

The Eight Lights of Hanukkah



The first light is the light of **REASON**.

It is the light of reason that teaches us to see the difference between right and wrong.

The second light is the light of **SELF-ESTEEM**.

It is the light of self-esteem that inspires us to believe in ourselves.

The third light is the light of **COURAGE**.

It is the light of courage that gives us the strength to stand up for our beliefs.

The fourth light is the light of **FREEDOM**.

It is the light of freedom that reminds us to take responsibility for our own lives.

The fifth light is the light of **LOVE**.

It is the light of love that enables us to care for those in need.

The sixth light is the light of **LOYALTY**.

It is the light of loyalty that helps us keep our promises to those who depend on us.

The seventh light is the light of **GENEROSITY**.

It is the light of generosity that encourages us to give even when we do not receive.

The eighth light is the light of **HOPE**.

It is the light of hope that leads us to a vision of a better world.

by Marilyn Rowens, originally published in Humanistic Judaism, Winter 1979

Secular Humanistic Judaism embraces a human-centered philosophy that celebrates Jewish identity and culture without supernatural underpinnings. We believe in the human capacity to create a better world.

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