

## The Books of the Tanach — Holy Scriptures (Written Law)

### THE TORAH

Genesis  
Exodus  
Leviticus  
Numbers  
Deuteronomy

### THE EARLY PROPHETS (Early Nevi'im)

Joshua  
Judges  
I & II Samuel  
I & II Kings

### THE LATTER PROPHETS (Latter Nevi'im)

Isaiah  
Jeremiah  
Ezekiel  
Hosea  
Joel  
Amos  
Obadiah  
Jonah  
Micah  
Nahum  
Habakkuk  
Zephaniah  
Haggai  
Zechariah  
Malachi

### THE WRITINGS (Ketuvim)

Psalms  
Proverbs  
Job  
Song of Songs  
Ruth  
Lamentations  
Ecclesiastes  
Esther  
Daniel  
Ezra  
Nehemiah  
I & II Chronicles

## The Great Classic Works of Rabbinic Law (Oral Law) and Commentary

The Mishnah — Compiled and edited about 200 C.E. by Yehuda Hanasi — containing six major divisions or "Orders" covering every aspect of Jewish Law.  
The Six Orders are:

Zeraim (Seeds) Ritual Laws, Blessings, Prayers  
Moed (Festivals) The Sabbath and all Festivals  
Nashim (Women) Marriage, Divorce, Relationships  
Nezikin (Damages) Civil and Criminal Law  
Kodashim (Holy things) Sacrificial Laws, Temple Observance  
Tohorot (Purification) Things Clean and Unclean

The Talmud — Compiled between 200 and 500 C.E. This great rabbinic work arranged according to the above Six Orders includes both the Mishnah and Gemara which is a commentary and further explanation of the Mishnah. Rabbinic writings from the Talmud which deal solely with legal matters are called *Halachah*. Statements from the rabbis discussing beliefs, attitudes, stories and opinions are called *Aggadah*. *Halachah* and *Aggadah* work together to provide guidelines and values by which a few must live.

The Mishnah Torah — Compiled in the Twelfth century by Rabbi Moses ben Maimon (Rambam) and includes both the Written and Oral Laws with commentary.  
The Shulchan Aruch — Compiled in 1515 by Rabbi Joseph Caro is the great code of law covering all aspects of Jewish Law applicable to today.

The Siddur — The Daily and Sabbath Prayerbook. The earliest version is that of Rav Amram Gaon of the 9th century C.E. containing all prayers for day to day observance. Siddurim vary from locale to locale and century to century, but are all based upon the canonization of the liturgy by Rabbi Gamliel II of the 1st century C.E.

The Mahzor — The Siddur used for High Holiday and Festival Observances.

The Haggadah — The guidebook - prayerbook used for the holiday of Passover. It contains all the prayers, songs and rituals needed for the Seder, the ritual meal of the festival.

## Old Testament Feasts and Other Sacred Days

NAME	OT REFERENCES	OT TIME	MODERN EQUIVALENT	DESCRIPTION	PURPOSE	NT REFERENCES
Sabbath	Ex 20:8-11; 31:12-17; Lev 23:3; Dt 5:12-15	7th day	Same	Day of rest; no work	Rest for people and animals	Mt 12:1-14; 28:1; Lk 4:16; Jn 6:9; Ac 13:42; Col 2:16; Heb 4:1-11
Sabbath Year	Ex 23:10-11; Lev 25:1-7	7th year	Same	Year of rest; fallow fields	Rest for land	
Year of Jubilee	Lev 25:8-55; 27:17-24; Nu 36:4	50th year	Same	Canceled debts; liberation of slaves and indentured servants; land returned to original family owners	Help for poor; stabilize society	
Passover	Ex 12:1-14; Lev 23:5; Nu 9:1-14; 28:16; Dt 16:1-3a, 4b-7	1st month (Abib) 14	Mar.-Apr.	Slaying and eating a lamb, together with bitter herbs and bread made without yeast, in every household	Remember Israel's deliverance from Egypt	Mt 26:17; Mk 14:12-26; Jn 2:13; 11:55; 1Co 5:7; Heb 11:28
Unleavened Bread	Ex 12:15-20; 13:3-10; 23:15; 34:18; Lev 23:6-8; Nu 28:17-25; Dt 16:3b, 4a, 8	1st month (Abib) 15-21	Mar.-Apr.	Eating bread made without yeast; holding several assemblies; making designated offerings	Remember how the Lord brought the Israelites out of Egypt in haste	Mk 14:1, 12; Ac 12:3; 1Co 5:18-8
Firstfruits	Lev 23:9-14	1st month (Abib) 16	Mar.-Apr.	Presenting a sheaf of the first of the barley harvest as a wave offering; making a burnt offering and a grain offering	Recognize the Lord's bounty in the land	Ro 6:23; 1Co 15:20-23
Weeks (Pentecost) (Harvest)	Ex 23:16a; 34:22a; Lev 23:15-21; Nu 28:26-31; Dt 16:9-12	3rd month (Sivan) 6	May-June	A festival of joy; mandatory and voluntary offerings, including the firstfruits of the wheat harvest	Show joy and thankfulness for the Lord's blessing of harvest	Ac 2:1-4; 20:18; 1Co 16:8
Trumpets (Later: Rosh Hashanah—New Year's Day)	Lev 23:23-25; Nu 29:1-6	7th month (Tishri) 1	Sept.-Oct.	An assembly on a day of rest commemorated with trumpet blasts and sacrifices	Present Israel before the Lord for his favor	
Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur)	Lev 16; 23:26-32; Nu 29:7-11	7th month (Tishri) 10	Sept.-Oct.	A day of rest, fasting and sacrifices of atonement for priests and people and atonement for the tabernacle and altar	Cleanse priests and people from their sins and purify the Holy Place	Ro 3:24-28; Heb 9:7; 10:3, 19-22
Tabernacles (Booths) (Ingathering)	Ex 23:16b; 34:22b; Lev 23:33-36a, 39-43; Nu 29:12-34; Dt 16:13-15; Zec 14:16-19	7th month (Tishri) 15-21	Sept.-Oct.	A week of celebration for the harvest; living in booths and offering sacrifices	Memorialize the journey from Egypt to Canaan; give thanks for the productivity of Canaan	Jn 7:37
Sacred Assembly	Lev 23:36b; Nu 29:35-38	7th month (Tishri) 22	Sept.-Oct.	A day of convocation, rest and offering sacrifices	Commemorate the closing of the cycle of feasts	
Purim	Est 9:18-32	12th month (Adar) 14, 15	Feb.-Mar.	A day of joy and feasting and giving presents	Remind the Israelites of their national deliverance in the time of Esther	

On Kislev 25 (mid-December) Hanukkah, the feast of dedication or festival of lights, commemorated the purification of the temple and altar in the Maccabean period (165/4 B.C.). This feast is mentioned in Jn 10:22.