



The Chanukah Window

The festival of Chanukah, "dedication", celebrates events that took place when the Syrian Greeks ruled over Judea.

A small group led by the Maccabees expelled the Greeks, restored the Temple, and performed a ceremony of "rededication". Chanukah celebrates a miracle that took place at that ceremony – a single day's supply of oil for the Menorah lasted eight days. Over the eight days of Chanukah, eight candles are lit by the shamash, "servant

candle". The first letters of the four words "A great miracle happened there" are found on the sides of the spinning top or "dreidel", used to entertain children during Chanukah.