

Chanukah



Eva Grayzel
Motivational Storyteller

Rap

Chanukah did I hear you say, is the biggest and the best commercial holiday?
I'll tell you something that might come as a surprise;
Those presents that you get are for you to realize,
the deeper meaning of this holiday.
I'm gonna tell you about it right away.
Listen up you hear with some concentration,
Chanukah it means 'rededication.'
Dedication of what?
Why the answer is quite simple
Dedication of the holy place called the temple.

Why it happened a long long time ago,
In the city of Jerusalem, don't cha know.
A guy named Antiochus was the ruler of Greece.
He tried to stir up trouble and disrupt the peace.
He ordered the Jews not to study the Torah. Not to sing to the Lord or dance the Horah.
He destroyed the Temple and the people who prayed.
He terrorized the Israelites in every way.
He tried to break the people's spirit, this mighty Greek.
Tried to hurt all the Jews and make them weak.

Mattathias had 5 sons, brave as could be.
The strongest was Judah Maccabee.
Sure, you heard of him, his name means 'hammer',
'cause his strength was so great, he made the enemy stammer.

Well, they whooped 'um good, Mattathias and his sons.
They chased the bad guys out, everyone.
They reclaimed the Temple in Jerusalem, and cleaned it up for the the Holy One.
Got a brand new ark, new upholstery, hung a new Mezuzah and a new tapestry.
The interior designer made a proclamation 'We are ready at last for a rededication.'

The problem you see: the Eternal Light; supposed to burn all day and all night.
To burn eight days you need special oil.
But there was none to be found.
The celebration was spoiled.

They searched high and low.
They searched here and there for some oil to burn,
but there was none to spare.
Until Judah Maccabee, bold and brave,
found a jar buried deep in a cave.
Just enough oil to burn one day,
but a strange miracle happened they say:
That little jar of oil, it lasted for eight!
There was light in the Temple for eight day straight!

Well, the people were joyous, it was some occasion!
For eight days they had a celebration.
Rededication. Dedication I say.
That's the true meaning of this holiday.
It was a war of the many against the few,
fought for religious freedom as a Jew.

Now I don't want to spoil any of your fun
Buy your presents for everyone.
But don't forget the meaning of the Chanukah light.
A time of victory of spirit, and of might.