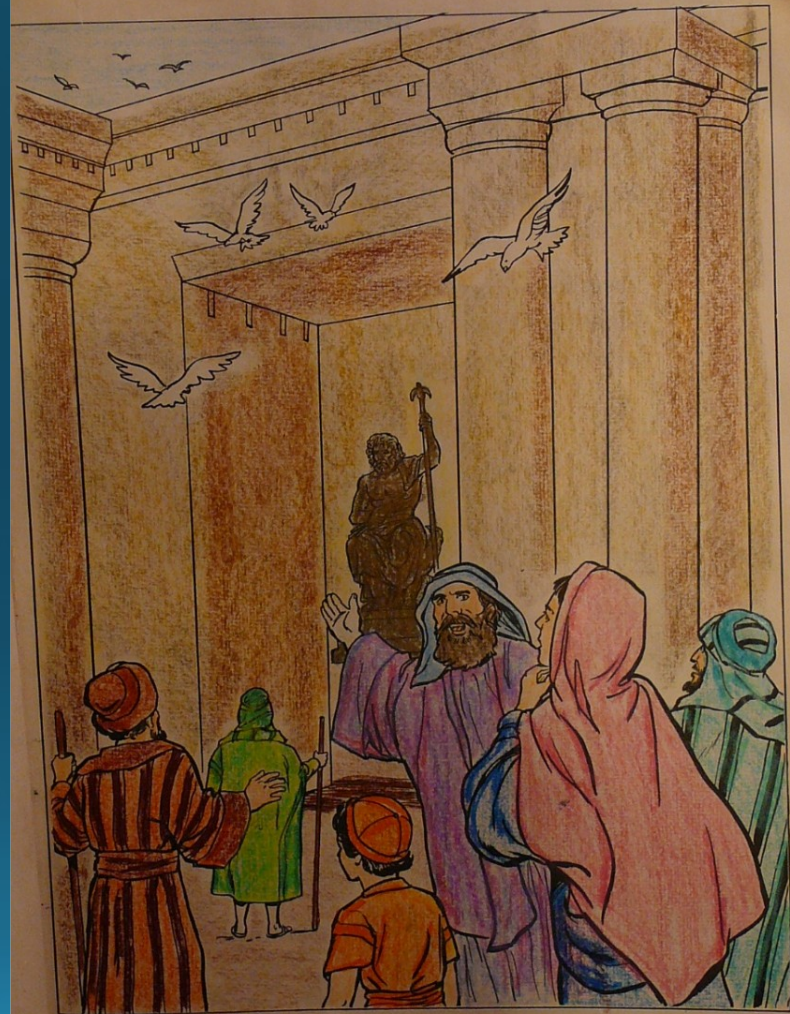
Daniel's Hanukkah Battle

- Historical Context: Hanukkah War, the Great Revolt, Diaspora War, Bar Kokhba

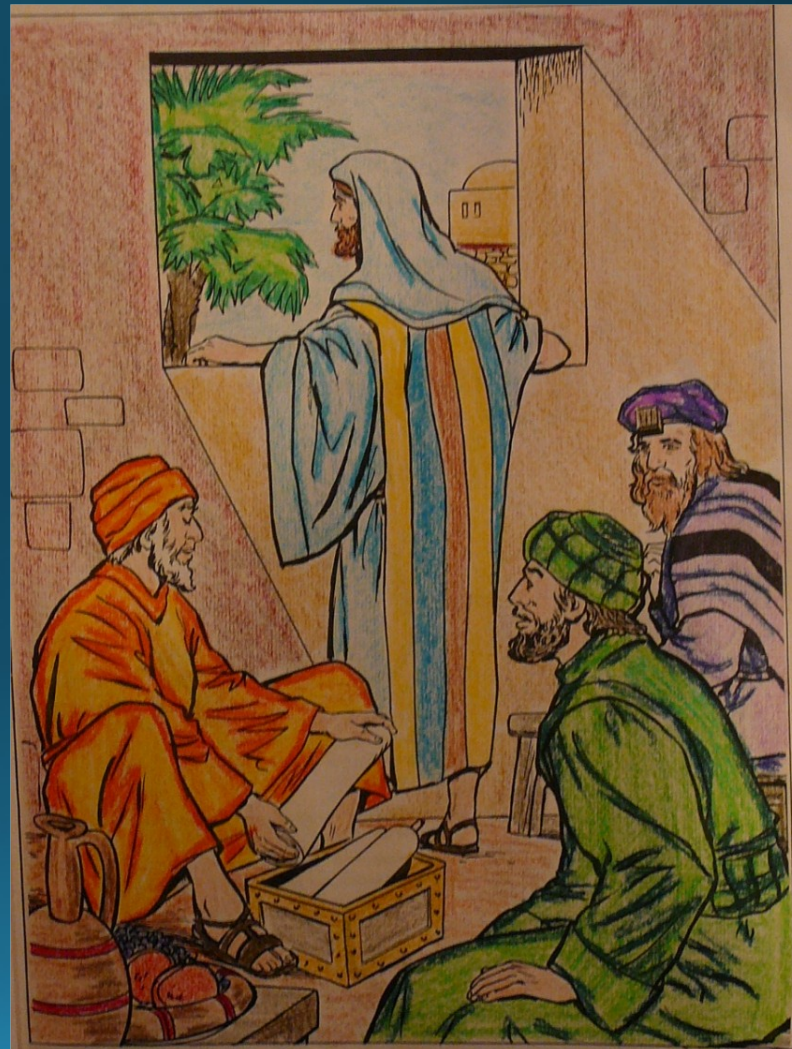




The Greek Syrians
putting idols into
the Temple of God.



Study of scripture
was forbidden, so
a game was
invented to be
done if the Greek
soldiers came.



• Hanukkah
Revolt 168-
142
VICTORY
against
overwhelm
ing forces



But compare
other Jewish
revolts:



- Great Revolt 70 CE Titus
 - shocking destruction of the Temple,
 - one million Jews killed,
 - 100,000 captive

What about Messianic Jews at that time?

Lk 21.20-22 However, when you see Yerushalayim surrounded by armies, then you are to understand that she is about to be destroyed. Those in Y'hudah must escape to the hills,

Lk 21.20-22 those inside the city must get out, and those in the country must not enter it. For these are the days of vengeance, when everything that has been written in the Tanakh will come true.

Fled to Pella

“Diaspora Revolt” = “Kitos War” = Second Jewish–Roman War”

- 115-118 much less known
- Destruction and displacement of Jewish communities in North Africa, Cyrenaica, Cyprus, and Alexandria, Egypt

- Bar Kokhba Revolt 135 CE
 - 100,000s Jews slaughtered
 - nation renamed Palestina
 - city renamed Aelia Capitolina
 - Jews banned from entering Jerusalem

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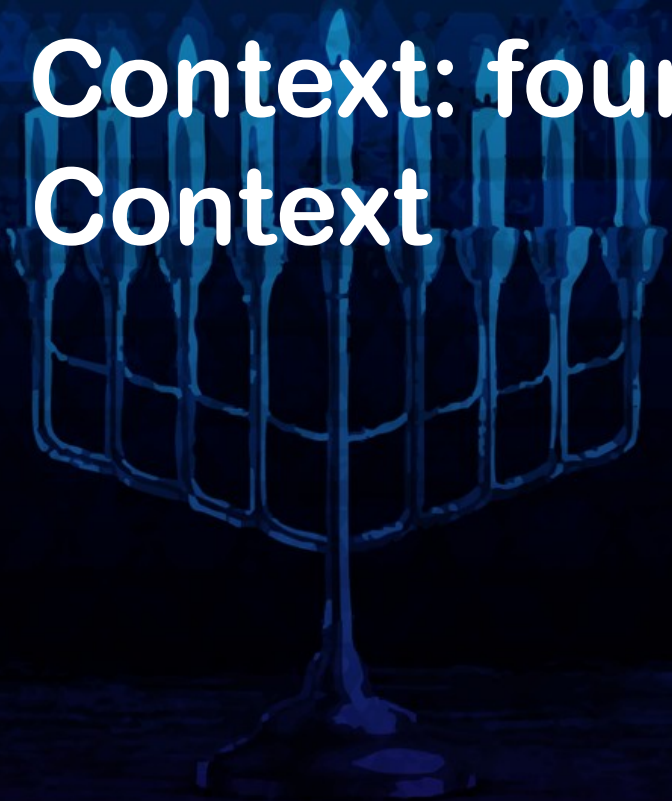
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Daniel's Hanukkah Battle

- Historical Context: four wars
- Prophetic Context



When the Babylonian army carried the Jewish population to Babylon in 597 BCE, and later destroyed the first Temple in 586 BCE, the prophet Yermiyahu had this message for the captives:

Yer 29.10-14 For thus says ADONI:
“After 70 years for Babylon are
complete, I will visit you, and fulfill
My good word toward you—to
bring you back to this place. For I
know the plans that I have in mind
for you,” declares ADONI,

Yer 29.10-14 “plans for shalom and not calamity—to give you a future and a hope. “Then you will call on Me, and come and pray to Me, and I will listen to you.

Yer 29.10-14 You will seek Me and find Me, when you will search for Me with all your heart. Then I will be found by you,” says ADONI, “and I will return you from exile,

Yer 29.10-14 and gather you from all the nations and from all the places where I have driven you,” says ADONI, “and I will bring you back to the place from which I removed you as captives into exile.”

Matt 7.7-8 “Ask, and it shall be given to you. Seek, and you shall find. Knock, and it shall be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it shall be opened.

Daniel read this

Daniel 9.1-3 In the first year of Darius the son of Akhashverosh, a Mede by birth who was made king over the kingdom of the Chaldeans...I, Dani'el, was reading the Scriptures and thinking about the number of years

Daniel 9.1-3 which ADONI had told Yirmeyahu the prophet would be the period of Yerushalayim's desolation, seventy years. I turned to ADONI, God, to seek an answer, pleading with him in prayer, with fasting, sackcloth and ashes.

Daniel's prayer as musically presented



Hebrew Worship // Make Your Face to
Shine // Ha'er **Panecha** // האֵר פָּנֶיךָ

MESSIANIC WORSHIP & SONGS OF PRAYER

פְּנֵי אֵל

אֲדֹנָי

PANAI EL ADONAI

My Face Toward the Lord

שִׁירֵי הַלֵּל וְתַפִּילָה

הָאֵר פְּנֶיךָ

MAKE YOUR FACE TO SHINE

Lyrics: Daniel 9:3-4, 17-19

Music: Jael S. Kalisher & Irit Iffert

Dan 9.3 So I set my face to the Lord God

hā·'ě·lō·hîm,	'ă·dō·nāy	'el-	pā·nay,	'et-	wā·'et·tə·nāh
הָאֱלֹהִים	אֲדֹנָי	אֶל-	פָּנַי	אֶת-	וְאֶתְנָה
God	the Lord	toward	my face	-	And I set

Dan 9.3 to seek Him by prayer and supplications

wə-ta-ḥă-nū-nîm;

וְתַחֲנוּנִים

and supplications

tə-pîl-lāh

תְּפִלָּה

by prayer

lə-baq-qêš

לְבַקֵּשׁ

to make request

Dan 9.18 Give ear, my God, and hear!

ū-šă-mā'

וְשָׁמַעַ

and hear

'ā-zə-nə-kā

אָזְנוֹךָ

Your ear

'ě-lō-hay

אֱלֹהֵי

my God

haṭ-ṭêh

הִטָּה

Incline

Dan 9.18 Open Your eyes and see

ū-rə-’êh

וַיִּרְאֵה

and see

’ê-ne-kā,

עֵינֶיךָ

Your eyes

pə-qah

(פָּקַח)

open

Dan 9.17 Cause Your face to shine

pā-ne-kā,

wə-hā-'êr

פָּנֶיךָ

וְהִאָרְךָ

Your face and cause to shine

Dan 9.17 Cause Your face to shine

pā-ne-kā,

wə-hā-'êr

פָּנֶיךָ

וְהִאָרְךָ

Your face and cause to shine

Dan 9.19 For Your city and Your people are called by Your name.'

niq-rā,

נִקְרָא

Are called

šim-kā

שִׁמְךָ

Your name

kī-

בִּי

by

Dan 9.19 For Your city and Your people are called by Your name.'

'am-me-kā.

עַמְּךָ:

Your people

wə-'al-

וְעַל-

and

'î-rə-kā

עִירְךָ

Your city

'al-

עַל-

for

Dan 9.17 Cause Your face to shine

pā-ne-kā,

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וְעַל-

and

'î-rə-kā

עִירְךָ

Your city

'al-

עַל-

for

Dan 9.4 I prayed to Adoni my God

'ě-lō·hay

אֱלֹהֵי

my God

Adoni

לִיהוָה

to

Adoni

wā·'et·pal·lāh

וְאֶתִּפְלַלָּהּ

And I prayed

Dan 9.4 and confessed, saying:

wā·'ō·mə·rāh,

וַאֲמַרְהָ

and said

wā·'et·wad·deh;

וַאֲתַוְדַּהּ

and made confession

Dan 9.4 Please, ADONI,

'ă·dō·nāy

אֲדֹנָי

Lord

'ān·nā

אָנָּה

O

Dan 9.18 Give ear, my God, and hear!

ū-šă-mā'

וְשָׁמַעַ

and hear

'ā-zə-nə-kā

אָזְנוֹךָ

Your ear

'ě-lō-hay

אֱלֹהֵי

my God

haṭ-ṭêh

הִטָּה

Incline

Dan 9.18 Open Your eyes and see

ū-rə-’êh

וַיִּרְאֵה

and see

’ê-ne-kā,

עֵינֶיךָ

Your eyes

pə-qah

(פָּקַח)

open

Dan 9.17 Cause Your face to shine

pā-ne-kā,

wə-hā-'êr

פָּנֶיךָ

וְהִאֲרָא

Your face and cause to shine

Dan 9.17 Cause Your face to shine

pā-ne-kā,

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עִירְךָ

Your city

'al-

עַל-

for

Dan 9.19 ADONI, hear! ADONI, forgive!

sə·lā·hāh,

סְלַחָה

forgive

'ă·dō·nāy

אֲדֹנָי —

Lord

šə·mā·'āh

שְׁמַעָה

hear

'ă·dō·nāy

אֲדֹנָי

Lord

Dan 9.19 ADONI, pay attention and act!

wa-’ă-sêh

וַעֲשֵׂה

and act

ha-qă-šî-bāh

הַקְשִׁיבָה

listen

’ă-dō-nāy

אֲדֹנָי

Lord

—

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Your city

'al-

עַל-

for

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וְעַל-

and

'î-rə-kā

עִירְךָ

Your city

'al-

עַל-

for

Daniel prayed desperately,
earnestly, extensively, repetitively
for the restoration of the Jews to
the Land based on the promises in
Yermiyahu.

Did the Maccabees have to fight
bravely and brilliantly?

Did they have supernatural help?

Daniel the seer, nearly 400 years prior to the clash of Jews and Greeks. In Daniel 11:31-32 a prophetic word is given: Greek forces led by a future king (Antiochus IV Epiphanes) would try to commit genocide against the entire Jewish people, but would be successfully resisted by stalwart Jewish warriors, the Maccabees:

“The people who know their God will be strong and take action. And those who have insight among the people will give understanding to the many; yet they will fall by sword and by flame, by captivity and by plunder for many days. Now when they fall, they will be granted a little help . . . And some of those who have insight will fall” (Daniel 11:32-35)

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Yeshayahu 11. 11-12 On that day ADONI will raise his hand again, a second time, to reclaim the remnant of his people who remain from Ashur, Egypt, Patros, Ethiopia, 'Eilam, Shin'ar, Hamat and the islands in the sea. He will hoist a banner for the Goyim, assemble the dispersed of Isra'el, and gather the scattered of Y'hudah from the four corners of the earth.

“I will plant Israel in their own land, never again to be uprooted from the land I have given them, says the LORD your God” (Amos 9:15).

“Judah will be inhabited forever and Jerusalem through all generations. Their bloodguilt, which I have not pardoned, I will pardon. The LORD dwells in Zion” (Joel 3:20-21).

“Can a mother forget her nursing child and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you. See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands; your walls are ever before me. Your sons hasten back and those who laid you waste depart from you. Lift up your eyes and look around; all your sons gather and come to you. . .

Though you were ruined and laid waste, now you will be too small for your people, and those who devoured you will be far away. The children born during your bereavement will yet say in your hearing, 'This place is too small for us; give us more space to live in'" (Isaiah 49:15-20).



1837

WILLEM OPENS A CLOCK AND WATCH SHOP

Willem ten Boom rents shop space and opens a clock and watch shop in the Barteljorisstraat in the center of Haarlem. He starts with 100 old Dutch guilders. Besides selling clocks, he also repairs them.



1841

FIRST MARRIAGE OF WILLEM

Willem ten Boom marries Geertruida van Gogh.
They have thirteen children; eight of them die before
they reach the age of four.



1844

WILLEM TEN BOOM BEGINS A PRAYER GROUP

Willem ten Boom is a member of the Dutch Reformed church in Haarlem. Inspired by minister Witteveen, Willem begins a prayer group to pray for the Jewish people and the peace of Jerusalem.

This was an unusual idea among christians at that time. The Jews were scattered throughout the world, without a country or national identity. Jerusalem was a divided city. Still

Willem prayed for the return of the Jews to their promised land. Willem also taught his children to pray for the Jews, and for 100 years and through three generations the Ten Booms prayed for the peace of Jerusalem in this house in the Barteljorisstraat.



Reg. N°. 7 Fol. 33

BEWIJS VAN GEBORTE-INSCHRIJVING.

Bij den Betschuurmeester Graven der Stad Amsterdam, is ingeschreven op den 15den April 1892

Cornelia Arnolda Johanna Schied

15 APR
1892

CORRIE IS BORN

Cornelia Arnolda Johanna (Corrie) is born on Good Friday, about one month premature. Corrie is very small and thin. [Read more »](#)

Her uncle feels the need to remark that the Lord should quickly take to this child to Heaven, because he fears for Corrie's future. She would soon die. Nothing could have been further from the truth. Corrie outlived her brother and sisters, and would die on her 91st birthday.



1921

CORRIE WATCHMAKER

Mother Cornelia dies at age 63 in 1921. Corrie starts to work in the watch shop full-time as the first licensed female watchmaer in Holland.



1928

WILLEM RECEIVES HIS PH.D.

Willem receives his Ph.D. in Leipzig, Germany, For a thesis on recial anti-Semitism, then on the rise in both Germany and France.



1941

CORRIE AND BETSIE BECOME INVOLVED IN THE UNDERGROUND

Corrie and Betsie become involved in the underground. Many Jews find a safe house through the Ten Boom Family.



1943

THE HIDING PLACE

From spring 1943, the Ten Boom Family starts to shelter Jews themselves. [Read more »](#)

Several of the Jewish people spent extended time with the Ten Booms; others just two days. Despite all the horrors going on in the outside world, the atmosphere in the house is happy. A lot of music is made; even a play is rehearsed and performed.

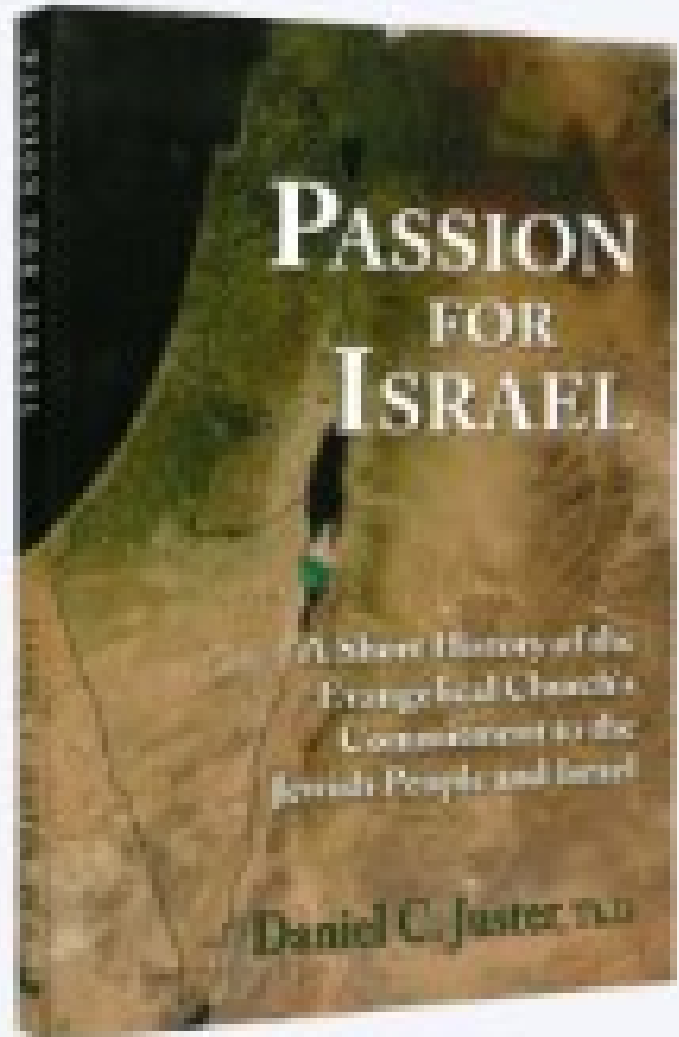
On 28 February 1944, a Dutch informant, Jan Vogel, told the Nazis about the Ten Booms' work; at around 12:30 p.m. of that day, the Nazis arrested the entire Ten Boom family. The group of six people hidden by the Ten Booms, made up of both Jews and resistance workers, remained undiscovered.

Ten Boom received a letter one day in prison, "All the watches in your cabinet are safe."

This was an unusual idea among christians at that time. The Jews were scattered throughout the world, without a country or national identity. Jerusalem was a divided city. Still

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Dan Juster: The doctrine of the restoration of Israel has a long and revered place in the history of Protestant theology.



Its roots go back to the Puritans.
From there it passed to the
Lutheran Pietists in Germany and
Scandinavia. By the mid-19th
century, it was the consensus
doctrine of British and American
Christianity.

The ten Booms and these others and more prayed for the restoration of the Jews to the Land based on the many promises.

Did the IDF have to fight bravely and brilliantly?

Did they have supernatural help?

Ester 4.14 For if you fail to speak up now, relief and deliverance will come to the Jews from a different direction; but you and your father's family will perish. Who knows whether you didn't come into your royal position precisely for such a time as this."

Bondi Beach attack: The police's handling of the attack itself has also come under criticism as footage emerged of police officers taking cover for long minutes as the perpetrators took aim and delivered rapid fire at participants in the Chanukah party.

**Ahmed Al Ahmed, a Syrian fruit
shop owner**



The photograph was taken by Rachel Posner on the last day of Hanukkah in Kiel, Germany. She wrote these words on the back of the picture in German: “Chanukah 5692 (1932). ‘Death to Judah,’ so the flag says. ‘Judah will live forever,’ so the light answers.”



What are the apparently impossible challenges in your life?

- Overcoming inner darkness
- Family salvation
- Successful outreach to Jewish people and the nations?

Extended, passionate prayer, repentance and worship are the keys.

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sə·lā·hāh,

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