

John 10:22
**Then came Hanukkah (eng-kah'-ee-nee-ah)
in Yerushalayim. It was winter...**

This is the first mention of Hanukkah in the Gospels. It was not when the Jewish rabbis wrote the Mishnah in the 3rd or 4th century that it was celebrated. It is said by most Christian theologians that this was written to counteract the early Church's celebration of Christmas. This scripture proves that it was celebrated in the First Century by the Messianic congregation. It was a new beginning of the celebration of Adonai in the Temple, as the Messianic Movement was the new beginning of Adonai uniting the Body of Messiah as **ONE**.

From the Complete Jewish Bible by David H. Stern. Copyright © 2006. All rights reserved. Used by permission of Messianic Jewish Publishers, 6120 Day Long Lane, Clarksburg, MD 21220. www.messianicjewish.com

Working as One

I. Adonai's Co-Workers
1 Corinthians 3:5-9

After all, what is Apollos? What is Sha'ul? Only servants through whom you came to trust. Indeed, it was the Lord who brought you to trust through one of us or through another. I planted the seed, and Apollos watered it, but it was God who made it grow. So neither the planter nor the waterer is anything, only God who makes things grow - planter and waterer are the same. However, each will be rewarded according to his work. For we are **God's co-workers; you are God's field, God's building.**

From the Complete Jewish Bible by David H. Stern. Copyright © 2006. All rights reserved. Used by permission of Messianic Jewish Publishers, 6120 Day Long Lane, Clarksburg, MD 21220. www.messianicjewish.com

A. Philippians 2.12

So, my dear friends, just as you have always obeyed when I was with you, it is even more important that you obey now when I am away from you: keep working out your deliverance with fear and trembling...

B. Philippians 2.13

...for God is the one working among you both the willing and the working for what pleases him.

C. Ephesians 2.10

For we are of God's making, created in union with the Messiah Yeshua for a life of good actions already prepared by God for us to do.

D. 2 Corinthians 6.1

As God's fellow-workers we also urge you not to receive his grace and then do nothing with it.

The Greek says "As we work together, I beseech you not to receive the grace of God in vain."

II. Adonai's Co-Field

A. Jeremiah 4.3

For here is what ADONAI says to the people of Y'hudah and Yerushalayim: "Break up your ground that hasn't been plowed, and do not sow among thorns."

B. Hosea 10.12-13a

If you sow righteousness for yourselves, you will reap according to grace. Break up unused ground for yourselves, because it is time to seek ADONAI, till he comes and rains down righteousness upon you. You have plowed wickedness, reaped iniquity and eaten the fruit of lies.

C. Isaiah 28:24

Does a farmer sowing keep plowing forever? Does he never stop breaking up and harrowing his land?

III. Adonai's Building

A. 1 Peter 2:4-5

As you come to him, the living stone, rejected by people but chosen by God and precious to him, you yourselves, as living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be cohanim set apart for God to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to him through Yeshua the Messiah.

B. 1 Peter 2:9

But you are a chosen people, the King's cohanim, a holy nation, a people for God to possess! Why? In order for you to declare the praises of the One who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

1. A Spiritual Priesthood
2. Offering Spiritual Sacrifices
3. A Holy Nation

Conclusion
Ephesians 2:19-22
A Holy Temple Where Adonai Can Dwell in the Ruach
So then, you are no longer foreigners and strangers. On the contrary, you are fellow-citizens with God's people and members of God's family. You have been built on the foundation of the emissaries and the prophets, with the cornerstone being Yeshua the Messiah himself. In union with him the whole building is held together, and it is growing into a **holy temple** in union with the Lord. Yes, in union with him, you yourselves are being built together into a spiritual dwelling-place for God!

Why Was Adonai doing all this working, all this cultivating, and all this building in us? It was for us to become a Holy Temple in which He could dwell in the Ruach!


