

Fundamentals of Judaism

God and Torah

I. Biblical References

<p>1. Genesis 1 1 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. 2And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. 3And God said, Let there be light: and there was light. 4And God saw the light, that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness. 5And God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And the evening and the morning were the first day.</p>	<p>בראשית פרק א (א) בראשית ברא אלהים את השמים ואת הארץ : (ב) והארץ היתה תהו ובהו וחשך על פני תהום ורוח אלהים מרחפת על פני המים : (ג) ויאמר אלהים יהי אור ויהי אור : (ד) וברא אלהים את האור כי טוב ויבדל אלהים בין האור ובין החשך : (ה) ויקרא אלהים לאור יום ולחשך קרא לילה ויהי ערב ויהי בקר יום אחד :</p>
<p>2. Exodus 24 12And the LORD said unto Moses, Come up to me into the mount, and be there: and I will give thee tables of stone, and a law, and commandments which I have written; that thou mayest teach them. 13And Moses rose up, and his minister Joshua: and Moses went up into the mount of God.</p>	<p>שמות פרק כד (יב) ויאמר יקוק אל משה עלה אלי ההרה והיה שם ואתנה לך את לחות האבן והתורה והמצוה אשר כתבתי להורותם : (יג) ויקם משה ויהושע משרתו ויעל משה אל הר האלהים :</p>
<p>3. Deuteronomy 4 44And this is the law which Moses set before the children of Israel: 45These are the testimonies, and the statutes, and the judgments, which Moses spake unto the children of Israel, after they came forth out of Egypt.</p>	<p>דברים פרק ד (מד) וזאת התורה אשר שם משה לפני בני ישראל : (מה) אלה העדות והחקים והמשפטים אשר דבר משה אל בני ישראל בצאתם ממצרים :</p>
<p>4. Deuteronomy 31 9And Moses wrote this law, and delivered it unto the priests the sons of Levi, which bare the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and unto all the elders of Israel. 24And it came to pass, when Moses had made an end of writing the words of this law in a book, until they were finished, 25That Moses commanded the Levites, which bare the ark of the covenant of the LORD, saying, 26Take this book of the law, and put it in the side of the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God, that it may be there for a witness against thee.</p>	<p>דברים פרק לא (ט) ויכתב משה את התורה הזאת ויתנה אל הכהנים בני לוי הנשאים את ארון ברית יקוק ואל כל זקני ישראל : (כד) ויהי ככלות משה לכתב את דברי התורה הזאת על ספר עד תמם : (כה) ויצו משה את הלויים נשאי ארון ברית יקוק לאמר : (כו) לקח את ספר התורה הזה ושמתם אותו מצד ארון ברית יקוק אלהיכם והיה שם בך לעד :</p>

II. Belief in a God Independent of Torah

5. Brahmanism and Hinduism; or, Religious Thought and Life in India

What the deepest thinkers, even at that early period, felt with ever-increasing intensity was that a Spirit (Atman), beyond the cognizance of sense, permeated and breathed through all material things. They bethought them with awe of this same Spirit vivifying their own bodies with the breath of life – of this mysterious Presence enshrined in their own consciences. Then they identified this same Spirit with the divine afflatus thrilling through the imaginations of they own hymn-composers – with the spiritual efficacy of the hymns themselves, with the mystic power inherent in divine knowledge and prayer. This mysterious, all-pervading, vague spiritual Power and Presence, which was wholly unbound by limitations of personality and individuality, became at last a reality. This Breath of Life (Atman) received a name. They called it Brahman (nominative neuter Brahma from the root *brih*, 'to expand'), because it expended itself through all space. It was a pure essence which not only diffused itself everywhere, but constituted everything. Men, gods, and the visible world were merely its manifestations.

Brahmanism and Hinduism; or, Religious Thought and Life in India. Sir Monier Monier-Williams. P. 20-21.

III. Belief in Books

6. John 14

1Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. 2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 3And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. 4And whither I go ye know, and the way ye know. 5Thomas saith unto him, Lord, we know not whither thou goest; and how can we know the way? 6Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

7. Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone

Harry stretched out his hand at last to take the yellowish envelope, addressed in emerald green to Mr. H. Potter, The Floor, Hut-on-the-Rock, The Sea. He pulled out the letter and read: HOGWARTS SCHOOL of WITCHCRAFT and WIZARDRY Headmaster: ALBUS DUMBLEDORE (Order of Merlin, First Class, Grand Sorc., Chf. Warlock, Supreme Mugwump, International Confed. of Wizards) Dear Mr. Potter, We are pleased to inform you that you have been accepted at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. Please find enclosed a list of all necessary books and equipment. Term begins on September 1. We await your owl by no later than July 31. Yours sincerely, Minerva McGonagall, Deputy Headmistress