

Full Sermon Transcript:
Why End Time New Covenant Christians Should Observe Hanukkah
November 21, 2025

Disclaimer: This transcript is computer-generated and may have mistakes or inaccuracies. Though for the most part, the software does a really good job.

Today is new moon, I won't get the shofar ready, so don't forget, hopefully, y'all don't let me forget. I'll tell you what, I'll just go ahead and blow it right now.

Praise Jesus, let's go in prayer.

Oh Heavenly Father, we thank you for this first day of the ninth biblical month that you have faithfully sought us through, got us through these eight months, and there have been many storms, trials, and tribulations, but you've got us through those and you are making us stronger and better for you and for your kingdom.

Thank you for this. Thank you Lord for a new day, a new month, new opportunities, new task, new things.

We ask you Lord for your special help in these services today, your anointing, your blessing, the increase of your presence.

I pray Father that you would please help the people during the service to feel your presence.

And even during the week, each week, to feel your presence and to acknowledge your presence, to come to know you more, deeper, more intimately.

We know that this is your will, that you want relationship, presence, that you want deeper relationship.

We know that this is the truth, and we also want that relationship with you to come into agreement with you.

In this service and in our daily lives, we praise the name of Jesus, yesterday, today, tomorrow, and forever without end.

In Jesus' name, the Church says, Amen. You may be seated.

Let's go through John chapter 10, I don't know where that went, if I did know it went, I'm not going to reach it anyway, probably.

Jonathan lost connection, don't you? Maybe he can't hear. For anybody that's listening for the first time, we're reading from the Alpha and Omega Bible, a restoration of the original scriptures, using or based upon older biblical manuscripts, older than what was used for the King James Version translation.

The older the Bible manuscripts are, the more reliable, because if you're using manuscripts such as the King James used from the 12th century A.D. and 15th century A.D., that's not ancient scripture. And you have hundreds of years, even over a thousand years, for corruptions to enter in. Amen.

So the older the manuscript, the better, the less time for corruption and changing of the scripture.

So we praise God for the Alpha and Omega Bible, ongoing work of this ministry to continue to perfect that translation.

We hope to release the new update within the next couple of weeks, do hope to get that done.

I do confess that I have been slacking in that, and I need to work harder. I appreciate your prayers for that.

Today's sermon is called, Why In Time New Covenant Christians Should Observe Hanukkah.

Why In Time New Covenant Christians Should Observe Hanukkah.

We're starting in John chapter 10, verse 22.

At that time, the Fiesta of Dedication took place at Jerusalem. Verse 23, it was winter and Jesus was walking in the temple in the portico of Solomon, that section of the temple.

We see very clearly here in scripture that Jesus was present at the temple, specifically on this date of Hanukkah.

That would not be coincidence. We know that all of the Jews was observing Hanukkah.

It was extremely important to them. It had only been a couple hundred years since the defeat of Antiochus Epiphanes, so it was still fresh in their history, their culture, to observe this very important historical event of the anniversary of the Maccabees' defeat of the Syrian Antichrist of their time.

Jesus was there because of the importance of Hanukkah, which the Bible never calls Hanukkah, but we call it that today and that's okay.

We can call it Hanukkah. We can also call it, what the Bible does call it, the Fiesta of Dedication, referring to the fact that they had dedicated the temple after cleansing it from the defilement.

We can also call it the Festival of Lights. Any of these terms are acceptable. None of these terms are pagan or demonic. They are just interchangeable terms, but the biblical term is the Fiesta of Dedication, so we need to use that more often, although we can continue to interchange and use all three terms, but we need to increase the usage of the biblical term. Amen.

Now, some people would try to say there's no importance in the fact of this verse that we know that it was important to the Jews, to the people of the tribe in which Jesus was part of, so it is an important fact.

And Jesus is our role model, our example in which we are to follow and imitate Him. Amen.

That's scriptural. The Bible does teach us that He is our example. Amen. We should follow His example. He is the head of the church. The body follows what the head does. Amen.

We follow the head of the church, Christ Jesus. What He did, we should do also, except for the eating of the lamb at Passover, which He did, even though the Bible does not tell us that there was a lamb present in the bitter herbs, but it was Passover, and they would have had the lamb and the bitter herbs, but we don't do that part anymore because when Jesus died, He became the lamb, which means He replaced the lamb. Amen.

Other than the example of Jesus and the importance in history, let's look at some other reasons why this would be important to, in time, new covenant Christians.

Let's go to Revelation chapter 12. Verse 1. A sign, a great sign, appeared in the sky, a woman clothed with the sun and the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars.

And she was with child, and she cried out, being in labor and in pain to give birth.

We know that this refers to a consolation in the sky at the timing of the birth of Jesus.

We know that this is the consolation of the Virgo, the Virgin. We know that Mother Mary was a Virgin at the time of the birth of Jesus.

We know that Jesus Himself remained a Virgin all the days of His life. This is extremely significant for multiple reasons.

Jesus is our example. He recognized the importance of Scripture in the stars, Scripture in the constellations.

Most people could not own a copy of the Bible, but everybody had the ability to see the stars, to read the Scriptures in the stars.

This consolation proves to us that Jesus was not born at Christmas, not even in the month of December, but rather during Virgo in September.

Virgo runs from August the 23rd, the last week of August, into September the 22nd.

The Fiesta of Tabernacles usually is in either September or October. It varies year to year.

We see here that there is an attack of the devil trying to kill Jesus at His birth.

But there are stars here that refer to, let me find it here. If you look at verse 4, the tail of the dragon cast away a third of the stars of the heaven, threw them to the earth, the dragon stood before the woman was about to give birth.

This woman about to give birth is not just Mary and the nation of Israel, but it is also the consolation.

The consolation is described in verse 1 as this woman. This woman of stars in the sky is giving birth.

I'm going to make a connection here with Matthew chapter 2, so let us turn there, Matthew 2 verse 1.

I'm sure that you're familiar with the Star of Bethlehem and many different opinions and interpretations of what the Star of Bethlehem was.

I'm going to introduce to you today something you never heard before. I know you've heard the theory that it could have been a comet or an angel, but I'm going to share something else with you today that I'm sure you probably never heard before.

In Matthew 2 verse 1, now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, astrologers from the east arrived in Jerusalem saying, where is He that has been born king of the Judeans?

I want you to highlight or circle or underline king because that's important. Where is He that has been born king of the Judeans?

For we saw His star and underline, circle or highlight His star in the east, that whole phrase, star in the east.

And we have come to worship Him. They did not come to celebrate an annual birthday celebration, but rather the actual birth of this King Jesus. Amen.

We see in the Alpha and Omega Bible, verse 1, the word astrologers. King James' version says magi, but nobody knows what magi is. We don't use that term anymore.

So it's better to translate it what it means and that these people were astrologers.

It's interesting. It does not say that they are witches, but rather astrologers. It would have been a completely different word if astrology was witchcraft. Amen.

It would have been an entirely different word. It would have used the word for sorcery or sorcerers rather than astrologers.

So this is important that they was using the stars. These are astrologers using the stars to know when He would be born. That is a direct connection with Revelation 12, is it not? So we do have Revelation 12 already as a footnote in verse 1. So we already have a cross-reference there. Now, right here in verse... I'm trying to find if there's a verse where it says that the star moved or indicating that...

We know that we've always been told that it seemed like that the star was moving.

Verse 7, the star appeared. Verse 9 is relevant. Verse 9, after hearing the king, they went their way, and the star which they had seen in the east went on before them until it came and stood over where the child was.

So there was a moving star. So people said this was probably an angel since the star was moving.

In the constellation, you would have the entire constellation moving across the sky.

A constellation does not stay in one location in the sky all night long, but rather it moves across the sky.

And not only that, through the path of each night, but it would move in a different area of the sky a little bit more each night, and each week, each month, the constellation would not remain in the exact same place, but different place.

These astrologers were experts in watching the constellation's stars and planets.

Experts. They knew exactly when a constellation would appear and where it would appear.

So I do not believe that this is an angel. I believe it would say the word angel if that's what it was.

It does not say an angel, it says a star. Now it may have been a passage of time before the magi actually arrived there, but the star guided them to where he was born.

The star did not guide them to Damascus, for example. The star did not guide them to a different nation or a different town or a different region of Israel, but specifically to Bethlehem.

So it doesn't matter to me if this was months later or years later that they actually arrived, but we know that they knew where he had been born.

That is the significant point. They knew exactly what town that he had been born.

We know that the constellation would have been Virgo at the time of his birth and the movement of that constellation wherever it needed to be at that particular timing.

But the woman in the sky would have been given birth. There's a connection here to the planet Jupiter.

The planet Jupiter would have appeared to be moving in the sky during that time of the year in that constellation.

And it would be moving in what they call a retrograde motion. Retrograde motion makes a planet appear to slow down, stop, even reverse direction temporarily if necessary, and resume its usual forward course as seen from Earth.

This movement would be quite noticeable to the ancient expert astrologers. Jupiter was extremely important to Babylonian astrologers.

These were specifically Babylonian astrologers. They would have been extremely familiar not only with the Virgo constellation and all constellations, but Jupiter itself would have been extremely significant to their calculations of the calendar.

Jupiter was bright, the largest planet of this solar system. It was called the king star, the king.

With Jupiter having this retrograde motion of stopping and moving and turning, it would have appeared possibly as a movement of the king through the canal of the woman given birth.

This is a possibility since Jupiter was extremely important to the Babylonian calendar and their calculations and would have appeared at that time visible to the naked eye and did have that type of movement.

With the combination of Revelation 12 and Matthew chapter 2, we can determine that Jesus was born at the Fiesta of Tabernacles and we count backwards nine months for the woman to carry the baby for nine months.

Two months would bring us into September so we can count it forward or we can count it backwards however you want to count it.

But you come out to the same thing, the same conclusion. Conceived at Hanukkah and born at the Fiesta of Tabernacles, two biblical holy days, both the conception and the birth during two biblical holy days.

If we were just to observe all of the biblical holy days, we would be already observing his conception and his birth without being involved in the paganism of celebrating annual birthdays in the way that people do today in modern culture.

But we would be worshipping the king, the king. But we can also consider something else and that is the man named

Zechariah in Luke chapter 1.

Let's look at Luke chapter 1. Verse 5. In the days of Herod, king of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, a division of Abijah, and he had a wife from the daughters of Aaron, her name was Elizabeth.

So we know that Elizabeth was related to Mary and John the Baptist was the cousin, the first cousin of Jesus.

Verse 7, they had no child because Elizabeth was barren and they were both advancing years.

And verse 8, now it happened while he was performing his priestly service before Theos in the appointed order of his division.

We know that verse 12, the angel comes and announces that John the Baptist would be born.

There's six months difference between the ages of John the Baptist and Jesus, six months difference according to scripture.

We know that this man Zechariah has worked in the temple of God as a priest. We know from 1st Chronicles chapter 24, as we have the footnote there, 1st Chronicles 24 gives us a list of 24 divisions of the priesthood, 24 units, and each one would take one week to work in the temple.

We know that the Bible in 1 Chronicles 24, specifically list this unit of priests that Zechariah worked in, the Abijah, that particular order of priests, taking their one week turn in the temple.

In the spring, then it would take 24 weeks for all 24 segments of the priesthood to take a turn.

One week each, 24 units of priests. After those 24 weeks were done, they would repeat and go through all the 24 units again.

So they would serve twice a year, one week each. Now, we don't know whether this is specifically referring to the spring turn or the autumn turn.

It doesn't tell us, but we can do some calculations. We know that this particular unit of priests was the eighth week, according to 1 Chronicles 24, verse 10, it was the eighth week out of the 24 weeks.

We know that the first week would begin on the Sabbath after Passover. We know that for a fact.

So the first week after Passover, and you count eight weeks, that would have been his turn.

Then you finish the 24 weeks and start all the 24 weeks again. Using these calculations, if this is referring to his spring service in the temple rather than the autumn, and calculate the six months difference between the birth of Jesus and John the Baptist, consider the nine months conception, consider all these different things that you would have to calculate, you would come out to Jesus being conceived around Hanukkah and born at the Feast of Tabernacles.

So that fits better than the autumn service. Rather you use the calculation for the spring service or the autumn service in which he would have been serving in the temple.

Neither one of those calculations come out to Jesus being born in December. Neither one of them.

The autumn calculation would have Jesus being born in January possibly would be the closest, but still not January or February, but not December.

So no matter how you calculate it, it would be impossible for Jesus to be born in December.

This is much easier to look at when you look at it on paper, look at every detail, and be able to stop and count and figure all this out.

And you can do that. You're welcome to do that. It's much easier to see on paper. But using this information of Luke chapter 1 and 1st Chronicles 24 and Revelation 12 and Matthew 2, using these four different chapters of the Bible, not just one verse theology, four different chapters of the Bible all being considered, then we can definitely say that Jesus was not born in December, absolutely not.

And any claim that he was born in December is a lie of Satan. In time, new covenant Christians should be observing the biblical holy days, not the false pagan traditions and lies of modern Western Roman Orthodox religion.

Let's look at John chapter 1. John 1 verse 4, in him, in Jesus, was life, and the life was the light of mankind.

We know that John 1 teaches that Jesus is the light. Verse 9, there was the true light coming into the world, enlightens each human.

Jesus is the light. We find that in other verses as well, not just this chapter. And then verse 14, the word, the logos became flesh and tabernacled among us. Amen.

That light would have begun not on the date of his birth, but at his conception. He was conceived of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

So the Holy Spirit imparting the seed of God in Mary would have been the beginning of the life of Jesus.

Life begins at conception, not birth. The life of Jesus would have begun at the season of Hanukkah as the light of the

world.

So it would be fully acceptable to call it the festival of lights. We know that the symbol of Hanukkah is the menorah, the seven candlesticks.

Those seven lights, according to Revelation chapter 1, 2, and 3, represent the church, you and me.

The seven lights of the menorah represent us, the body of Christ, plugged into the Holy Ghost as the olive oil that is the fuel for the menorah lampstand.

So in time, new covenant Christians should be observing Hanukkah as the conception of the light of the world, the light of glory, the light of salvation, the Holy Ghost. Amen.

Pentecostals believing in the Holy Ghost should be celebrating the conception of Jesus Christ, the light of the world.

If we are lights and we are little gods, as the Bible says we are, we are those little lights.

This is a new covenant theme. Revelation chapter 1, 2, and 3, the menorah, the seven candlesticks of the churches, represent us.

They don't represent the Jews. The seven lights of the menorah do not represent seven tribes of Israel, but rather it represents seven time eras of a new covenant Christian church.

One of those being the Laodicean time era, the end time era. The menorah reminds us to stay fueled with the Holy Ghost, to stay connected, to stay plugged in to the power of God, that we cannot shine without the Holy Ghost. Amen.

That we do not have power without the Holy Ghost, that we do not have light without the Holy Ghost.

The symbolism of the menorah in Revelation chapter 1, 2, and 3 teaches us that the menorah, the symbol of Hanukkah, is a new covenant symbolism, not just for the Jews.

That we must be fueled by the Holy Ghost. This is a new covenant thing. This is not a Jewish thing. This is a new covenant thing.

This is a Jesus thing. Amen. It says that he tabernacled among us, it says here in John. That's not a coincidence that it used the word tabernacle for him coming into the flesh.

Notice the word flesh in verse 14. He became flesh outward from his mama's flesh at the time of tabernacles.

This is so significant. So extremely significant. The Bible teaches us exactly when he was born. And anything else is a lie.

In addition to all of this, we know from the book of Maccabees that tells us about Hanukkah, that Hanukkah symbolizes to us the defeat of the Syrian antichrist, Antiochus Epiphanes.

But for an end time application of this, let's look at Revelation 17, verse 1.

Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls or vials came and spoke with me, saying, Come here, I will show you the judgment of the great whore.

This is a false woman, not the woman of the true church, but a woman that is the false religion, Babylon.

We need to understand that there is the true woman church that is the Christian church of Jesus Christ.

And then there is a whore woman called Babylon, from Babylon, from Assyria, that represents all false religion.

It represents the Baptist church, the Pentecostal church, the Apostolic church, the Lutheran, the Presbyterian, the Methodist, and all the other isms, all the other denominations, including Islam, Buddhism, Hinduism, witchcraft, everything else outside of the true church.

This is false religion represented as a woman. We know that the Bible says that Jesus is a jealous God, that he is jealous that people have fallen away from him to serve other gods and have committed adultery against him by going to follow after those false gods, false religion. Amen.

And it says that this woman, this false religion, this great whore sits on many waters, which the Bible later tells us is many nations, with the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and those who dwell on the earth were made drunk with the wine of her fornication.

For we carried her away into the spirit, into a desert. He carried me away into the spirit, into a desert, and I saw the woman sitting on a scarlet evil beast, full of blasphemous names, having seven heads and ten horns.

We know that the blasphemous names is Yahweh, Yah, Yahuwah, all that stuff. Those Assyrian Arabic names, because we know that this is an Assyrian beast.

Verse four, the woman was clothed in purple and scarlet, adorned with gold and precious stones and pearls, having in her hand a gold cup full of abominations and of the unclean things of her immorality, and on her forehead a name written in mystery, Babylon the great, the mother of horrors, meaning the mother of false religions and of the abominations of the earth.

And I saw the woman drunk with the blood of the saints, and with the blood of the martyrs, and when I saw her, I

wondered with great wonder.

And the angel said to me, Why have you wondered? I would tell you the mystery of the woman and of the evil beast that carries her, which has the seven heads and the ten horns.

The evil beast that you saw was, it was before John's lifetime in the previous kingdom of Antiochus Epiphanes. It had been before and is not. The kingdom of Antiochus Epiphanes did not exist during John's lifetime and is about to come up out of the abyss in the end time and will go back to destruction, to perdition. Amen?

So it talks about a king, an evil beast that would come back from the past. Amen?

It was, but is not, but is to come up and last for a short time. Verse 9, Here is the mind which is wisdom, the seven heads or seven mountains on which the woman sits.

Everybody wants to find where there are literally seven mountains on the earth, which is multiple nations, but not Rome.

Rome is not even in the desert, for one thing, okay? So Rome cannot even be considered here because it's in the desert. It's also not a seaport. But anyway, these seven mountains are not literal. It is symbolic just like the horns and the waters and the heads. These are not literal.

These are symbolic. We know that the heads is capital cities. We know that. Amen?

We know that it says that the waters are nations. It actually tells us that in the next few verses, okay?

So these mountains represent empires. That is symbolic in the Bible that mountains represent kingdoms, empires.

These are seven empires in which this false religion rules, the Assyrian, the Babylonian, the Persian, the Greek, the Roman, so on.

Verse 10, And they are seven kings of these empires. Five have fallen, one is, and one is yet to come.

He must remain a little while. So five had already passed before John's lifetime.

But the Roman Empire existed during John's lifetime. But the end time empire was still yet to come.

The Roman Empire lasted all the way from John's lifetime to now. The Roman Empire still exists in the Vatican, the Catholic calendar, the Catholic holidays, the Roman numerals in many different ways.

Catholic presidents, Catholic congress people. The Roman Empire still exists today in the Orthodox Church, the Catholic Church, and a million other ways.

But the end time empire is still yet to rise. Verse 11, The evil beast, which was and is not, is himself also an eighth king, but he is also of the seven.

How can you be the eighth, but also of the seven? Obviously, he returns back to power.

And he returns back to power in two different ways. He returns back to power because he reestablishes the Assyrian Empire, from which have already come and gone in history, but also because of the daily head wound being healed.

He goes to perdition and he comes back in that way as well. Amen. There's different ways in which this king comes and goes and comes and goes throughout history.

This Bible verse here is teaching us that we can expect the end time king to return from the past.

And this is the Antiochus Epiphanes spirit, the same demon. There is no doubt to that. There is no doubt that the demon in which inhabited Antiochus Epiphanes is the demon in which represents or is present also in the Assad beast, the wild beast.

The word wild beast here actually is his surname in the Arabic Bible. If we were to read this chapter in the Arabic Bible, every time it says wild beast would be Assad's original family surname.

Every time. That's not coincidence. Amen. People can have a million different opinions and interpretations, but if we read the Bible in Arabic, which is the number one language of the Middle East, it would tell us constantly who the king is that returns to power from the past. Amen.

So people can have their interpretations, but I prefer to just read the Bible and believe what it says.

Sometimes you have to read it in a different language. It was never written in English anyway 2,000 years ago. Amen.

So this would be important to us Hanukkah as an end time Christian because we're going to face the same Antichrist, the same king, Antiochus Epiphanes, brought back.

In fact, I know we do not believe in reincarnation. We know that's Buddhism and Hinduism, but Assad does believe in reincarnation.

The Alawi sect, specifically that sect of Islam, believes and teaches reincarnation and teaches that the end time 12th Imam Mahdi, will be an incarnation of previous people, of Muhammad, of Adam, of Jesus, of other people.

They believe that and teach that, that these different people in different generations were all in the one same person in

the Alawi sect.

They teach that Adam and Jesus were the one in same soul and Muhammad was the one in same soul, all living in different generations.

And they were taught the same when he returns to power. We also know that Hanukkah is only three months away from Purim.

So when we observe Hanukkah this month, this three, three, four weeks from now, three weeks from now, something like that, we need to remember Hanukkah is preparing us that Purim is coming, that Antiochus Epiphanes is coming. Amen.

Purim, I know, scientifically has nothing to do with the Maccabees and Antiochus Epiphanes if you read Esther.

But we know that the people that were the enemy of the Jews do represent the same spirit.

They were Iranian, Persian, however you want to word that. I know that's actually two different groups, but they're the one in the same today, just like Syrians and Assyrians are one in the same today.

But the enemy of the Jews, regardless of whether you want to call him a Persian, Iranian or Antiochus Epiphanes or Hannah, whatever you want to call him, the spirit of the Antichrist is the one in the same demonic spirit that we deal with in different generations.

And Hanukkah is preparing us that Antiochus Epiphanes and the time of Purim, the time of the Syrian, the return of the king at Purim is coming.

But not as just a warning that he's coming, but a promise that just like the Maccabees, just like what happened with the Maccabees and just what happened with Esther, they both received the victory.

We also will receive the victory through Jesus Christ, the light that burns in the darkness.

That when Jesus returns, he will destroy Antiochus Epiphanes. He will destroy Assad. He will in fact destroy Assad a thousand and one hundred years before he destroys Satan, according to Scripture.

According to Scripture, the Antichrist spirit demon will be cast into the lake of fire a thousand and one hundred years before Satan and all the other demons.

So this is a great victory for us that this Antichrist demon would be the first demon in which would be annihilated as a token promise of a future event at the great right-throne judgment at paradise in which the lake of fire will destroy all the demons and even Satan himself. Praise Jesus.

I praise Jesus that as I review this chapter and all of our notes that they are still correct, the interpretation, the understanding is still correct.

We may have to just perfect it a little bit about how we word it, but it's correct.

So in summary, when Jesus was conceived, when Jesus was born, explaining the Star of Bethlehem, explaining the menorah, and the significance of our upcoming battle against the Antichrist and our promised victory and the importance of observing the biblical holy days in order to understand all these things.

Without observing the biblical holy days, we can't understand none of these things in completeness and fullness, these multiple different things.

We might touch on them a little bit, but we would not be able to understand them in the fullness without observing God's true biblical holy days.

Why would we celebrate some of the biblical holy days and not the other ones as a package deal?

It would never make any sense whether we lived 2,000 years ago or today or even in the millennium to come and the 100 years after that.

No matter what generation you're talking about, it would not be logical to select only certain biblical holy days to observe.

You either observe them all or none. You can't just pick and choose like the world does about what you want to do and observe.

You either obey God the entire way or nothing. God would rather that you be hot on fire for Him, which is serving Him the entire way, or that you be cold, which is serving Him not at all, but rather working for Satan, rather than being in the middle lukewarm and trying to do just half of the holy days or some of the holy days.

That's lukewarmness. At least the people that are satanic, that actually work against God and work against the truth and work against God's ways, at least God can use them.

That's something He can work with because at least they have passion and works and pain and working.

But God cannot use someone that refuses to do anything. If they're just going to be a couch potato Christian thinking that all they've got to do is believe and do nothing else, God can't use that.

If they refuse to move and refuse to work, how can you put somebody to work if they refuse to work?
So you'd rather you be cold all the way against Him or all the way for Him, one or the other, rather somewhere in the middle.

We're put on a song. We'll be right back for your questions and testimonies.

Copyright 2025 I Saw The Light Ministries

www.isawthelightministries.com