

~INAUGURATION (428)

(in-au-gu-ra'tion)[Hebrew, *chanuk-kah'*, *ne'zer*, Greek, *en-kai-ni'zo*]

- An initiation, with solemn ceremonies, of a structure, an arrangement, or a place. **Inaugurate** is translated from the Hebrew verb *cha-nakh'*, noun form, *chanuk-kah'*, and from the Greek verb *en-kai-ni'zo*, which primarily means, **make new**, or **innovate**, as by dedication.
- The Hebrew word *ne'zer*, the holy sign of dedication, is considered under the subject.

See Also DEDICATION

- When the Mosaic Law covenant was put into operation, it was solemnly **initiated** by suitable ceremonies involving animal sacrifices and the sprinkling of blood on the altar, on the book, and on the people. This event was referred to by the apostle Paul as the act of inaugurating that covenant.
- Accordingly Moses wrote down all the words of Yehowah. Then he got up early in the morning and built at the foot of the mountain an altar and twelve pillars corresponding with the twelve tribes of Israel. (**Exodus 24:4**)
- After that he sent young men of the sons of Israel and they offered up burnt offerings and sacrificed bulls as sacrifices, as communion sacrifices to Yehowah. (**Exodus 24:5**)
- Then Moses took half the blood and put it in bowls, and half the blood he sprinkled upon the altar. (**Exodus 24:6**)
- Finally he took the book of the covenant and read it in the ears of the people. Then they said; All that Yehowah has spoken we are willing to do and be obedient. (**Exodus 24:7**)
- So Moses took the blood and sprinkled it upon the people and said; Here is the blood of the covenant that Yehowah has concluded with you as respects all these words. (**Exodus 24:8**)
- Consequently neither was the former covenant inaugurated without blood. (**Hebrews 9:18**)

- For when every commandment according to the Law had been spoken by Moses to all the people, he took the blood of the young bulls and of the goats with water and scarlet wool and hyssop and sprinkled the book itself and all the people. (**Hebrews 9:19**)
- Saying; This is the blood of the covenant that God has laid as a charge upon you. (**Hebrews 9:20**)
- By Paul's words, neither was the former covenant **inaugurated** form of Greek *en-kai-ni'zo*, **without blood**.
- Consequently neither was the former covenant **inaugurated** without blood. (**Hebrews 9:18**)
- He indicates that the New Covenant was similarly put into effect **inaugurated** by Jesus death, resurrection, and ascension into heaven, where Jesus presented the value of his human life and from where he thereafter poured out Holy Spirit upon his disciples.
- Since Jesus Christ was resurrected in the spirit, he could actually enter into the real holy place, the heavens of Yehowah's presence, and with his ransom sacrifice make it possible for his anointed followers to enter also into heaven.
- Thus it could be said that he began, **innovated**, or **inaugurated** the way into the heavens, which provision would thereafter be used by others.
- Therefore, brothers, since we have boldness for the way of entry into the holy place by the blood of Jesus. (**Hebrews 10:19**)
- Which he **inaugurated** for us as a new and living way through the curtain, that is, his flesh. (**Hebrews 10:20**)
- We also read of solemn ceremonies involving the offerings by the tribal chieftains at the **inauguration** of the tabernacle altar in the wilderness.
- Now the chieftains made their presentation at the **inauguration** of the altar on the day of its being anointed, and the chieftains proceeded with presenting their offering before the altar. (**Numbers 7:10**)
- So Yehowah said to Moses; One chieftain on one day and

- another chieftain on another day is the way they will present their offering for the **inauguration** of the altar. (**Numbers 7:11**)
- This was the **inauguration** offering of the altar on the day of its being anointed, on the part of the chieftains of Israel, twelve silver dishes, twelve silver bowls, twelve gold cups. (**Numbers 7:84**)
 - A hundred and thirty shekels to each silver dish, and seventy to each bowl, all the silver of the vessels being two thousand four hundred shekels by the shekel of the holy place. (**Numbers 7:85**)
 - The twelve gold cups full of incense being ten shekels respectively to a cup by the shekel of the holy place, all the gold of the cups being a hundred and twenty shekels. (**Numbers 7:86**)
 - All the cattle for the burnt offering being twelve bulls, twelve rams, twelve male lambs each a year old and their grain offerings, and twelve kids of the goats for a sin offering. (**Numbers 7:87**)
 - And all the cattle of the communion sacrifice being twenty-four bulls, sixty rams, sixty he-goats, sixty male lambs each a year old. This was the **inauguration** offering of the altar after its being anointed. (**Numbers 7:88**)
 - There was a special assembly for the **inauguration** of Solomon's temple and its great sacrificial altar.
 - And Solomon proceeded to offer the communion sacrifices that he had to offer to Yehowah, twenty-two thousand cattle and a hundred and twenty thousand sheep, that the king and all the sons of Israel might **inaugurate** the house of Yehowah. (**1 Kings 8:63**)
 - And King Solomon went on offering the sacrifice of twenty-two thousand cattle and a hundred and twenty thousand sheep. Thus the king and all the people **inaugurated** the house of the true God. (**2 Chronicles 7:5**)
 - But on the eighth day they held a solemn assembly, because the **inauguration** of the altar they had held for seven days and the festival for seven days. (**2 Chronicles 7:9**)

- When the temple was rebuilt under Zerubbabel following the Babylonian exile, there were solemn initiation ceremonies in which hundreds of animals were sacrificed.
- And the sons of Israel, the priests and the Levites and the rest of the former exiles held the **inauguration** of this house of God with joy. (**Ezra 6:16**)
- And they presented for the **inauguration** of this house of God a hundred bulls, two hundred rams, four hundred lambs, and as a sin offering for all Israel twelve male goats, according to the number of the tribes of Israel. (**Ezra 6:17**)
- Later, the walls around the rebuilt Jerusalem were restored under the direction of Nehemiah, and again an elaborate **inauguration** festival was held, with two large thanksgiving choirs participating in the praising of Yehowah.
- And at the **inauguration** of the wall of Jerusalem they looked for the Levites, to bring them out of all their places to Jerusalem to carry on an **inauguration** and a rejoicing even with thanksgivings and with song, cymbals and stringed instruments and with harps. (**Nehemiah 12:27**)
- And the sons of the singers proceeded to gather themselves even from the District, from all around Jerusalem and from the settlements of the Netophathites. (**Nehemiah 12:28**)
- And from Beth-gilgal and from the fields of Geba and Azmaveth, for there were settlements that the singers had built for themselves all around Jerusalem. (**Nehemiah 12:29**)
- And the priests and the Levites proceeded to cleanse themselves and cleanse the people and the gates and the wall. (**Nehemiah 12:30**)
- Then I brought up the princes of Judah upon the wall. Further, I appointed two large thanksgiving choirs and processions, and the one was walking to the right upon the wall to the Gate of the Ash-heaps. (**Nehemiah 12:31**)
- And Hoshai and half of the princes of Judah began to walk behind them. (**Nehemiah 12:32**)

- Also Azariah, Ezra and Meshullam. ([Nehemiah 12:33](#))
- Judah and Benjamin and Shemaiah and Jeremiah. ([Nehemiah 12:34](#))
- Also of the sons of the priests with the trumpets Zechariah the son of Jonathan the son of Shemaiah the son of Mattaniah the son of Micaiah the son of Zaccur the son of Asaph. ([Nehemiah 12:35](#))
- And his brothers Shemaiah and Azarel, Milalai, Gilalai, Maai, Nethanel and Judah, Hanani, with the instruments of song of David the man of the true God, and Ezra the copyist before them. ([Nehemiah 12:36](#))
- And at the Fountain Gate and straight ahead of them they went up on the Stairway of the City of David by the ascent of the wall above the House of David and clear to the Water Gate to the east. ([Nehemiah 12:37](#))
- And the other thanksgiving choir was walking in front, and I after it, also half of the people, upon the wall up over the Tower of the Bake Ovens and on to the Broad Wall. ([Nehemiah 12:38](#))
- And up over the Gate of Ephraim and on to the Gate of the Old City and clear to the Fish Gate and the Tower of Hananel and the Tower of Meah and on to the Sheep Gate, and they came to a stand at the Gate of the Guard. ([Nehemiah 12:39](#))
- At length the two thanksgiving choirs came to a stand at the house of the true God, also I and half of the deputy rulers with me. ([Nehemiah 12:40](#))
- And the priests Eliakim, Maaseiah, Miniamin, Micaiah, Elioenai, Zechariah, Hananiah with the trumpets. ([Nehemiah 12:41](#))
- And Maaseiah and Shemaiah, and Eleazar and Uzzi and Jehohanan and Malchijah and Elam and Ezer. And the singers with Izrahiah the overseer kept making themselves heard. ([Nehemiah 12:42](#))
- And they proceeded to sacrifice on that day great sacrifices and to rejoice, for the true God himself caused them to rejoice with great joy. And also the women and the children themselves

rejoiced, so that the rejoicing of Jerusalem could be heard far away. (**Nehemiah 12:43**)

- In addition to these impressive national ceremonies of **inauguration**, we read of a man **inaugurating**, or **initiating**, his house
- The officers too must speak to the people, saying; Who is the man that has built a new house and has not **inaugurated** it? Let him go and return to his house, for fear he may die in the battle and another man should **inaugurate** it. (**Deuteronomy 20:5**)
- And the superscription of Psalms 30, ascribed to David, designates it as; A song of **inauguration** of the house.
- When Nebuchadnezzar completed the erection of the huge image of gold on the Plain of Dura, he called together all the satraps, prefects, governor's, counselors, treasurers, judges, police magistrates, and all administrators of the jurisdictional districts for the impressive ceremonies of **inauguration**.
- Nebuchadnezzar thus hoped to unite all his subjects in worship. The three young Hebrews present at this affair refused to compromise their worship of Yehowah by participating in this national religion.
- Nebuchadnezzar the king made an image of gold, the height of which was sixty cubits and the breadth of which was six cubits. He set it up in the plain of Dura in the jurisdictional district of Babylon. (**Daniel 3:1**)
- And Nebuchadnezzar himself as king sent to assemble the satraps, the prefects and the governor's, the counselors, the treasurers, the judges, the police magistrates and all the administrators of the jurisdictional districts to come to the **inauguration** of the image that Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up. (**Daniel 3:2**)
- At that time the satraps, the prefects and the governor's, the counselors, the treasurers, the judges, the police magistrates and all the administrators of the jurisdictional districts were assembling themselves for the **inauguration** of the image that Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up, and they were standing in front of the image that Nebuchadnezzar had set up. (**Daniel 3:3**)
- And the herald was crying out loudly; To you it is being said, O

peoples, national groups and languages. ([Daniel 3:4](#))

- That at the time that you hear the sound of the horn, the pipe, the zither, the triangular harp, the stringed instrument, the bagpipe and all sorts of musical instruments, you fall down and worship the image of gold that Nebuchadnezzar the king has set up. ([Daniel 3:5](#))
- And whoever does not fall down and worship will at the same moment be thrown into the burning fiery furnace. ([Daniel 3:6](#))
- Because of this, at the same time as all the peoples were hearing the sound of the horn, the pipe, the zither, the triangular harp, the stringed instrument and all sorts of musical instruments, all the peoples, national groups and languages were falling down and worshipping the image of gold that Nebuchadnezzar the king had set up. ([Daniel 3:7](#))
- Because of this, at that same time certain Chaldeans approached and accused the Jews. ([Daniel 3:8](#))
- They answered, and they were saying to Nebuchadnezzar the king; O king, live on even for times indefinite. ([Daniel 3:9](#))
- You yourself, O king, set forth the command that every man that hears the sound of the horn, the pipe, the zither, the triangular harp, the stringed instrument, and the bagpipe and all sorts of musical instruments, should fall down and worship the image of gold. ([Daniel 3:10](#))
- And that whoever would not fall down and worship should be thrown into the burning fiery furnace. ([Daniel 3:11](#))
- There exist certain Jews whom you appointed over the administration of the jurisdictional district of Babylon, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, these able-bodied men have paid no regard to you, O king, they are not serving your own gods, and the image of gold that you have set up they are not worshipping. ([Daniel 3:12](#))
- At that time Nebuchadnezzar, in a rage and fury, said to bring in Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. Consequently these able-bodied men were brought in before the king. ([Daniel 3:13](#))

- **Nebuchadnezzar was answering and saying to them; Is it really so, O Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, that you are not serving my own gods, and the image of gold that I have set up you are not worshipping? (Daniel 3:14)**
- **Now if you are ready so that when you hear the sound of the horn, the pipe, the zither, the triangular harp, the stringed instrument, and the bagpipe and all sorts of musical instruments, you fall down and worship the image that I have made, all right. But if you do not worship, at that same moment you will be thrown into the burning fiery furnace. And who is that god that can rescue you out of my hands? (Daniel 3:15)**
- **Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego answered, and they were saying to the king; O Nebuchadnezzar, we are under no necessity in this regard to say back a word to you. (Daniel 3:16)**
- **If it is to be, our God whom we are serving is able to rescue us. Out of the burning fiery furnace and out of your hand, O king, he will rescue us. (Daniel 3:17)**
- **But if not, let it become known to you, O king, that your gods are not the ones we are serving, and the image of gold that you have set up we will not worship. (Daniel 3:18)**
- **Then it was that Nebuchadnezzar himself got filled with fury, and the very expression of his face was changed toward Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. He was answering and saying to heat up the furnace seven times more than it was customary to heat it up. (Daniel 3:19)**
- **And to certain able-bodied men of vital energy who were in his military force he said to bind Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, in order to throw them into the burning fiery furnace. (Daniel 3:20)**
- **Then it was that these able-bodied men were bound in their mantles, their garments and their caps and their other clothing and were thrown into the burning fiery furnace. (Daniel 3:21)**
- **Just because the king's word was harsh and the furnace was heated to excess, these able-bodied men that took up Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were the ones that the fiery flame killed. (Daniel 3:22)**

- But these other able-bodied men, the three of them, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, fell down bound in the midst of the burning fiery furnace. ([Daniel 3:23](#))
- At that time Nebuchadnezzar the king himself became frightened and he rose up in a hurry. He was answering and saying to his high royal officials; Was it not three able-bodied men that we threw bound into the midst of the fire? They were answering and saying to the king; Yes, O king. ([Daniel 3:24](#))
- He was answering and saying; Look! I am beholding four able-bodied men walking about free in the midst of the fire, and there is no hurt to them, and the appearance of the fourth one is resembling a son of the gods. ([Daniel 3:25](#))
- Then it was that Nebuchadnezzar approached the door of the burning fiery furnace. He was answering and saying; Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, you servants of the Most High God, step out and come here! At that time Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego were stepping out from the midst of the fire. ([Daniel 3:26](#))
- And the satraps, the prefects and the governor's and the high officials of the king that were assembled were beholding these able-bodied men, that the fire had had no power over their bodies, and not a hair of their head had been singed, and even their mantles had not been changed and the smell of fire itself had not come onto them. ([Daniel 3:27](#))
- Nebuchadnezzar was answering and saying; Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, who sent his angel and rescued his servants that trusted in him and that changed the very word of the king and gave over their bodies, because they would not serve and would not worship any god at all except their own God. ([Daniel 3:28](#))
- And from me an order is being put through, that any people, national group or language that says anything wrong against the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego should be dismembered, and its house should be turned into a public privy, forasmuch as there does not exist another god that is able to deliver like this one. ([Daniel 3:29](#))

- At that time the king himself caused Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego to prosper in the jurisdictional district of Babylon. (Daniel 3:30)
- To this day the Jews annually celebrate what they call Hanukkah in the month of December. This is in remembrance of the **inauguration** Hebrew, *chanuk-kah'* festival that followed the **cleansing of the temple** by **Judas Maccabaeus** in **165 B.C.E.** after it had been polluted by Antiochus IV Epiphanes.
- At that time the **festival of dedication** took place in Jerusalem. It was wintertime. (John 10:22)

See Also FESTIVAL OF DEDICATION