

When God Speaks Light: The Eternal Victory Over Darkness

What does the Bible teach us about light overcoming darkness? Scripture reveals that from the moment of creation, God ordained that light would always triumph. This is not merely symbolic language, but a divine principle established at the beginning of time. This truth forms the spiritual foundation behind the Feast of Hanukkah, the “Feast of Lights.”

While Hanukkah arose later in Jewish history, its meaning is rooted in the eternal order revealed in Genesis. From creation to the plagues of Egypt, Scripture consistently testifies that God brings light in the darkest night, and that light guarantees deliverance.

The Sages of Blessed Memory, the authoritative commentators of the Hebrew Scriptures, emphasize that Hanukkah must be remembered not merely as a military victory, but as a supernatural one. They draw attention to the miracle of the oil in the Menorah and to the Temple’s reclamation and cleansing, in which God’s presence was revealed through divine multiplication.

When the courageous Maccabees reclaimed the Temple from the Seleucid Greeks—who sought not only to seize the land of Israel but to remove the God of Israel from His people—they found the oil for the Menorah desecrated. Only one vial of pure oil remained, sealed with the High Priest’s signature. Although it was enough for only one day, eight days were required to prepare new oil under the purification law, yet the oil burned for eight days. This miracle revealed that the light of Hanukkah is not of this world.



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The number eight repeatedly signifies what transcends the natural order. God commanded Abraham concerning circumcision on the eighth day: "He who is eight days old among you shall be circumcised" (Gen. 17:12, NKJV). The High Priest wore eight garments, symbolizing an anointing not sourced from the earth. Jewish tradition holds that Adam was placed in the Garden on the eighth day.

When the Tabernacle was consecrated, "Moses and Aaron went into the tabernacle of meeting, and came out and blessed the people. Then the glory of the LORD appeared to all the people, and fire came out from before the LORD and consumed the burnt offering" (Lev. 9:23–24). Each instance reveals divine power operating beyond human limitation.

This supernatural light first appears in the opening verses of Genesis. "The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep" (Gen. 1:2). This darkness was more than the absence of physical light; it represented confusion, chaos, and affliction—a darkness that could be felt.

Yet into this condition, God spoke: "Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light" (Gen. 1:3). This was not sunlight, for the sun and moon were not created until the fourth day (Gen. 1:14–16). The first light was spoken from the mouth of God—a light of victory and divine purpose.

From the beginning, God separated light from darkness, revealing that He brings purpose from pain and destiny from despair. This pattern of supernatural light overcoming affliction continues throughout Scripture and is clearly seen in the plagues of Egypt.

The signs God sent were not random acts of wrath, but intentional invitations to repentance. When the Nile turned to blood—"all the waters that were in the river were turned to blood" (Ex. 7:20)—God confronted Egypt with the sin they had

committed against the Hebrew children. Each plague revealed their wrongdoing and awakened conscience before the final judgment.

The ninth plague mirrored the original darkness of creation. "Stretch out your hand toward heaven, that there may be darkness over the land of Egypt, darkness which may even be felt" (Ex. 10:21). This darkness carried a heaviness similar to the darkness of Genesis 1. Yet Scripture makes a clear distinction: "All the children of Israel had light in their dwellings" (Ex. 10:23). While Egypt was covered in affliction, Israel lived in supernatural illumination—a sign that deliverance was near.

Even in the book of Esther, light appears before deliverance fully manifests. "The Jews had light and gladness, joy and honor" (Esth. 8:16). This declaration came before the decree was completely overturned. In Scripture, light consistently signals that God has begun to reverse the situation.

The message is unmistakable. Darkness is never final. The same God who spoke light into chaos at creation, multiplied oil in the Temple, and illuminated His people in Egypt still operates by this divine order. No matter how deep the night or how intense the struggle, God has already spoken light into the situation. Morning will come. Victory has been ordained from the beginning.

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