

November 08, 2019

Warm hellos to you dear brethren, co-workers, and spiritual family here on the Coast of the Gulf of Mexico, and scattered children of God.

My wife and I pray and hope this finds you all doing well, and that again your week has been blessed!

#### **Dedication in History and Now**

As I look out my window, with the leaves falling, temps a bit cooler, I'm aware that the Gregorian calendric month of November is now upon us. This past Sunday, November 3, Daylight Savings Time ended here in the United States. It's a time of change so to speak.

Having just returned from God's appointed Feast of Tabernacles and Eighth Day are we focused on being *dedicated* to continuing to change and become more like our Father and His Son Jesus Christ?

On November 27, the month Kislev (or Keslev) will begin at sunset. The daylight portion takes place on November 28 on the Gregorian calendar. Kislev is the ninth month of the Jewish ecclesiastical year, corresponding to parts of November and December.

The 24th day of Kislev is significant in history. In 167 BCE - Keslev 24 - Antiochus Epiphanes offered swine's blood and defiled the Temple in Jerusalem. In 164 BCE - Keslev 24 - the Temple was cleansed and rededicated under Maccabees.

Although not commanded to observe certain days kept by the Jews, when we speak of "dedication" the following may be of interest.

## [The following is from the 2000 World Book (electronic version)]

"Hanukkah, is the Jewish Feast of Lights or *Feast of Dedication*. The Hebrew word hanukkah (also written Hannuka or Chanukah) means dedication. The Hanukkah holiday begins on the eve of the 25th day of the Hebrew month of Kislev and lasts eight days. On the first evening, one candle is lighted in a special eight-branched candelabrum called a menorah or hanukkiyah. Beginning on the second night, one candle is added every night until the total reaches eight on the last night. The candles are lighted by a separate candle called a shamash. The two books of Maccabees in the Apocrypha tell the story of Hanukkah. "According to the Talmud, written many centuries after the event, when the Jews cleaned the Temple of Syrian idols, they found only one small cruse of oil with which to light their holy lamps. But miraculously, the cruse provided them with oil for eight days. Other sources tell of a torchlight parade in the Temple, which may also have contributed to the tradition of lighting candles on Hanukkah."

J.R. Church in his Prophecy in the News, November, 2000, brought out that approximately 2500 years elapsed from the events in Haggai 2 (Keslev 24, 520 BCE) to Keslev 24, 2000 when Gershon Salomon of the Temple Mount Faithful made plans to lay a symbolic Temple cornerstone during Feast of Lights. He also mentioned that John 10 records that Jesus announced that He was Deity on Keslev 24 at Feast of Lights. Also, on December 9, 1917 General Allenby took Jerusalem and the Turks surrendered on Keslev 24.

Whether the above events were historical happenstance or part of guided events, we can't be completely sure. My point is simply to point out that repentance and dedication of one's life has always been a part of human history as I'll comment below.

There are some significant events recorded in Scripture that took place at that time of the Kislev, the ninth month. Ezra 10 records the repentance of the men assembled at the encouragement of Ezra. They had wrongly married pagan wives. Between the 20th day of the ninth month (v.9) and the first day of the tenth month (v.16) they made plans to come together to consider how to deal with the situation. This was a time of confession, repentance and change.

On the twenty-fourth day of the ninth month, in the second year of Darius, the word of the Lord came by Haggai the prophet. (Hag 2:10) The Lord directs Haggai to consider the curses that have been present for some time and that had been imposed because they had neglected the work of rebuilding the temple. God states that from that day forward He would bless them (v.19) because they were now committed to do His work. The word of the Lord came to Haggai again on Kislev 24 and this message is just as important for you and me today.

God is deeply concerned about you and me rebuilding His Spiritual Temple! That spiritual temple involves you and me repenting and yielding ourselves to Him, His Word, and His Spirit. It's a critical time in human history to be rededicating and building our Father's House, not our own.

...as I close this letter, as I do every Friday evening...as we enter His Sabbath...reflect on this with me, will you?

And again, may God continue to richly bless you. Our prayers and thoughts are with you daily. Please do pray for us as well.

-Scott Hoefker (Pastor and wife (Gayle) The Living God Ministries Gulf Coast)

# The schedule for this week's Sabbath is:

**November 8<sup>th</sup> / Friday: Evening Praise Sacrifice to welcome God's Sabbath - 6:30 pm (**via Teleconference live connect with Stephen Glover and Friends.)

November 9<sup>th</sup> / Saturday: Spirit and Truth Worship Services - 10:15 am, with services held in Montgomery (All others are welcomed and encouraged to connect live to Worship Services via our normal phone conference). There will be *no* local services for the *Gulf Coast* brethren in Spanish Fort this Sabbath. \*A noon lunch will be held in Mobile shortly after services end.

**November 9<sup>th</sup> / Saturday:** Our *LifeSouth Community Blood Centers* **Blood Drive** will be available after the noon meal.

**November 9<sup>th</sup> / Saturday: Sabbath Fellowship** (Interactive Bible Discussion) - **3:30 pm** from Montgomery. (Connecting live with all via telephone conference).

November 9<sup>th</sup> / Saturday: "Family Meeting" with Congregation - 5:00 pm We'll be having a short family discussion about our fulfillment of the works of God entrusted to The Living God Ministries this evening after sunset from Montgomery. All are welcome to connect via our teleconference as well. (We plan to have this every month on the 2nd Sabbath henceforth)

## Next Sabbath's Schedule:

**November 15<sup>th</sup> / Friday: Evening Praise Sacrifice** 6:30 pm (via Teleconference live connect with Stephen Glover and Friends.)

**November 16<sup>th</sup> / Saturday: Spirit and Truth Worship Services** 10:15 a.m., with local services held in **Montgomery** *and* **Spanish Fort.** (All are welcome and encouraged to connect live to Worship Services via our normal phone conference). A **potluck noon fellowship meal** will follow services in Spanish Fort.

**November 16<sup>th</sup> / Saturday: Sabbath Fellowship** (interactive Bible Discussion) **3:30 pm** *from* **Spanish Fort** with Scott Hoefker (connect live to all others via telephone conference).

Telephone Ministry (English): Call **1-712-770-4700**; then, when asked, enter Code **112165 #** to join. (Note: All callers are muted and must press **\*6** to comment and **\*6** to resume mute.) All times are listed in Central Standard Time zone.

#### Our Daily Bread Recordings

Sunday through Saturday / Our Daily Bread [listen anytime 24/7 to a recorded 15 minute message] Call 1-712-770-4709 (note this call in number is different and ends in "9"), then when asked, enter code 112165# [reference code numbers are on "Spiritual Fellowship Opportunities" on this website <a href="http://www.tlgministriesgc.org">http://www.tlgministriesgc.org</a> or at "Resources/Archives" on <a href="http://www.haggai114.net">http://www.haggai114.net</a>]

#### **Daily Fellowship Opportunities**

Sunday – Friday / Morning Sacrifice (Prayers & Scripture Reading) at 6:00 a.m.
Sundays / History & Background of the Gospels (Interactive) at 6:30 p.m. [Scott & Friends]
Mondays / Africa Discipleship at 7:00 a.m. [Stephen & Moses]
Almond Branch Fellowship at 6:30 p.m. (Interactive) (Stephen & Friends)
Tuesdays / Haggai Fellowship (Interactive) at 6:30 p.m. (Interactive) [Stephen & Friends]
Wednesdays / Africa Discipleship at 7:00 a.m. [Stephen & Moses]
1st & 3rd Wednesday / Sons of God Fellowship (Young men training) at 6:30 p.m. [Stephen & Friends]
2nd & 4th Wednesday / Lydian's Fellowship (Ladies) at 6:30 p.m. [Esther/Gayle/Laura & Friends]
Thursdays / Mt. Carmel Fellowship (Interactive) at 6:30 p.m. [Hoefkers & Friends]

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