1st day of Winter/1st night of Hanukah
(Sunday, 12/22) Chag Sameach
Hanukah and Merry Christmas to all!
(Wednesday, 12/25)

WHY DO WE LIGHT THE MENORAH WITH OLIVE OIL? Rabbi Aaron Goldscheider
excerpted from Aish.com

There are several ways that one may fulfill the mitzvah of lighting the Chanukah menorah. While one may certainly use wax candles, beeswax candles, paraffin, and an assortment of oils, the most preferred way of lighting the menorah is with olive oil. Why olive oil?

This is the oil that the Jewish people used to light the Menorah in the Holy Temple, and it was with olive oil that the miracle occurred. Today, when we light our menorahs using olive oil, we closely mirror the way the Kohanim lit the Menorah in Jerusalem.

Yet, there are other reasons why olive oil is significant and contains special symbolism, especially on Chanukah. For the Greeks, everything that was externally beautiful was good; to the Jew, everything that is inwardly good is beautiful. The victory of Chanukah was the victory of an inner essence over external appearance, of light over darkness.

The olive is an appropriate symbol of this victory, for the light of the Menorah comes from the oil of the olive. Although the olive seems to be just a small and undistinguished fruit, its outer appearance is misleading. There is actually so much more to the olive than meets the eye. Inside this tiny fruit is the oil that can light an entire room.

Seeing the light that emanates from the olive’s oil, we are reminded that if we look beyond the superficialities of this world, beyond the mask of darkness, we can perceive light.

At Chanukah time the olives on the trees are late in their season and have been darkening from green to black. It is the black olives that contain the most oil. The blacker the olive, the more light it contains. Sometimes we need to wait, to bide our time, in order to have greater understanding. The lighting of the menorah by the Maccabees was the victory of this patient understanding that there is so much more to the world than meets the eye.

Chassidic tradition teaches that the Hebrew word hashemen, “the oil,” has the same Hebrew letters as neshamah, “the soul.” The oil is the hidden essence of the olive; the soul is the hidden essence of man.

LIKE THE MACCABEES, most people want the right to pray to God in their own way. This right is called freedom of religion. The spirit of Hanukkah, the Festival of Lights, is shared by all people who love freedom.” - Norma Simon, The Story of Hanukkah

Humor from Top-25 Jewish Comedians of All Time

Don Rickles

Room service is great. If you want to pay $400 for a club sandwich!

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AS A REMINDER, please call in all same-day requests for pick-up by 9 AM at the latest. Also, you must wait until 12 PM or later, after we have finished dispatching the meals, to pick up your order.
This Month’s Trivia

1. The most important Hanukah observance is:
   a. play dreidel  
   b. give gifts  
   c. light the menorah

2. If one lights a public menorah, one should:
   a. not light again at home  
   b. light again at home without blessings  
   c. light again at home with blessings.

3. Hanukah means:
   a. dedication  
   b. army  
   c. lights

4. Which foods are linked to the Hanukah miracle?
   a. rolls and bagels  
   b. dairy and oil  
   c. pears and apples

Hanukah Quiz

Pick the right answer.

2019 CLIENT SATISFACTION SURVEY RESULTS - *Part 1 of 2

The KMOW Survey was distributed August 2019. Of the 78 surveys were distributed, 32 were returned. The response rate was 41%. Here is Part 1 of some of the results.  Thank you to all who responded!

• Everyone (32) responded to the statement: Meal Delivery is helpful to me. Of those 32, 100% (32/32) chose AGREE.
• 30 responded to the statement: I feel less isolated than before participation in Kosher Meals on Wheels. Of those 30, 90% (27/30) chose AGREE.
• 27 responded to the statement: I look forward to my daily interaction with the volunteer drivers. Of those 27, 93% (25/27) chose AGREE.
• Everyone (32) responded to the statement: I am satisfied with the Kosher Meals on Wheels service. Of those 32, 94% (30/32) chose AGREE.

LAUGH A LITTLE

The Writing on the Wall

After learning stories from the book of Daniel in Hebrew school, little Susie Epstein was particularly intrigued with the story of the handwriting on the wall. Susie approached her teacher to share her personal reflections.

"In my house," said Susie, "when handwriting appears on the wall it's not a miracle, it's my little brother Sammy being a bad boy."

10. WEIGH or WHEY

Answers to Hanukah Quiz: 1. c  2. c  3. a  4. b

FYI - If you always ask for the same type of menu change, you can request a “Standing Order” instead of calling the office each time. For example, if you don’t wish to eat any hot meal of beef, you can request a “Standing Order” to substitute roast chicken any time beef comes up on the menu.

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