



Religious Education

Key Knowledge

Different Interpretations of Genesis 1 and 2:

Literalists believe that the Torah is God's actual words, because of this they think it is absolute truth. They take what it says there literally. Therefore, they believe that God made the world and all that it is in it— completely and fully over the course of just 6 days (which lasted only 24 hours each.) They believe that there was nothing before God created the world and that's why they say he made the world ex nihilo ('out of nothing'.) They are also called creationists.

Other Jews, called relativists, believe that the Torah was inspired by God but written by people who just did their best job explaining the world so therefore they take it symbolically. They think the Torah tells us WHY the world was— because God created it but not HOW. Science explains how and that is God causing the Big Bang and driving evolution to happen.

An orthodox Jew- They believe in the written law of the Torah given by G-d to Moses which has total authority in everyday life. They also believe in the oral law of the Talmud which was given alongside and so has equal authority to the Torah.

Reform Jew-Began in 19th Century Germany to try to bring historical Jewish beliefs into modern day without the need to follow strict Jewish law precisely. They believe in God, the Torah and Israel.

The Shema:

"Hear, O Israel: The Lord your God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your might."

First Temple built in Jerusalem under King Solomon— 900 BCE

First Temple destroyed by the Babylonians who were fight Egypt— 586 BCE

Second Temple built in Jerusalem on the site of the original one— 444 BCE

Second Temple destroyed by the Romans after their occupation of Israel— 70 CE

Covenant with Adam:

They can't eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. God will let them live in the Garden of Eden forever and they'll never want for anything.

Covenant with Noah:

Everyone must obey the Noahicide code and God will not flood the world again.

Covenant with Abraham:

You must leave your homeland, worship the one true God and circumcise all the males in your household. God will give him the promised land, make his descendants great and give him a son.

Covenant with Moses:

Obey the mitzvot and worship God. Be your God, protect and remember you and give you the Promised Land.

Year 7

Key Context

Noahicide Code— the universal covenant that all people, not just Jews must obey:

No idolatry (worshipping idols instead of God.)

No blasphemy (denying God's existence or curing God.)

No murder.
No theft.

No adultery (cheating on your husband or wife.)

No cruelty to animals.

Legal justice for everyone.

The 10 Commandments

1. You shall not have any gods before me.
2. You shall not make for yourself any images of the things in heaven above, or the earth beneath, or in the waters below.
3. You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.
4. Remember that the Sabbath day and keep it holy.
5. Honour your father and mother, that you may live long in the land God will give you.
6. You shall not kill.
7. You shall not commit adultery.
8. You shall not steal.
9. You shall not bear false witness against thy neighbour.
10. Thou shall not covet thy neighbour's possessions.



Judaism

Key Vocabulary

Judaism	A religion following one God, followed by Jews
Jew	Person born to Jewish parents or someone who follows Jewish faith
Omnipotent	All powerful
Creator	God as the maker of the world
Omniscient	All knowing
Omnipresent	Everywhere
Indivisible	God cannot be divided, he is one
Infinite	God has no limits— not time, space, a body
Eternal	God has always been and will always be
Shema	Most important prayer in Judaism stating the oneness of God
Mezuzah	Scroll on the outside of the doorpost of Jewish homes containing Shema
Mitzvah	Law or commandment
Mitzvot	Laws or commandments
Synagogue	Jewish place of worship
Temple	Jewish place of pilgrimage where God's spirit lived in Jerusalem
Diaspora	Jews driven out of Israel to other lands
Star of David	Symbol of Judaism
Kosher	Food which is allowed to be eaten
Trefah	Food which cannot be eaten
Pesach	Passover— Moses saved the Jews from slavery in Egypt
Sedar Plate	Symbolic foods eaten or displayed on Pesach
Torah	Most important holy book for Jews— the Law of Moses