

Hanukkah



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What is Hanukkah?

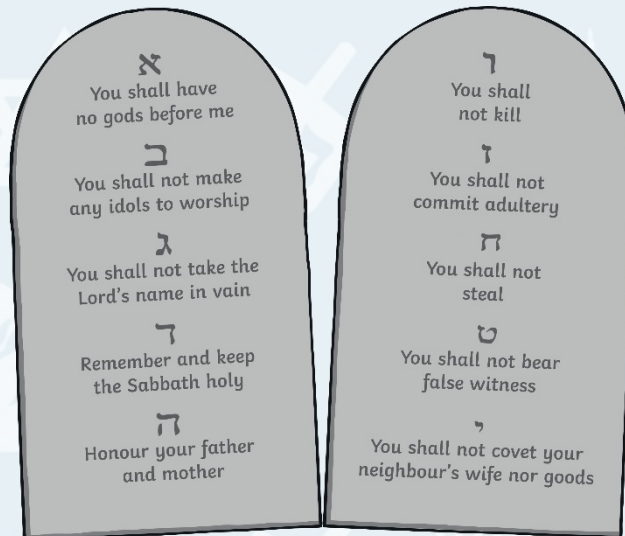
- **Hanukkah** or **Chanukah** is the Jewish festival of light.
- The word Hanukkah means **rededication**.
- It dates back to two hundred years before the start of Christianity.
- Hanukkah celebrates one of the greatest miracles in Jewish history.



The Story of Hanukkah

The festival reminds Jewish people of when, 2500 years ago, a Syrian king tried to make them worship Greek gods and bow to statues.

This was forbidden by the **Ten Commandments**.



The Story of Hanukkah

A small group of Jewish people called the **Maccabees** rebelled. After a three year war, the Maccabees recaptured **Jerusalem** from the **Syrians**.

The Jewish people repaired the temple which had been ruined and rededicated it to God by lighting a lamp. They only had enough oil to light the lamp for one day but, miraculously, it stayed alight for **eight days**.



How is Hanukkah Celebrated?



A **hanukkiah** is lit by Jewish people. One candle is lit for each day of the festival.

The helper candle, the shamash, is used to light the other eight candles.

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Dreidel is played.



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Latkes are eaten.



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Candles are lit.



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