



Judaism

Key Vocabulary

1	Abraham	The founder of Judaism and husband of Sara.
2	Covenant	An agreement between two sides (between humans and God).
3	Sara	Female leader, mother of nations and wife of Abraham.
4	Isaac	The son of Abraham and Sara.
5	Moses	Leader who freed the Israelites from slavery and was given the 10 commandments.
6	Miriam	Prophetess who helped her brother Moses lead the Israelites out of slavery.
7	Exodus	A book in the Bible which tells the story of the Israelites being freed from slavery.
8	Ten Commandments	Ten rules given to Moses by God about how humans should behave.
9	Esther	A Jewish queen who saved her people from a plot to destroy them.
10	Monotheism	The belief that there is only one God.
11	Shema	An important prayer, declaring the oneness of God.
12	Messiah	A future Jewish king who is expected to bring peace.
13	Genesis	A book in the Bible which describes the creation of the world.
14	Mitzvot	613 rules in the Torah which guide Jews in their behaviour.
15	Tikkun Olam	“Repairing the world”, encouraging actions that improve society and bring justice.
16	Synagogue	A Jewish place of worship, study and community.
17	Bar/Bat Mitzvah	Coming of age ceremony (Bar Mitzvah for boys and Bat Mitzvah for girls).
18	Pesach/Passover	A Jewish holiday which commemorates the Exodus story.
19	Shabbat	A day of rest and worship observed from Friday evening to Saturday evening.
20	Orthodox	A branch of Judaism that follows traditional beliefs, laws and practices.
21	Progressive	A branch of Judaism that adapts traditional beliefs, laws and practices to fit modern life.
22	Prophecy	A message given to humans from God, usually to a prophet.

Holy Books

The Tanakh	Hebrew Bible, which includes three parts: the Torah, Nevi'im and Ketuvim.
The Torah	Holiest scripture for Judaism. The word means “law” in Hebrew. Written by Moses. Also important in Christianity and Islam.
Nevi'im	Contains books of the Prophets, which tell the history of Israel God’s messages through the prophets.
Ketuvim	Contains various writings, including poetry, wisdom literature and historical accounts.
Talmud	Contains discussions and interpretations of the Torah, which guides Jewish law and practice.

Studying Religion

Theology is the study of God and ideas about God. Theologians look at how ideas about God influence beliefs in religions and the actions people will do.

Social Scientists use evidence to see how people are influenced by society. Social Scientists look at patterns in what people believe about God and how this may change due to time and place.

