

The Shema

While the Jewish people have never written out a religious creed, we have, from ancient times, considered Deuteronomy 6:4 to be our "confession of faith". So important is this verse from the Torah for us that we



have come to refer to it by the first word, שמתע, shema.

Actually, the Shema consist of a number of Scriptures from the Torah but its most recognized verse is from Deuteronomy 6:4 which states: Hear O Israel the Lord is our God, the Lord is ONE. The first word in Deuteronomy 6:4 is the word Shema which is a Hebrew word meaning "listen up". The word Shema is often teamed with the word "For phi kol, meaning "voice" or "His voice". Here, in the Shema, the word "hear" is a command, and so carries the idea of listen up to what God is saying. The idea is not that we just hear with our ears but that we would also be obedient with our lives to what God has said.

God's voice is heard when we listen or read the Scriptures. God's voice was heard when He gave the Torah to Moshe on Mount Sinai. The commands given to us in the Torah are meant to give us a good and long life. If we will be obedient to what God has commanded, then we will fulfill the desire of the Shema in its call to hear/obey God's Word. The one thing that God wants most from His people is their unconditional obedience to His Torah. Every Shabbat we stand and recite the Shema facing east (the direction of Jerusalem). We demonstrate our love for God by carefully guarding all of His commands. In order to be obedient to God's word we must know what His word says. In order to obey God's word we must be students of His word. May all of us be obedient students of our God's gracious words of truth.

The primary confession of the Shema is that there is only One true God, and He is HaShem, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. While all of the peoples around ancient Israel believed in many false gods (which are demons), the Torah given to us on Mount Sinai made known that there is only One true God. As such, we are compelled to give Him all of our allegiance and to serve Him alone. Each week when we recite the Shema together, we are confessing that HaShem alone is the God of this universe.

Word Search

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TORAH	COMMAND	TEACH
LISTEN	TRUTH	GUARD
WORD	YESHUA	HONOR
LEARN	HEAR	FAITHFUL
OBEY	SHEMA	TANAKH
BIBLE		REMEMBER

OUR PRAYERS

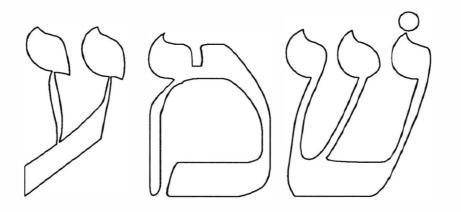


תפילותינו

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KEDUSHAH	MORNING SERVICE	א שַׁחֲרִית ×
HALLEL	フラフ . ADDITIONAL 2 SERVICE	ב מוסָף
PSALMS	AFTERNOON 3 SERVICE	ץ מִנְחָה
BLESSING	TTTT M EVENING + SERVICE	ד. מַעֲרִיב

ה שְׁמוֹנֶה־עֶשְׂרֵה - שְׁמוֹנֶה עִשְׂרֵה - אַמוֹנֶה בּאַשְּרֵה - שְׁמוֹנֶה בּאַשְּׁרֵה - אַ



Hear O Israel, the LORD is our God, the LORD is one. And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words which I command you today shall be on your heart.