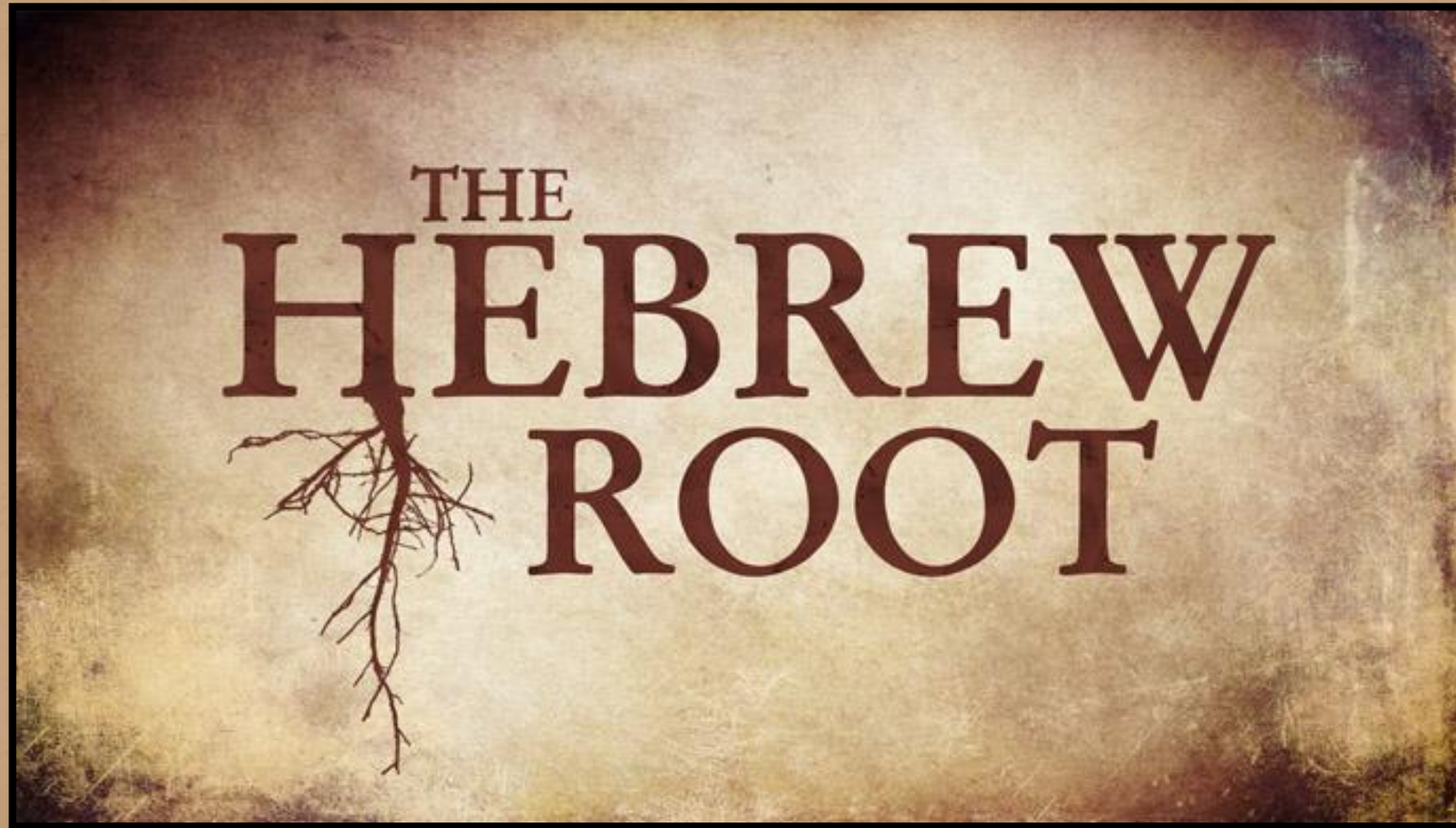


THE HEBREW ROOT



Rabbi Dr. Steve Coyle

I enjoy discovering and exploring the
Hebraic roots of our faith



Keep In Mind

When you hold the Holy Bible in your hand you are always to keep in mind it is a Jewish book.



The Bible

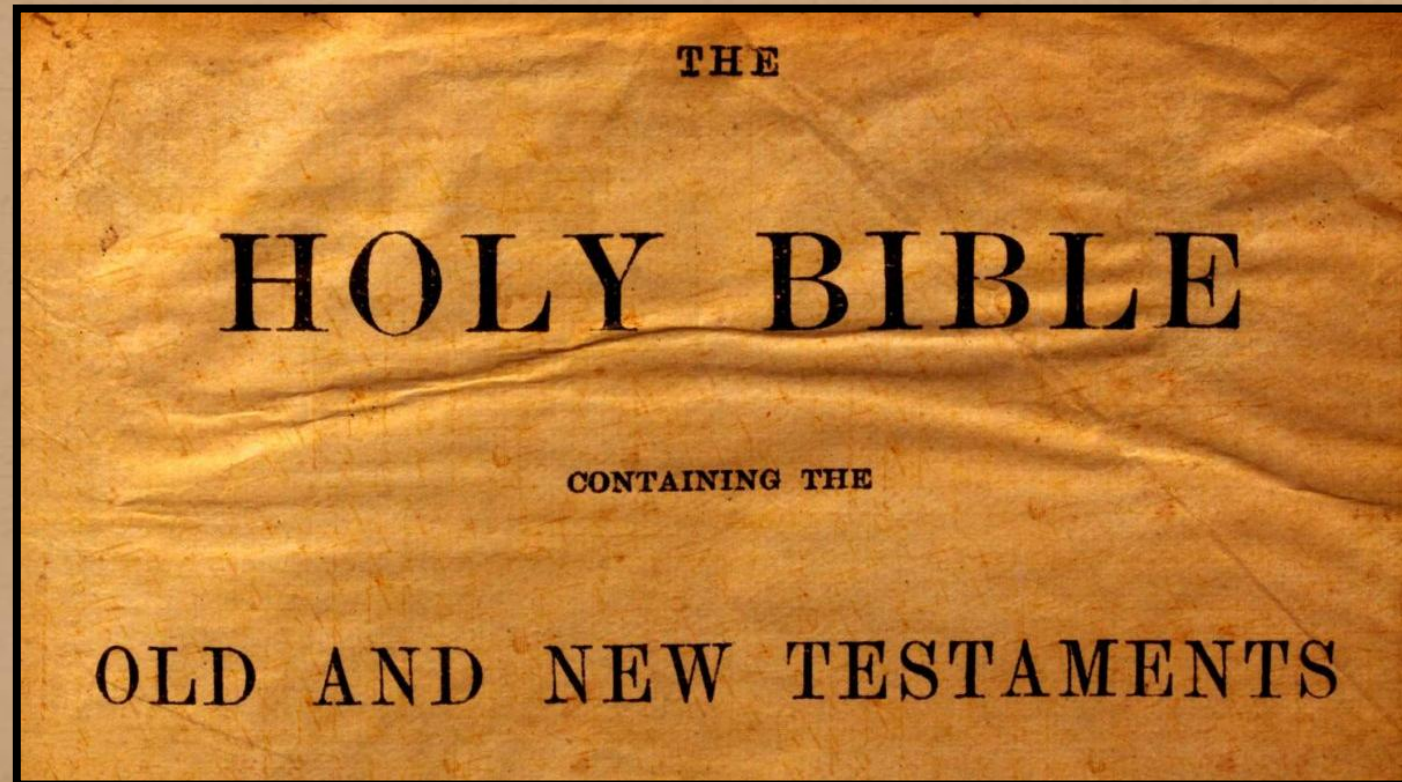
1. Introduces to us the God of the Jews
2. Introduces to us the Messiah of Israel – Yeshua
3. Was written by Jews who were inspired by God

When we read the Bible, we must do so from a
Jewish viewpoint and...



...we are to think
Hebraically if we are to
rightly understand it

**The Old Testament and New Testament
are linked together, and you cannot have
one without the other**



A Scriptural Archaeologist



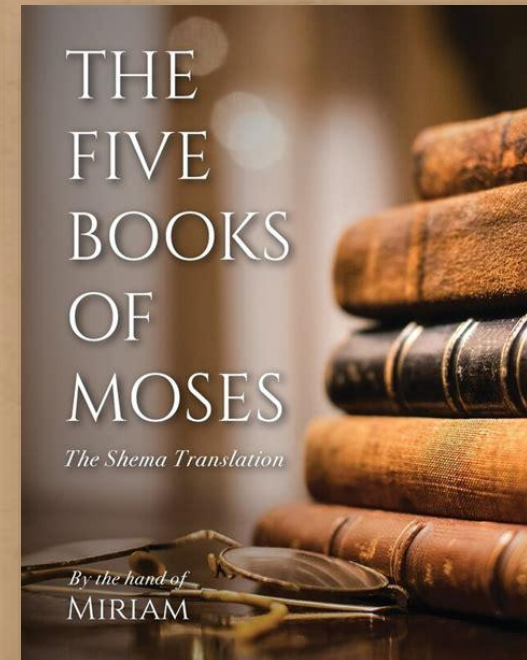
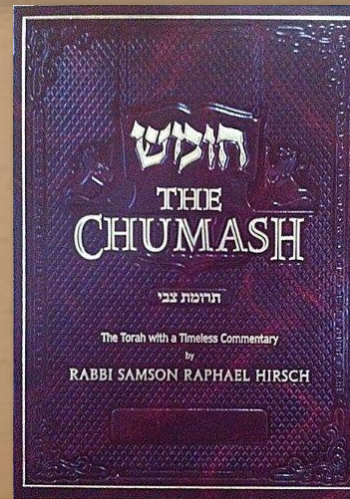
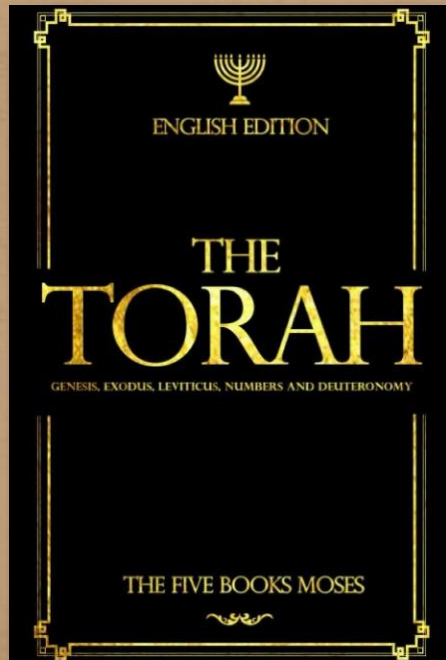
Who is an
archaeologist?

I like to dig into the rich Hebraic soil of the Word of God and uncover the biblical artifacts of our spiritual heritage.



Something I've Discovered

It is the Torah, Pentateuch, the Five Books of Moses, and in Hebrew the Chumash.





Andy Stanley
The pastor of North Point Community Church
in Atlanta, Georgia



Christians need to “unhitch” the Old Testament
from their understanding of the faith



My response was one of surprise, not at what Andy Stanley said, but at the negative reaction of religious people on such a broad scale

What Andy said is a belief that Christianity has taught for hundreds of years



**The 1,700 year anniversary of the
Council of Nicaea in 325 AD.**



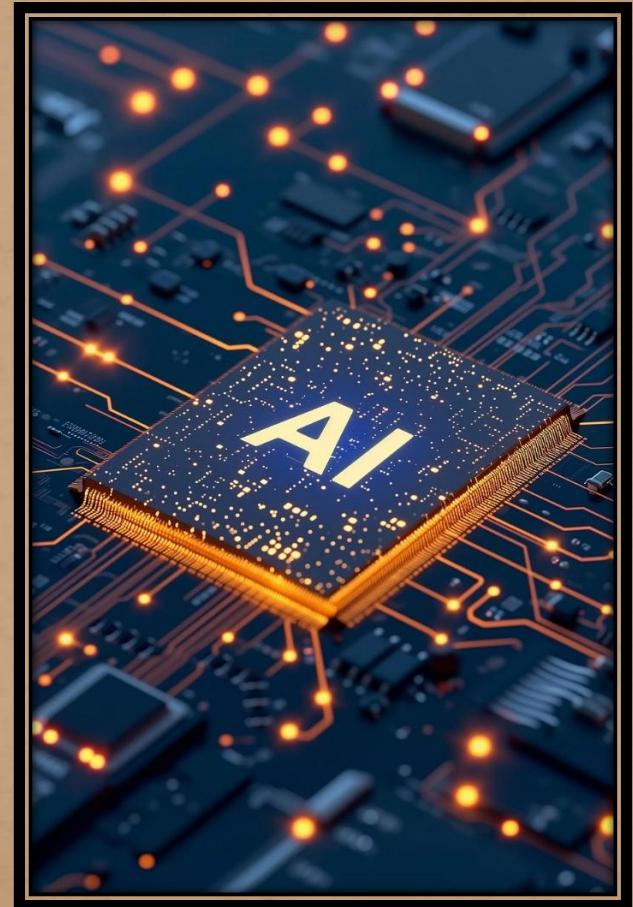
- It was commonly taught that the Law was obsolete and that the New Testament had replaced the Old Testament.
- It was understood that Christianity was built on a New Covenant and that the Old Covenant was done away with.
- That's what I was taught and what I believed.

The
THE OBSOLETE
Old Testament

The
THE REPLACEMENT
New Testament

**Do Baptist
believe that the
New Covenant
has replaced the
Old Covenant?**

**What Does
AI Say?**

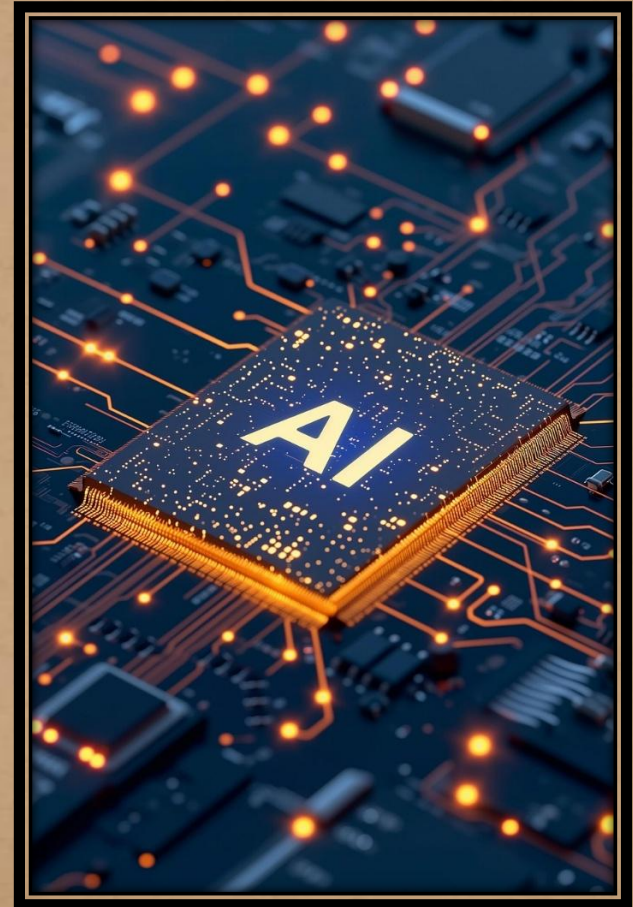




“Yes, Baptists generally believe that the New Covenant, established through Jesus Christ, has replaced the Old Covenant.”

What Does AI Say?

**Do Baptist
believe that the
New Testament
has replaced the
Old Testament?**





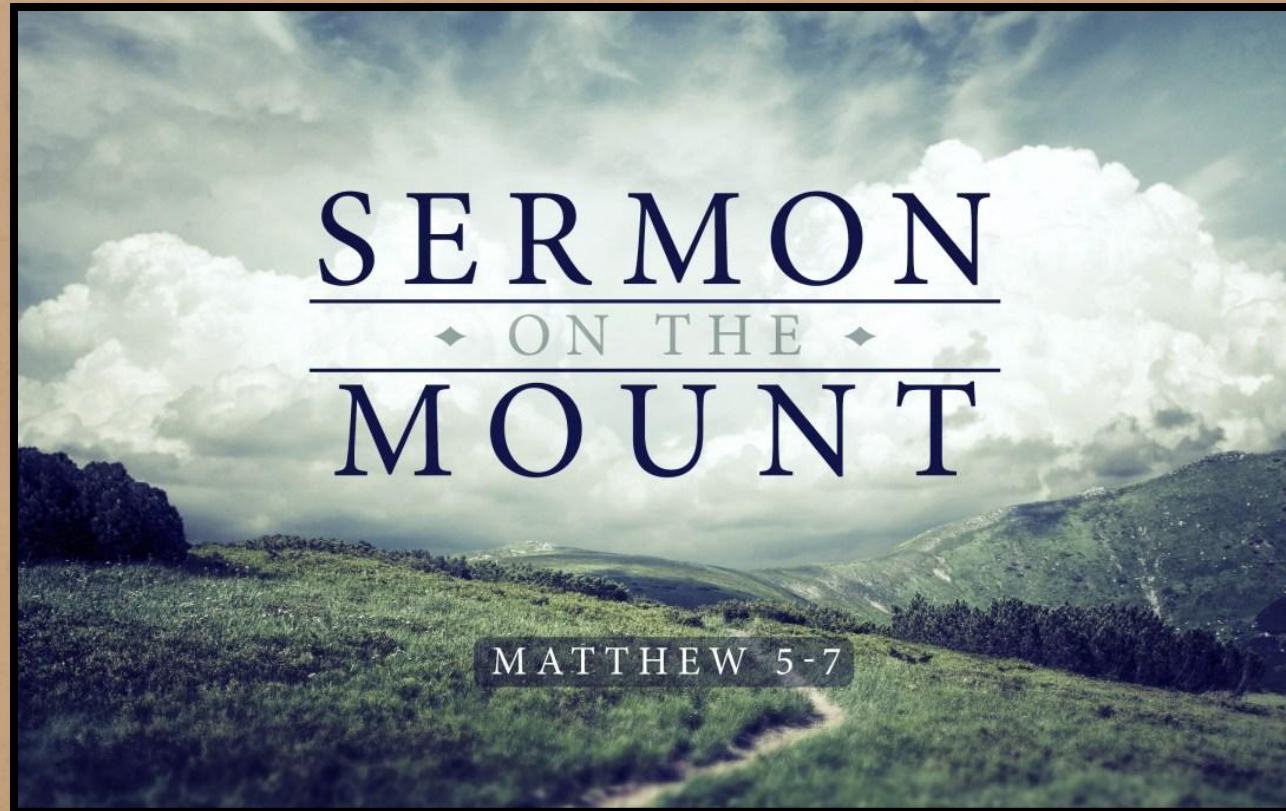
“Yes, Baptists generally believe that the New Testament fulfills and supersedes the Old Testament.”

REVELATION KNOWLEDGE

- Then came the day, however, that it all changed.
- What I had been taught and believed about the Law and Old Testament was “flipped on its head.”
- It was a work of the Holy Spirit who gave me a revelation knowledge.

- I no longer believed that the Old Testament and the Law were done away with by the writing of the New Testament.
- I realized, that for me to interpret and understand the New Testament properly, I had to first read and have a working knowledge of the Old Testament.

How you ever read the Sermon On The Mount?





Do not think that I came to abolish the Torah or the Prophets! I did not come to abolish, but to fulfill. Amen, I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or serif shall ever pass away from the Torah until all things come to pass...



...Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others the same, shall be called least in the kingdom of heaven. But whoever keeps and teaches them, this one shall be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

Matthew 5:17-19 TLV



*Jesus said, If you love Me, you will
keep My commandments.*

John 14:14 NASB



*So then, the Torah is holy, and the
commandment is holy and righteous
and good.*

Romans 7:12 TLV



*For this is the love of God,
that we keep His commandments;
and His commandments are not
burdensome.*

I John 5:3 NASB



*Here is the perseverance of the saints who
keep the commandments of God and their
faith in Jesus.*

Revelation 14:12 NASB

Torah Means Instruction

- My interest soon turned to exploring the Law and the Pentateuch. Thus, I found myself turning more to Jewish writings for my research.
- I discovered that Judaism refers to the Law as Torah which literally means “instruction.”

*Torah
Instruction*

Reading Torah Portions



- Something I learned during my journey of discovery about the Torah was that it has been a time-honored practice within Judaism to read the Torah through during the course of a year.
- The Torah had been divided into portions which were read on a weekly basis and by reading the weekly portions you can read the Torah in a year.



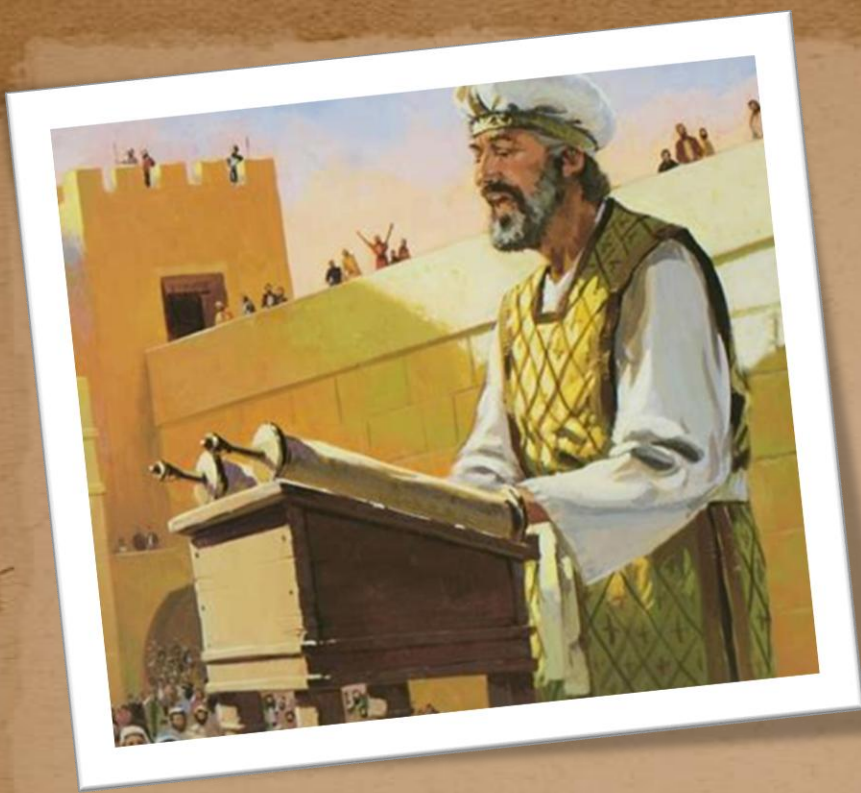
*Torah
Portion*

What Is the Torah Portion?

DEUTERONOMY

31:10-12

The first mention of a scheduled Torah reading cycle appears in the Torah. In Deuteronomy, Moses instructed the tribe of Levi and the elders of Israel to gather all the people for a public reading of the Torah once every seven years at the time of the Feast of Tabernacles



It was following the Babylonian exile, when Nehemiah, Ezra and the Great Assembly had returned to Israel.

The custom of a weekly reading of the Torah was established. This led to the creation of a weekly practice of reading passages of Scripture from the Torah in the synagogues.
(Neh. 8:1-3; Luke 4:18,19)



The Palestinian Triennial Torah Cycle

After the destruction of the Second Temple in 70 C.E. during the Talmudic era (6th century C.E.), the Palestinian Triennial Torah reading cycle was established in Israel.

The Torah books and chapters were divided into sections or portions in such a manner that, when followed, it took three years to read the complete Torah.

The Babylonian Annual Torah Cycle

The Jews of Babylon, however, followed a different custom in reading the Torah.

By the beginning of the 7th century C.E., they had established a system of reading the Torah through in one year.

Names and titles were eventually given to each portion by using the first Hebrew words from the opening verse.

Which One - Annual or Triennial?



By the Middle Ages, the annual reading cycle was predominant among Orthodox Jews. Since the 19th century, many Jewish congregations in the Conservative, Reform, Reconstructionist and Renewal movements have adopted the triennial cycle of reading the Torah. As for the Messianics, most have adopted the annual Torah reading cycle.



Simchat TORAH

The schedule for reading the Torah annually was based on the conclusion of the moedim (festivals). “Simchat Torah” (Rejoicing in the Torah) was established by the Babylonian Jews, around the year 1000, to be the time for the beginning of the annual reading cycle of the Torah.



TORAH

PORTIONS

"Man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD." Deuteronomy 8:3

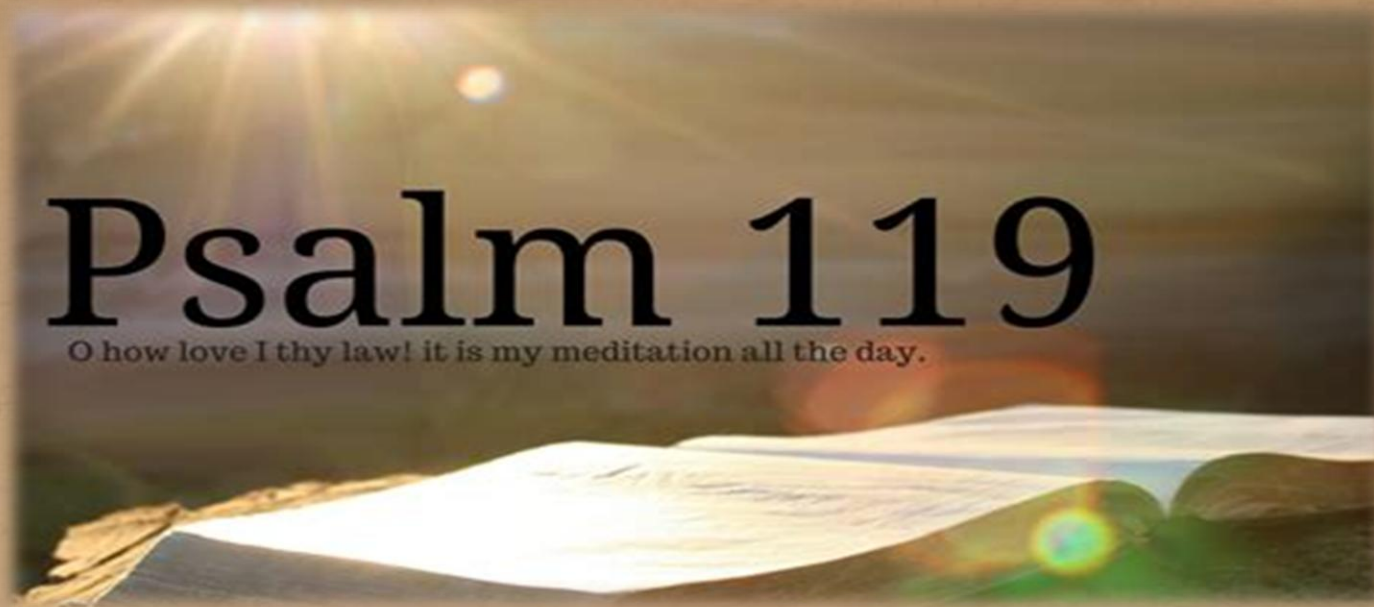
GENESIS / B'REISHEET | בראשית

#	NAME	DATE	HEB. DATE	TORAH	HAFTARAH	GOSPEL
1	B'REISHEET	22 OCT. '22	27 TISHREI	GEN. 1:1–6:8	ISA. 42:5–43:10	JN. 1:1–17
2	NOACH	29 OCT. '22	4 CHESHVAN	GEN. 6:9–11:32	ISA. 54:1–55:5	LK. 17:20–27
3	LECH LECHA	5 NOV. '22	11 CHESHVAN	GEN. 12:1–17:27	ISA. 40:27–41:16	JN. 8:51–58
4	VAYERA	12 NOV. '22	18 CHESHVAN	GEN. 18:1–22:24	2 KGS. 4:1–37	LK. 17:28–37
5	CHAYEI SARAH	19 NOV. '22	25 CHESHVAN	GEN. 23:1–25:18	1 KGS. 1:1–31	JN. 4:3–14
6	TOLDOT	26 NOV. '22	2 KISLEV	GEN. 25:19–28:9	MAL. 1:1–2:7	MT. 10:21–38
7	VAYETZE	3 DEC. '22	9 KISLEV	GEN. 28:10–32:3(2)*	HOS. 12:13(12)–14:10(9)*	JN. 1:41–51
8	VAYISHLACH	10 DEC. '22	16 KISLEV	GEN. 32:4(3)–36:43*	OBA. 1–21	MT. 2:13–23
9	VAYESHEV	17 DEC. '22	23 KISLEV	GEN. 37:1–40:23	AMO. 2:6–3:8	MT. 1:18–25
10	MIKETZ	24 DEC. '22	30 KISLEV	GEN. 41:1–44:17	ZEC. 2:14–4:7	LK. 24:13–29
11	VAYIGASH	31 DEC. '22	7 TEVET	GEN. 44:18–47:27	EZE. 37:15–28	LK. 24:30–48
12	VAYECHI	7 JAN. '23	14 TEVET	GEN. 47:28–50:26	1 KGS. 2:1–12	JN. 13:1–19

New and Exciting



- When I began the new practice of reading the weekly Torah Portions, at first there was the excitement and enthusiasm, but the excitement began to wane.
- I paused to re-evaluate what I was doing and why I was doing it.



- I didn't want to read the Torah Portion just so I could check it off the list and at the end of the year say, "Look what I did!" I was reading God's Word, and I should approach it with intent.
- I was particularly moved by the writer of Psalm 119.



He wrote 176 verses with each one making a profound statement about one subject, the Torah. Here are three of the verses that renewed my interest in reading the Torah.



*Open my eyes so I may behold
wonders from Your Torah.*

Psalm 119:18 TLV



*Give me understanding, that I
may keep Your Torah and
observe it with all my heart.*

Psalm 119:34 TLV



*O how I love Your Torah!
It is my meditation all day.*

Psalm 119:97 TLV



A Blessing Before Reading Torah

In the Orthodox Jewish Siddur, the rabbis state that before the study of Torah one is to recite a blessing.

Here it is in part.



*“Blessed are You, Adonai our God, King
of the universe, Who has sanctified us
with His commandments and has
commanded us to engulf ourselves in the
words of Torah.*



*Please Adonai, our God, sweeten the words of
Your Torah in our mouth and in the mouth of
Your people, the House of Israel. May
we...study Your Torah for its own sake.
Blessed are You, Adonai, Who teaches Torah to
His people..."*

Torah Reading with

THE
Right
MOTIVE



So, with the verses from Psalm 119 and the blessing from the Siddur, I can approach the weekly Torah reading with a proper motive and sincere interest. It is my prayer that you too will make Torah reading part of your Bible reading agenda as I have.



*Show me Your ways, Adonai.
Teach me Your paths.
Guide me in Your truth,
and teach me,
for You are God, my salvation,
for You I wait all day.*

Psalm 25:4,5 CJB