

## -CHRISTMAS

AT HIGH POINT CHURCH

## Hamukan:

Celebration of the miracle in which one day's worth of temple oil burned for eight days until more could be supplied. This showed God's support of his people and His pleasure in their devotion.



## The Story of Hannukah is about a War led by a "messiah" Judas Maccabee ("the hammer")



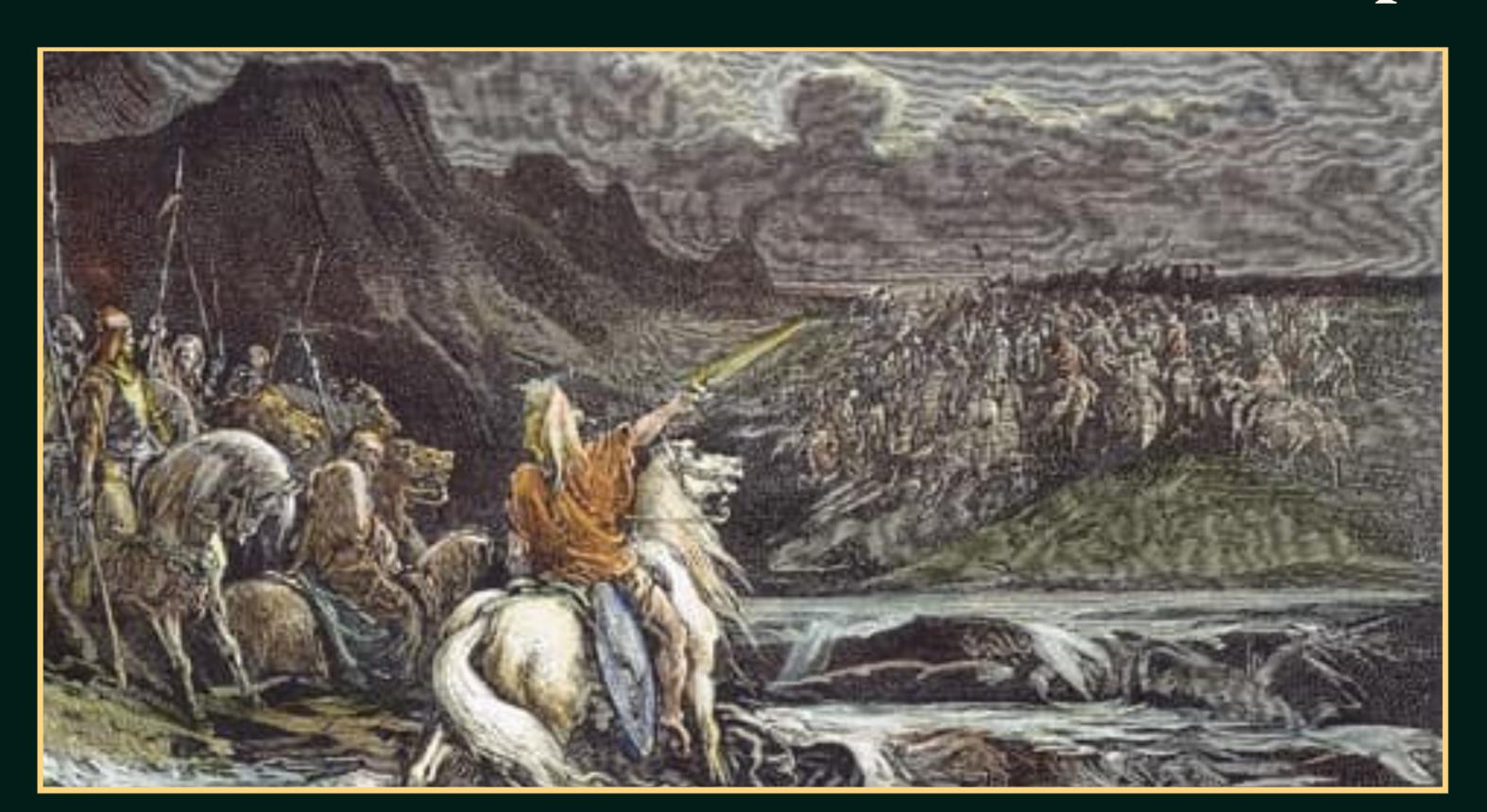
## 3 years earlier

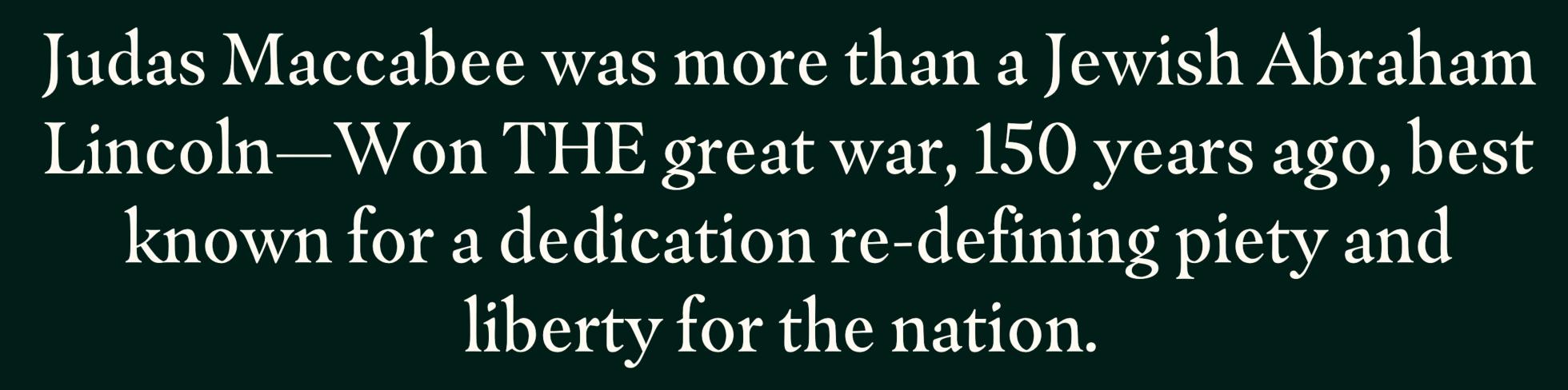
The Greek Seleucid king had perpetrated a campaign of hellenization that culminated in appointing treacherous

priests, undermining jewish faith, and ultimately desecrating the temple and outlawing the Torah. Then he massacred Jerusalem. Murdering 80,000 Jews.



Judas began with guerrilla tactics, but ultimately rallied an army, captured weapons, and ran outnumbered but undefeated through their oppressors, until they had liberated Israel and rededicated the temple.

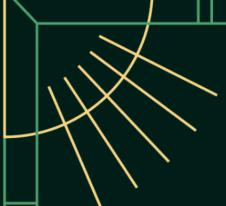








It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced.



## POINT 1:

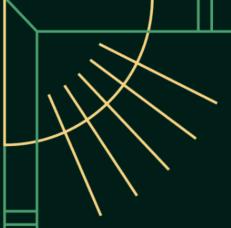
# Dedication starts with the right vision.

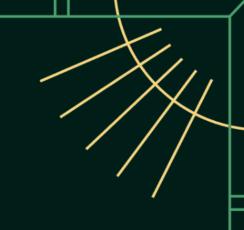
If you're looking for what He isn't and you want what He isn't offering, that's not dedication.



#### John 10:24 – 30

The Jews gathered round him, saying, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly." Jesus answered, "I did tell you, but you do not believe. The miracles I do in my Father's name speak for me, but you do not believe because you are not my sheep. My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no-one can snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no-one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. I and the Father are one."





## Jesus' made literal:

"You are dedicated to a vision of what you want God to do for you through a general-king"

"I am dedicated to God himself and what He wants to do in you through a shepherd-son"





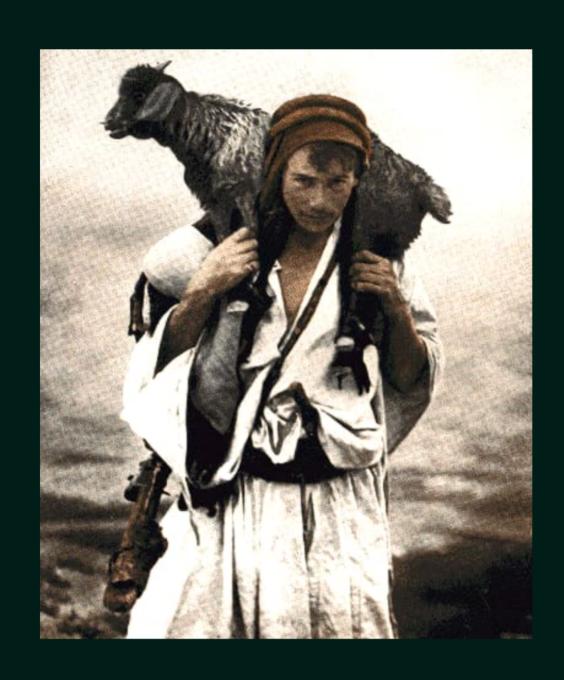


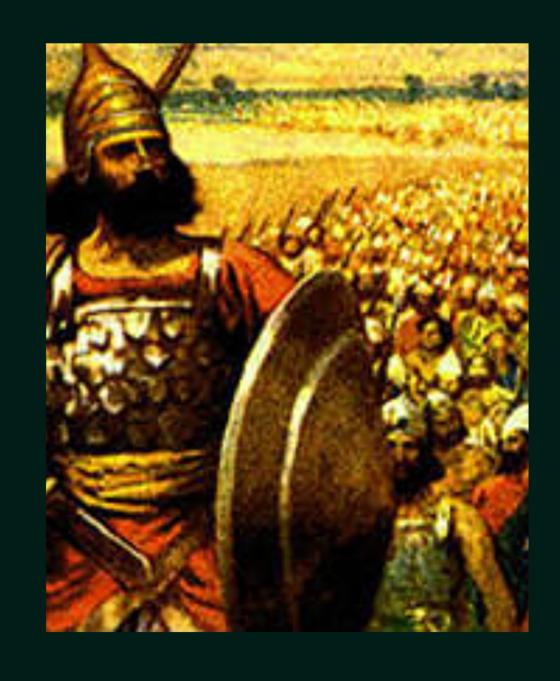


- No Final Victory from the "World"
- 2. The government fails and becomes tyrannical
- 3. The ministry fails and faith grows corrupt
- 4. The vision narrows to the exception, rather than the goal



I will save my sheep

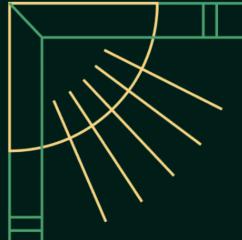


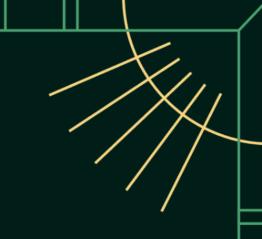


Not by killing my enemies

War was always God's concession. Sons who are His shepherds of the nations in justice, mercy, and humility were always His expressed will.

(His people would win Rome, not burn it.)





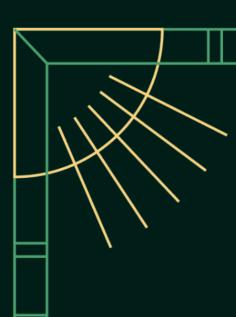
#### John 10:24 – 30

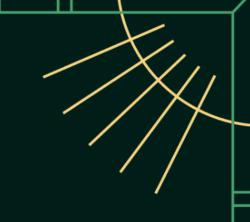
Jesus answered, "I did tell you, but you do not believe. The miracles I do in my Father's name speak for me, but you do not believe because you are not my sheep. My sheep listen to my voice...

... I and the Father are one."









"I and the Father are one"

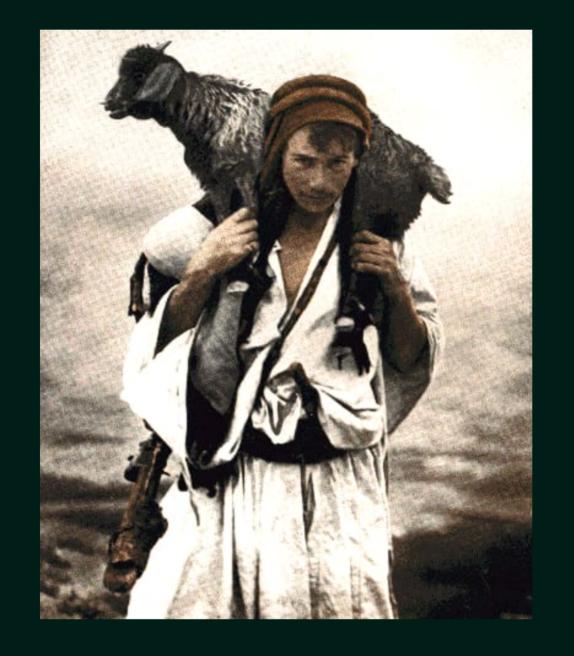
I am God's son (vs. His Messiah)

This leads straight to the Cross









## What does your dedication look like?

## What is your vision?

Who or what grounds and defines what you'd die for?
Or really live for?



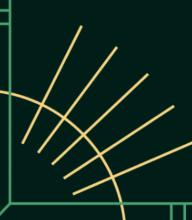


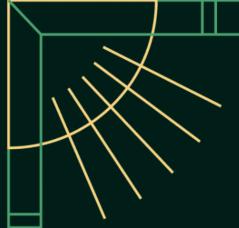
### P O I N T 2:

## We must all be sons of God.

Being a son and a shepherd is not a blasphemy—it is our true purpose.

Jesus is the everlasting son, who is not just a god, but God himself.



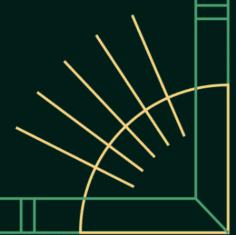




#### John 10:34 – 38

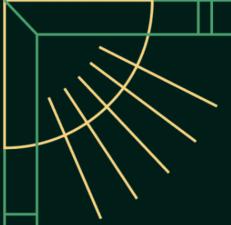
Jesus answered them, "Is it not written in your Law, 'I have said you are gods'? If he called them 'gods', to whom the word of God came—and the Scripture cannot be broken—what about the one whom the Father set apart as his very own and sent into the world? Why then do you accuse me of blasphemy because I said, 'I am God's Son'?

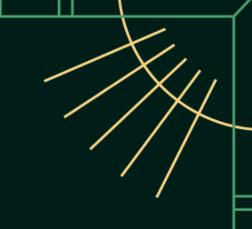




### Psalm 82:1 – 8

God presides in the great assembly; he gives judgment among the "gods": "How long will you defend the unjust and show partiality to the wicked? Selah. Defend the cause of the weak and fatherless; maintain the rights of the poor and oppressed. Rescue the weak and needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked. "They know nothing, they understand nothing. They walk about in darkness; all the foundations of the earth are shaken. "I said, 'You are "gods"; you are all sons of the Most High.' But you will die like mere men; you will fall like every other ruler." Rise up, O God, judge the earth, for all the nations are your inheritance.





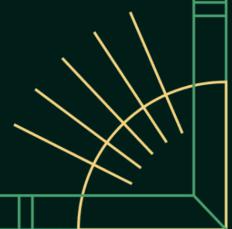
## Jesus' Dedication:

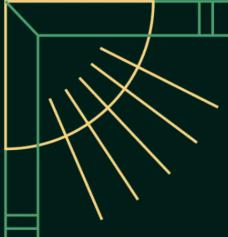
He died to dedicate the worship of all nations

He was set apart, dedicated, by the father to be sent into the world—to win the jews and all nations.

He dedicated the office of humanity to be 'gods' who are son and shepherds like him,







## Birth of Jesus:

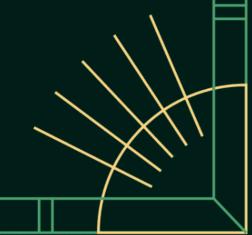
Herod died in 4BC.

Jesus therefore likely was born in BC 5.

Dec 25th falls during Hanukah in the Jewish calendar 3757 (5BC)

He is the one the Father "set apart (dedicated) as His very own and sent into the world."







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