

Component 3 A Study of a World Faith—Judaism: Practices

1) Worship: Practice in Britain and Elsewhere

1. Orthodox and Reform synagogue services.
2. What is Shabbat? How is it celebrated? (Exodus 20:8-10)
3. Prayer: Why is it important? How is it carried out?
4. What is the Shema? The Amidah The Muzuza?
5. Daily prayer—Modeh Ani, Chumash and Siddur.
6. How is Shabbat celebrated in the home by Orthodox and Reform Jews? (Exodus 20:8-10)
7. Religious clothing—What is the Tallit gadol, the kippah or yarmulka and Tefillin?

2) The Synagogue

1. What is a synagogue? How is it used by the community?
2. The features of a synagogue. Magen David—Star of David. Synagogue should face Jerusalem. No pictures or statues. Aron Ha-Kodesh—The Ark. The Torah Scrolls—Sefer Torah. The Ner Tamid and Menorah—Everlasting light and the seven branched candlestick. The Bimah—raised platform for the scrolls. Women’s seating

3) Key Words / Concepts

- Synagogue
- Torah
- Shekinah
- Mitzvot
- Shabbat
- Messiah
- Kosher
- Covenant

4) Rituals

1. The role and importance of Brit Milah: Covenant identity and the main parts of the ceremony. What additional ceremony do Orthodox Jews observe for a first born son?
2. Bar Mitzvah: Religious law and personal responsibilities. What are the main features of the ceremony?
3. What are the Orthodox and Reform views regarding Bat Mitzvah and Bat Chayil?
4. How are these two ceremonies carried out?
5. Marriage: Genesis 2:24. What happens at a Jewish wedding? The marriage contract. The Marriage Chuppah. Orthodox and Reform. Part 1 Kiddushin, Part 2 Nisuin.

6) Festivals: Practices in Britain and Elsewhere

- Know the origins of, meaning of and how Jews celebrate the following festivals:
- Rosh Hashanah—New Year
- Yom Kippur—Day of Atonement
- Sukkot
- Pesach: Exodus 12:14 (Passover)
- The Seder Meal
- Know the differences and similarities amongst Orthodox and Reform Jews when they practice these festivals.

5) Daily Life

1. What is the Tenakh, the Oral Torah, the Mishnah, the Talmud, the Midrash?
2. What is the importance of the Tenakh and Talmud in everyday Jewish life.

Dietary Laws and Their Importance

1. What is Kosher and Trefah?
2. Why and how do Jews separate milk and meat?
3. What are the requirements of a Kosher kitchen? Read Leviticus 11:1-23.
4. Is it easy or hard keeping Kosher in Britain? Benefits and challenges.

Practices



