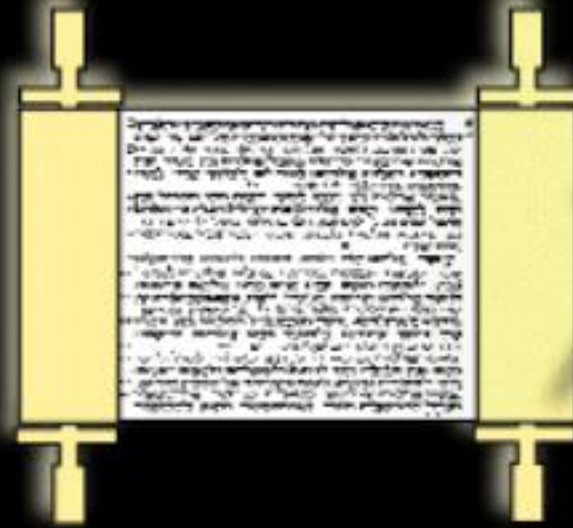


# Introduction to the Studying of the

**TORAH**  
\*  
תּוֹרָה



- TORAH = Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy
- Torah Class will add the JEWISHNESS back into the Bible
- Torah usually MISTRANSLATED into the word LAW in our Bibles

# TORAH MEANS “TEACHING”, NOT LAW



Greek Septuagint

- Torah is ONLY the 1<sup>st</sup> five books of the Bible
- Torah became a general word referring to any writing that even commented on Scripture

# 3 GROUPS OF WRITINGS MAKE UP THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES

- K'tuvim = Writings
- Nevi'im = Prophets
- Torah = Teachings
- Moses was given ONLY the Torah on Mt. Sinai
- Tradition = Oral Law or Oral Torah
- Hebrew *Tradition* same class as Church Doctrine
- *Tanakh* , Hebrew Scriptures, Scriptures, and O.T. are all the same thing





# CHRIST DID NOT ABOLISH THE TORAH (LAW)

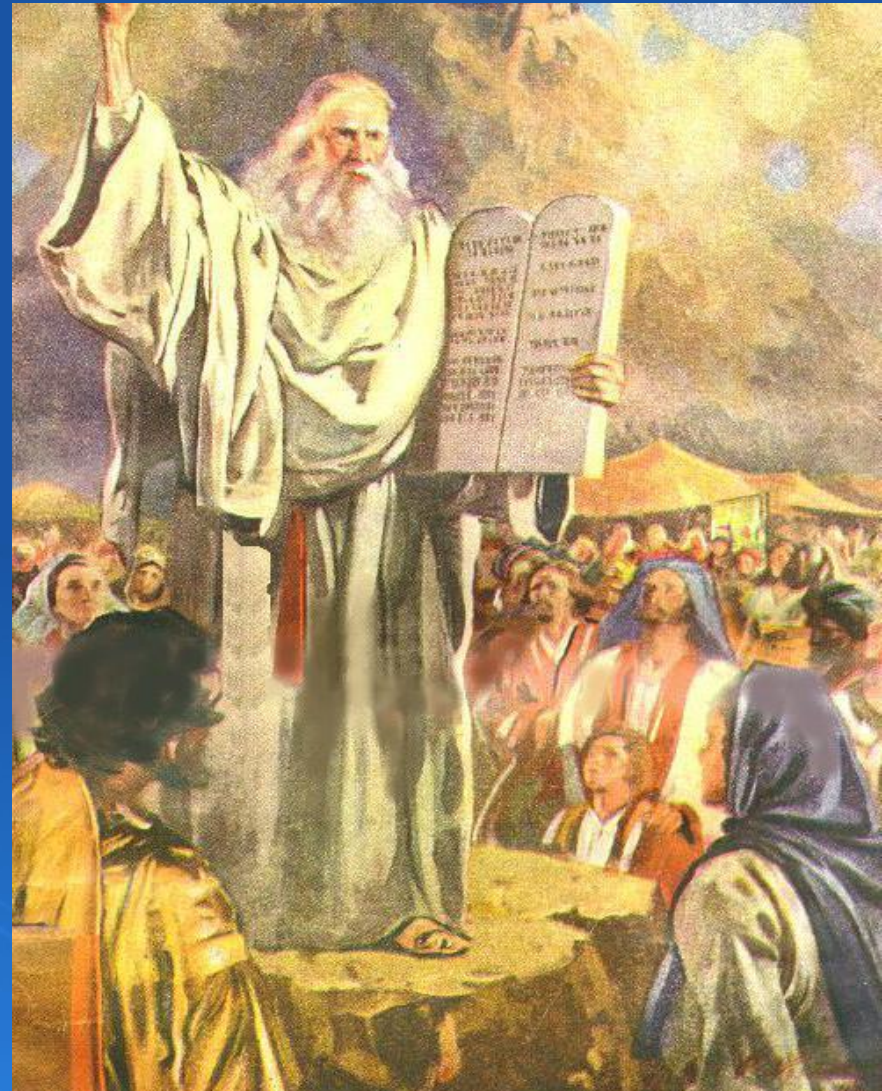
- ***NIB Matthew 5:17 "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfil them. 18 I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished. 19 Anyone who breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever practises and teaches these commands will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.***

# GREEK “Pleroo” means fill-up, NOT bring-to-an-end

- The two testaments work together
- THE O.T. IS THE FOUNDATION OF THE BIBLE
- NAS 2 Timothy 3:16 *All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness;*
- Biblically speaking, SCRIPTURE or HOLY SCRIPTURE refers ONLY to the O.T.
- Bible consists of two portions: The Scriptures and The New Testament
- Both are inspired and “of God”

**NAS John 5:46 "For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me; for he wrote of Me. 47 "But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe My words?"**

- “if you believed Moses” an idiom meaning “if you believed the Torah” .....
- Torah is FULL of references to the coming Messiah
- If we don't start at the beginning, how can we comprehend anything?



# GROUND RULES FOR OUR STUDY OF TORAH

- 1) This is NOT a seekers class.
- Seekers are most welcome, but not geared to non-believers.
- God's Word is true. We do NOT attempt to prove this, it is our assumption.
- 2) We will read every verse, every WORD of the Torah.
- This is in-depth, word-by-word teaching



- 3) I will read primarily from the Complete Jewish Bible (edited by David Stearn).
- NOT NECESSARY that you use the same Bible
- 4) We will use Hebrew words at times.
- Hebrew words lend to a greater understanding.
- Many Hebrew words do not have a good Greek or English equivalent.
- 5) Goal is to have continuity.
- O.T. flows like a river.
- O.T. is generally in chronological order
- O.T. is God presenting Himself through the history of the Israel.

- 6) Torah is a manual for living the life God intended for mankind to live.
- A righteous life is YOU living in harmony with God.
- 7) The Torah is literal.
- Literal in the sense of what it means, not necessarily word-for-word.
- Hebrew culture changed over the 1500 years the Bible was written
- Bible uses many literary devices: symbolism, poetry, straightforward history, analogy, but only a little allegory

- 8) Torah will NOT answer every question you have about God.
  - Many matters left open-ended.
  - We will speculate at times on these matters, but I will TELL you it is speculation.
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