

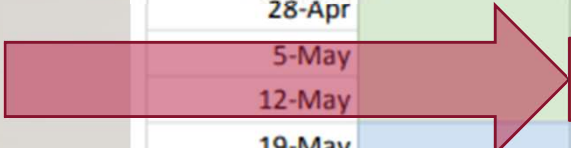
# EXTRA-BIBLICAL LITERATURE

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ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL – THE MEMPHIS CHURCH – WINTER/SPRING 2019

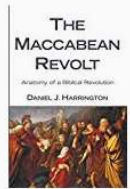
# EBL – Schedule

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9-Jun		Letter of Polycarp to the Philippians / Martyrdom of Polycarp / Didache
16-Jun		Shepherd of Hermas
23-Jun	Wrap-up / Party	

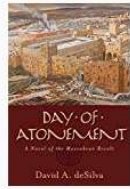


# Maccabees - Other Content / Resources

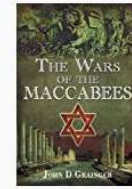
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## Understanding the Maccabean Revolt 167 TO 63 BCE An Introductory Atlas



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### Understanding the Maccabean Revolt 167 BCE to 63 BCE: An Introductory Atlas Paperback – May 1, 2017

by Michael AVI-Yonah (Author), Ze'ev Safrai (Author), Shmuel Safrai (Author)

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<p><i>Understanding the Maccabean Revolt 167 to 63 BCE</i> guides the reader through the main players and battles of this historic conflict. Antiochus Epiphanes IV's harsh decrees against the Jews had the opposite of his intended effect, as it accelerated Jewish resistance to being assimilated into Greek culture and religion. In his belief that the Jewish nation was ready for Hellenization, he had forbidden Jewish religious practice and had dedicated the Jewish Temple to a Greek deity. This and other acts of religious persecution led to the beginning of the Maccabean revolt in 167 BCE.</p>

<p>The Greek Seleucids had counted on Mattathias, son of John and a leader of the community, to

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## Liquid 'Sun Activated' Fire?

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2 Macc 1:19 For when our ancestors were being led captive to Persia, the pious priests of that time took some of the fire of the altar and secretly hid it in the hollow of a dry cistern, where they took such precautions that the place was unknown to anyone.

20 But after many years had passed, when it pleased God, Nehemiah...sent the descendants of the priests who had hidden the fire to get it. And when they reported to us that they had not found fire but only a thick liquid, he ordered them to dip it out and bring it.



## Liquid 'Sun Activated' Fire?

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2 Macc 1:21 When the materials for the sacrifices were presented, Nehemiah ordered the priests to sprinkle the liquid on the wood and on the things laid upon it. 22 When this had been done and some time had passed, and when the sun, which had been clouded over, shone out, a great fire blazed up, so that all marveled...35 And with those persons whom the king favored he exchanged many excellent gifts. 36 Nehemiah and his associates called this "nephthar," which means purification, but by most people it is called naphtha.

# Liquid 'Sun Activated' Fire?

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It enters the word **napalm**, a contraction of the "na" of *naphthenic acid* and "palm" of *palmitic acid*, originally made from a mixture of naphthenic acid combined with aluminum and magnesium salts of palmitic acid. **Naphtha** is the root of the word **naphthalene**, and can also be recognized in the word phthalate, and the paint color phthalo blue.

In older usage, "naphtha" simply meant crude oil, but this usage is now obsolete in English.



White gas, exemplified by Coleman Camp Fuel, is a common naphtha-based fuel used in many lanterns and torches

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Naphtha>

# The Arc Found!

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# The Arc Found!

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# The Arc Found!

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2 Macc 2:4 It was also in the same document that the prophet, having received an oracle, ordered that the tent and the ark should follow with him, and that he went out to the mountain where Moses had gone up and had seen the inheritance of God. 5 Jeremiah came and found a cave-dwelling, and he brought there the tent and the ark and the altar of incense; then he sealed up the entrance. 6 Some of those who followed him came up intending to mark the way but could not find it.



# The Arc Found!

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2 Macc 2:7 When Jeremiah learned of it, he rebuked them and declared: **“The place shall remain unknown until God gathers his people together again and shows his mercy. 8 Then the Lord will disclose these things, and the glory of the Lord and the cloud will appear...”**



# What is 2 Maccabees?

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Retelling / Summary of events:

The Compiler's *Preface*

2 Macc 2:19 The story of Judas Maccabeus and his brothers, and the purification of the great temple, and the dedication of the altar, 20 and further the wars against Antiochus Epiphanes and his son Eupator, 21 and the appearances that came from heaven to those who fought bravely for Judaism, so that though few in number they seized the whole land and pursued the barbarian hordes,



# What is 2 Maccabees?

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Retelling / Summary of events:

The Compiler's **Preface**

2 Macc 2:22 and regained possession of the temple famous throughout the world, and liberated the city, and re-established the laws that were about to be abolished, while the Lord with great kindness became gracious to them— 23 all this, ***which has been set forth by Jason of Cyrene in five volumes, we shall attempt to condense into a single book.***



# What is 2 Maccabees?

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Retelling / Summary of events:

The Compiler's *Epilogue*

2 Macc 15:38 If it is well told and to the point, that is what I myself desired; if it is poorly done and mediocre, that was the best I could do. 39 For just as it is harmful to drink wine alone, or, again, to drink water alone, while wine mixed with water is sweet and delicious and enhances one's enjoyment, so also the style of the story delights the ears of those who read the work. And here will be the end.



# What about the Miracle of Hanukkah? 1 of 3

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Many legends surround this historic event, but the most famous is the “*miracle of the oil.*” It is said that when the Maccabees recaptured Jerusalem they immediately set out to rededicate the Temple. But they faced a pressing problem; they needed consecrated oil to rekindle the sacred candelabra. They found only enough for one day—and it would take a full eight days to procure enough oil for Temple use.

The thought of lighting this great candelabra only to see it go out again was heart-wrenching. Yet the zeal to rededicate the



## What about the Miracle of Hanukkah? 2 of 3

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Temple was so strong that, despite the dilemma, they decided to light the candelabra. A traditional saying arose from this Hanukkah story: “*nes gadol haya sham*,” which means, “a great miracle happened there.” The great miracle was that the oil, enough for only one day, continued to burn for eight whole days, enough time to make and sanctify new oil. According to this legend, this is why we celebrate Hanukkah for eight nights and why the Hanukkiah (Hanukkah menorah) is lit for eight nights as well. It’s a good story, but it isn’t mentioned in the



# What about the Miracle of Hanukkah? 3 of 3

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earlier accounts of the Maccabbeean revolt, such as 2nd Maccabees. The legend of the oil isn't mentioned until much later, in the Talmud. *Maybe a day's worth of oil supernaturally burned for eight days and maybe it did not.*



<https://jewsforjesus.org/publications/newsletter/newsletter-dec-1998/christ-in-the-feast-of-hanukkah/>



# What is the Jewish Talmud? 1 of 4

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The term "Talmud" normally refers to the collection of writings named specifically the Babylonian Talmud (Talmud Bavli), although there is also an earlier collection known as the Jerusalem Talmud (Talmud Yerushalmi).

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Talmud>



# What is the Jewish Talmud? 2 of 4

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The Talmud has two components:

- the Mishnah (Hebrew: משנה, year 200 CE), a written compendium of Rabbinic Judaism's Oral Torah
- the Gemara (circa year 500 CE), an elucidation (clarification) of the Mishnah and related Tannaitic writings that often ventures onto other subjects and expounds broadly on the Hebrew Bible.

The term "Talmud" may refer to either the Gemara alone, or the Mishnah and Gemara together.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Talmud>



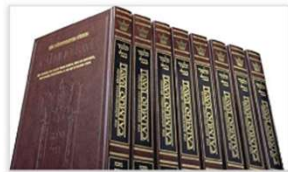
# What is the Jewish Talmud? 3 of 4

The entire Talmud consists of 63 tractates (a treatise), and in standard print is over 6,200 pages long.

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by Gedaliah Zlotowitz (Author), Yisroel Simcha Schorr (Author), Chaim Malinowitz (Author), Asher Dicker (Author), Nesanel Kasnett (Author)

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<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Talmud>

# What is the Jewish Talmud? 4 of 4

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It is written in Mishnaic Hebrew and Jewish Babylonian Aramaic and contains the teachings and opinions of thousands of rabbis (dating from before the Common Era through to the fifth century) on a variety of subjects, including halakha (Jewish Law), Jewish ethics, philosophy, customs, history, lore and many other topics.

The Talmud is the basis for all codes of Jewish law, and is widely quoted in rabbinic literature.

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Talmud>



# Recently Asked on ICOC-Facebook

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**Alina Sirbu**

May 9 at 4:50 AM

Hi everyone! I have a question for those of you who talked to someone who observes Judaism (I don't know anybody): why they don't believe Jesus is the promised Messiah? Why are they still waiting for Messiah?

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**Alina Sirbu**

May 9 at 4:50 AM

Hi everyone! I have a question for those of you who talked to someone who observes Judaism (I don't know anybody): why they don't believe Jesus is the promised Messiah? Why are they still waiting for Messiah?

**Justin Renton** A Jewish friend of mine who became a disciple said he grew up never reading from the Old Testament scriptures but only ever from the Mishnah/Talmud so missed all the Messianic prophecies.

## John Oakes' Response (from website):

Probably the best source for Jewish ideas of the Messiah is the writings of the Essene sect, found in the Dead Sea Scrolls. The Essenes seemed to have two separate Messiah figures/ideas—a suffering servant and a conquering king. They tended to focus on the priestly nature of the Messiah...The New Testament, of course, reveals the Jewish messianic expectation that the apostles, and, presumably the biggest number of common Jews had, which is for a conquering Son of David.

<http://evidenceforchristianity.org/why-did-the-jews-expect-a-conquering-rather-than-a-spiritual-messiah/>



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