



THE TRIBE SCRIBE

SUCCOT: HAPPY DAYS!



IT'S **SUCCOT** - HAPPY DAYS! DID YOU KNOW THAT THE **TORAH** CALLS **SUCCOT** '**ZMAN SIMCHATEINU**' - THE TIME TO BE HAPPY?!

I'M SURE YOU KNOW THAT ON **SUCCOT** WE SIT IN THE **SUCCAH**. WE TAKE THE **ARBA MINIM** AND GENERALLY HAVE A HAPPY TIME, BUT DID YOU KNOW THAT IN THE TIME OF THE **BEIT HAMIKDASH** THERE WAS A SPECIAL CEREMONY THAT REALLY TURBO CHARGED THE **SIMCHA** FACTOR?



At daybreak on **Succot**, water would be drawn from the **Shiloach Spring** which would be used in the service of the **Beit Hamikdash**. Every night of **Chol Hamoed Succot** this water drawing was accompanied by the most wonderful celebration - the **SIMCHAT BEIT HASHOEVA**.



First were the **biblical floodlights!** Giant golden candlesticks, each with four golden bowls for oil and four ladders. Teenage **Kohanim** would climb the ladders carrying oil to light the lamps. When the lamps were lit the entire **Jerusalem** was filled with their light.

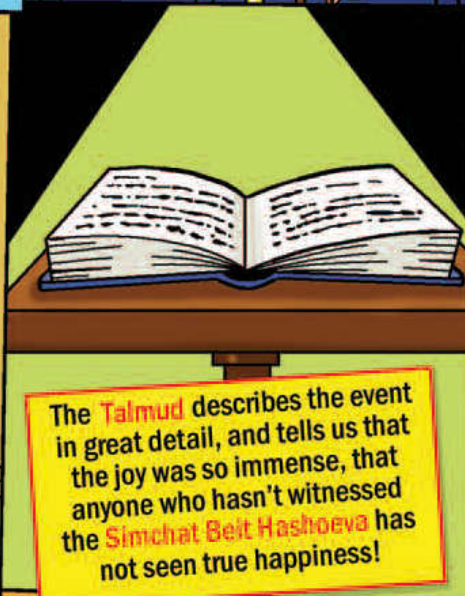


Bring on the music and entertainment! This was the biggest party of the year... Juggling, flame throwing, singing and dancing. Thousands of people would gather to watch and participate.

The great Sage, **Rabban Shimon Ben Gamliel** used to juggle with **EIGHT** flaming torches at the **Simchat Beit Hashoeva** - and he never dropped a single one!



The **Talmud** describes the event in great detail, and tells us that the joy was so immense, that anyone who hasn't witnessed the **Simchat Beit Hashoeva** has not seen true happiness!



WOAH, THAT SOUNDS EPIC! I WANT TO BE PART OF IT!



WELL WE DON'T HAVE A **BEIT HAMIKDASH** BUT YOU CAN STILL GO TO A **SIMCHAT BEIT HASHOEVA** CELEBRATION ON **SUCCOT!** **JERUSALEM** IS FILLED WITH THEM, SINGING AND DANCING AND LOADS OF FUN! BUT THEY'RE NOT ONLY IN **JERUSALEM**, YOU'LL FIND THEM ACROSS THE **JEWISH WORLD** IN MANY **COMMUNITIES**.

IS THERE A **SIMCHAT BEIT HASHOEVA** NEAR YOU?



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Tribe is the Young People's Department of the United Synagogue: Creating a future for our community through engaging, educating and inspiring the next generation.