

Section 1: Books of the Torah / Bible (OT) 1. Genesis 2. Exodus 3. Leviticus 4. Numbers 5. Deuteronomy Section 2: Genesis Genesis: Creation God created the world ex nihilo (from nothing). Humans made in ‘the image of God’. Adam and Eve live in the Garden of Eden. God tells them not to eat from the Tree of Knowledge. The serpent tempts Adam and Eve to disobey God. This is known as Original Sin. Adam’s punishment: work the land, hard labour. Exile. Eve’s punishment: painful childbirth. Exile. Signifies <u>broken relationship between humans and God</u>. Genesis: Noah God sent rain for forty days and forty nights. Noah chosen to build an ark because he was righteous. Noah was six hundred years old when the flood came. Noah sent a dove who came back with an olive leaf to show the flood waters had gone. Covenant made, God will never send a flood like this again. Genesis: Abraham God told Abraham to establish monotheism and He will bless him. Abraham was seventy five years old. Abraham and his wife Sarah did not have children. God blessed Abraham with a son from Hagar called Ishmael and a son from Sarah called Isaac. Start of the covenant; <u>blessed land with descendants who will be looked after by God</u>. God tested Abraham by telling him to sacrifice Isaac in the region of Moriah.	Section 3: Exodus Israelites were living in Egypt when the pharaoh captured them as slaves. Boys were being massacred so Moses’ mother put him in a basket and sent him down the river. He was discovered by the pharaoh’s family and <u>Moses was raised as a prince</u>. Moses killed an Egyptian guard beating an Israelite slave and fled. Moses lived as a simple shepherd when God appeared to him from a burning bush telling him he had to return to free the Israelites. Moses’ brother, now the pharaoh, said he would not release the slaves so God sent down ten plagues. The tenth plague meant the eldest child in every family would be killed, the pharaoh lost his son so <u>released the Israelites</u>. After changing his mind, the pharaoh and his man chased after them but the Red Sea closed in on them and <u>drowned the Egyptians</u>. Once the Israelites were free, God gave Moses the Ten Commandments on Mount Sinai. The Ten Commandments: 1-You shall have no Gods before me. 2-You shall not make yourself an image of anything in Heaven. 3-You shall not misuse the name of the Lord. 4-Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy. 5-Honour your mother and father. 6-You shall not murder. 7-You shall not commit adultery. 8-You shall not steal. 9-You shall not give false testimony against your neighbour. 10-You shalt not covet your neighbour’s house.	Section 4: Leviticus Leviticus is a manual on how to become pure. The Israelites became impure when they worshipped the golden calf. One important ritual in Leviticus is the Day of Atonement. Priests sacrifice a goat and takes another goat to take the sin of all the <u>community</u> and it is released into the wild. <u>This is called a scapegoat</u>. Section 5: Abraham in Arabia In Islam, the focus is on Ibrahim and his son Ishmael. Ibrahim left Hagar and Ishmael to get supplies. Hagar ran between Mount Safa and Marwa desperate as they were thirsty. God provided them with water called Zam Zam. Ibrahim and Ishmael built the Ka’ba, the house of God for worshippers to visit. They put the black stone in the eastern corner. The Ka’ba is the holiest <u>place in Islam</u>. Muhammad was the final prophet in Islam who had the word given to him by Allah over twenty three years. The first night of the revelation is called ‘The Night of the Power’ – Laylat-ul-Qadr. The Angel Jibril revealed this message to Muhammad from God. The three main messages were: 1. There is only one God 2. People must worship God 3. There will be a day of judgement. Section 6: The Tanakh (Judaism) All the Jewish scriptures together is called the Tanakh. The Tanakh includes: The Torah (five books) Law Nevi’im (nineteen books) Prophets Ketuvim (eleven books) Writings Talmud Oral law They are all written in Hebrew.	The Torah contains 613 mitzvot (laws). <u>The Torah means law or instruction and is known as the Book of Moses</u>. The Torah was written in 1312BC. There are different interpretations of the Torah and whether all teachings should be followed because of the time it was written in. The Nevi’im contains prophecies which are messages given to prophets by God. One prophet mentioned in the Nevi’im is Isaiah who received the message that the Israelites had to focus on their religion in order to reach the promised land. <u>The second message Isaiah received was that a messiah would come and save the Israelites</u>. A messiah is someone who will <u>bring peace</u> with his rule. The Ketuvim contains writings of important lessons in Judaism which some Jews see as a historical narrative whereas others see it as a symbolic story. Esther was married to the king but did not reveal she was Jewish as they were being persecuted. When she found out all Jews were due to be killed, she revealed her religion to her husband facing death herself. The Festival of Purim celebrates Esther’s actions by reading her story and dressing like her. The Talmud is known as the oral Torah because it was <u>passed down through speaking, not writing</u>. In the Talmud, rabbis and scholars discuss how to apply the commandments. Some Jewish people (Orthodox) see it as the direct word of God. Other Jewish people (Reform) see it as the words of Moses which were inspired by God. Orthodox Jews view the Talmud as <u>given by God</u>. Reform Jews view the Talmud as a <u>human creation</u>.	Section 7: Daily Prayer, Shabbat and the Synagogue (Judaism) The Shema prayer reminds Jews of monotheism. It tells Jews to do this prayer every day and wear it on their arms, head and doorposts. The Shema prayer is found in the Torah. The Amidah prayer gives blessings and praise God as well as ask God for help and thank Him. It is also known as the ‘standing prayer’. Tefillin are small leather boxes containing parts of the Torah worn on the head and arms. Shabbat is the seventh day of the week which is the <u>holy day of rest</u> for Jews. <u>Link back to the fourth commandment:</u> Remember the sabbath day and keep it holy. Orthodox Jews take this literally and do not use electricity on this day or cook or drive. Reform Jews may follow symbolically in a way that is meaningful to them. The Synagogue contains: The Torah Scrolls which are <u>handwritten on parchment</u> by scholars. The Ark where the scrolls are kept when not being used. A prayer hall which contains the ark and faces towards Jerusalem. A bimah which is a raised platform where the Torah is read from and prayers are led. A yad which is a pointer for the Torah when it is being read. They all contain the Star of David inside and outside of the building. Section 8: Practices (Judaism) Pesach is also known as Passover. Pesach is a time where Jews think about the story of Moses and Exodus. It is called Passover because the angel of death ‘passed over’ the doors of Israelites because they placed the blood of a	sacrificed lamb on their doorposts, so their firstborns were not killed as part of the 10 plagues. <u>‘So you will always remember tonight – it will be a special holiday for you. Because on this day I took all of your people out of Egypt in groups. So, all your descendants must remember this day’ – Exodus – The Torah</u> An important pat of Pesach is the seder meal. The seder meal takes place the first night of the festival and it involves eating food that symbolise the different parts of the story. The <u>oldest member of the family</u> will tell the story of Moses in Exodus to the table. The seder meal will contain: Matzah bread made without yeast as a reminder that the Israelites had to get ready quickly to leave Egypt. Lamb as a reminder of the lamb’s blood put over the doors of the Jewish people. Bitter herbs to represent the bitter, hard life of the Jewish slaves. Charoset (a sweet, nutty mixture) represents the cement that enslaved Jewish people were forced to build with in Egypt. Parsley in salt water to represent the salty tears of the enslaved Jewish people. A roasted egg represents offerings made to God and a new life out of slavery. Lettuce as a reminder of the new life Jews now have. Reform Jews include ‘Miriam’s cup’ with their seder meal to symbolise <u>the important role of Moses’ sister in the Exodus story</u>. The Bar / Bat Mitzvah is an important rite of passage for Jews. <u>A rite of passage is a special ceremony that mark someone’s journey through life</u>. The Bar / Bat Mitzvah is a ‘coming of age’ which means a transition	between childhood and adulthood. Bar = son Bat = daughter Mitzvah = commandment Bar mitzvah = son of the commandment Bat mitzvah = daughter of the commandment. Both ceremonies involve reading aloud in Hebrew in front of the community. Orthodox Jews only allow boys to read from the Torah, girls may read from another part of the Tanakh. This is not the case for Reform Jews and they also hold gender neutral ceremonies called a B’nai Mitzvah. Tikkun Olam is the Jewish idea that people have a responsibility to care for the world. <u>‘And God saw it was good.’ ‘The Lord God put the man in the garden of Eden to work the soil and take care of the garden.’</u> Tikkun Olam can include sustainable farming, providing free food to families in need, influencing decision makers to make better choices to do with the environment etc. Section 9: Jesus’ Sacrifice (Christianity) The Pharisees were a large and influential group known for <u>their strict observance of Jewish law</u>. The Pharisees clashed with Jesus over how to <u>interpret religious law</u>. Jesus was born in Bethlehem, just outside Jerusalem. The Bible teaches there will be a messiah who will save the <u>descendants of Abraham</u> from Roman rule – for Christians, this is Jesus. Jesus was seen as a rebel because he challenged the Pharisees and others and said they were interpreting God’s law wrong. <u>Jesus saw the temple being misused</u> and said it had been turned into the ‘den of thieves’ so flipped the tables and began whipping	those who were taking part in the trading and gambling happening there. At the Last Supper, Jesus took bread and said, ‘take it and eat, this is my body, do this in remembrance of me’. He then took the wine and said, ‘this is my blood, do this in remembrance of me.’ Jesus was killed by crucifixion because he was the <u>sacrifice for all of the sins of humankind</u>. He made a covenant with God on behalf of all humans. Those who <u>accepted Jesus as the son of God</u> branched off and became Christians, those <u>who did not accept this remained part of the Jewish faith</u>. Section 10: The Bible (Christianity) The word ‘Christ’ (from Greek) means messiah (in Hebrew). Jesus’ life and death is seen as a fulfilment for many of the Old Testament prophecies that the messiah <u>would bring hope and salvation to the world</u>. Jesus’ life and actions were recorded by his closest followers, known as disciples. Writings of Jesus’ birth, life and death are known as the Gospels. They can be found in the New Testament of the Bible. The Gospels are historical records but also share the <u>message of Jesus’ love, wisdom and the path to salvation</u>. The New Testament contains twenty seven books in total. Some of the books in the New Testament are letters written by Jesus’ followers like Paul, they are known as epistles. Christians today see themselves as part of the same salvation story that began with the Hebrew Bible (The Tanakh) and which continued with Jesus.	Section 11: Jesus’ Birth, Ministry, Death and Resurrection <u>The birth of Jesus is told in two of the Gospels: Matthew and Luke</u>. Jesus was born around 1AD when the Jewish people were living under Roman rule. The Angel Gabriel appeared to Mary and told her she was going to give birth to the son of God. Jesus had a very humble start, he was born in a manger to poor parents. Incarnation means to ‘become flesh’. The incarnation is God coming to earth as human (Jesus). ‘The Word of God became flesh’. Every year, Christians celebrate Christmas to mark Jesus’ birth. In many churches, an Advent candle is lit in the weeks before Christmas, each candle represents love, hope, peace and joy. The Sermon on the Mount is recorded in Matthew. In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus said that people should not just <u>follow strict law but follow the spirit of law. This means to love your enemies and pray for those who hurt us</u>. One of the most used prayers in Christianity is the Lord’s Prayer which teaches people how to <u>focus on God, ask for daily needs, seek forgiveness and avoid temptation</u>. Jesus often used parables, which were <u>short stories with a deeper meaning within them</u>. One of the most known parables is the Parable of the Sheep and Goats which teaches people to treat others well otherwise they will go to Hell. Miracles Jesus performed included <u>calming a storm, turning water into wine and healing the sick</u>. Holy week is a special time for Christians as it leads up to Jesus’ death and resurrection. <u>Holy week starts on Palm Sunday, which is when</u>	Jesus rode into Jerusalem. Jesus was crucified on Good Friday and resurrected on Easter Sunday, three days later. One of Jesus’ disciples, Judas, betrayed Jesus. <u>Jesus is often called ‘The lamb of God’ because Christians believe his death brought about forgiveness of sins and salvation</u>. For Christians, the resurrection of Christ symbolises they can one day have eternal life. <u>Easter is a time of joy and hope, celebrating Jesus’ victory over death and a promise of new life</u>. <u>Jesus lived for forty days after his resurrection</u>. After Jesus’ resurrection and before his ascension into Heaven, Jesus told others to ‘go and make disciples of all nations’. This is the Great Commission. At Jesus’ ascension into Heaven, he said that he will go back to his Father in Heaven but will send the holy spirit to guide humans. <u>This is known as the Trinity – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit</u>. Pentecost is known as the birthday of the <u>Christian Church</u> because the <u>disciples were empowered by the Holy Spirit</u> to begin their mission of spreading God’s word. Section 12: The Establishment and Growth of the Church Paul actively persecuted Christians but then had a <u>vision of Jesus on the road to Damascus</u> so started spreading the Gospels far and wide. Emperor Constantine converted to Christianity which helped make it the main religion of the Roman Empire. Christians belong to different groups known as denominations, such as the Catholic Church, Methodists and Church of England. The Catholic Church believes the Pope and bishops continue the work of apostles. Protestant Churches emphasise the Bible itself as the main source of authority. Sacraments are religious ceremonies that <u>brings God’s blessings. They are baptism, communion, marriage, confirmation, ordination, reconciliation and anointing the sick</u>.
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