

## Ethics

### Year 8 Knowledge Organisers

#### Term 2: Judaism



#### Topics Covered

- Beginning of Judaism: Noah, Abraham,
- Gods covenant with the Jewish People
- Moses
- Passover
- Historical events in Judaism
- Holocaust
- Holocaust survivors
- Is God real if he allowed so much suffering for the Jews?
- If evil exists, can God be all loving, all powerful and all knowing at the same time?
- Anne Frank

#### Useful links:

Noah:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KM7jNewcISE>

<https://answersingenesis.org/kids/noahs-ark/>

Abraham:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BbPJgVWPpPM>

Moses:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O\\_A710BQPUE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O_A710BQPUE)

Holocaust:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w1Mc-jgRhII>  
(UNESCO Film)

Holocaust survivors:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fYKpjBFLjhA>

Anne Frank:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7o8jSbCanv0>

Movies: Moses Prince of Egypt; Noah; Evan Almighty; God on Trial, Schindler's List

#### Challenge yourself. Practice questions.

1. Explain what Jewish people mean by their covenant with God.
2. Compare the Islam and Christina accounts of Abraham sacrificing his son.
3. Draw a diagram of the 10 plagues of Egypt. Colour it.
4. Is God real if he allowed so much suffering for the Jews?
5. If evil exists, can God be all loving, all powerful and all-knowing at the same time?
6. Write an entry for Anne Frank's diary

## Covenant

Abraham	God formed a covenant with Abraham. God promised to give Abraham's family the land of Canaan God tested Abraham by asking him to sacrifice his son.
Anne Frank	Anne Frank was a German-Dutch Jewish girl who lived in Amsterdam. She is well-known for the diary she wrote while in hiding during the Second World War.
Auschwitz	The largest of the Nazi concentration and death camps. Located in southern Poland, Jewish people and other perceived enemies of the Nazi state were killed, often in gas chambers, or used as slave labour. Some prisoners were also subjected to barbaric medical experiments.
Book of Job	A book of the bible in which Job questions why wicked people prosper and lets good people suffer. Job wishes to confront God but cannot find Him.
Concentration Camp	A prison camp in which large numbers of political prisoners, or those considered undesirable are confined, made to work and sometimes executed.
Covenant	An agreement between God and his people, in which God makes promises to his people and, usually, requires certain conduct from them.
Evil	Profoundly immoral and wicked.
Exodus	The departure or the Israelites from Egypt
Faith	Trust or belief in something that hasn't been proven
Haggadah	The text recited at the Seder meal on the first two nights of the Jewish Passover, including the story of the Exodus.
Hebrews	The ancient people living in what is now Israel and Palestine and, according to the bible, descended from Abraham.
Holocaust	The killing of millions of Jews and members of other groups by Nazis during the Second World War.
Identity	The overall character or personality of an individual or group
Israel	A Middle Eastern country on the Mediterranean Sea. It is regarded by Jews, Christians and Muslims as the biblical Holy Land.
Jerusalem	Jerusalem is a city in the Middle East. It is one of the oldest cities in the world, and is considered holy to the three religions—Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.
Judaism	A religion developed among the ancient Hebrews. Judaism is characterised by a belief in one God who revealed himself to Abraham and Moses.
Krystalnacht	'The Night of Broken Glass', was carried out by SA paramilitary forces and civilians throughout Nazi Germany on 9–10 November 1938 against Jewish people. German authorities looked on without intervening. The name Kristallnacht comes from the shards of glass in the streets after the windows of Jewish-owned shops and synagogues were smashed.
Moses	A Hebrew prophet who led the Israelites out of Egyptian slavery and delivered the commandments establishing God's covenant with them
Omnibenevolent	All-loving, or infinitely good.
Omnipotent	Having unlimited power
Passover	A Jewish festival that celebrates the escape of the ancient Hebrews from Egypt.
Pharaoh	A king of ancient Egypt
Prejudice	Hatred or unfair treatment toward a person or group without cause or reason.
Promised Land	The land that God promised to Abraham and his descendents
Red Sea	A seawater inlet of the Indian Ocean, lying between Africa and Arabia. Moses parted the Red Sea to enable the Hebrews to escape from Egypt.
Shoah	Jewish people prefer to use the word 'shoah', meaning destruction, to 'holocaust', which means burnt offering
Star of David	A six-pointed figure, a Jewish and Israeli symbol.
The Four Questions	At the Seder meal, the youngest family member asks four questions including: Why is tonight different from all other nights?
The Seder Meal	Festival celebrated by a community or family, involving a retelling of the story of the liberation of the Jews from slavery in ancient Egypt, and eating symbolic food.
Theodicy	An explanation as to why evil exists in the world.
Torah	The holy book of Judaism. The law of God as revealed to Moses and recorded in the first five books of the Hebrew scriptures.
Untermenschen	A Nazi term for non-Aryan "inferior people"
Yahweh	The Hebrew name for God

**Covenant: Noah**



**Ethics**

The word **covenant** means agreement or promise, such as a contract between two people. Jews see their relationship with God as a covenant, or an agreement. They believe that God asks them to do certain things, and in return he will take special care of them.

God told Noah to build an ark, so Noah followed God's plan and built a boat that was one-and-a-half football fields long. Noah's neighbours laughed at him because there wasn't any water in the desert where they lived. But God told Noah that a great flood was coming. Noah tried to warn the people to change their ways so that they could hear God too. But they wouldn't listen. They just kept on with their selfish lives.

God asked Noah to collect two of all the creatures of the earth and bring them into the ark. Pairs of each kind of animal were put safely inside the ark before it began to rain. Noah's wife, and his three sons, and their wives were also safe on the boat. When everyone was aboard, God shut the door. Then it rained for forty days and forty nights. Soon the earth was covered with water. After it stopped raining, the water continued to rise for 150 days. The ark landed in the mountain range of Ararat during the seventh month of the flood. God sent a big wind and the waters began to evaporate. Noah and the floating zoo had to stay in the ark for several more months while the earth slowly dried out.

Finally, Noah sent a raven out of the ark's window to look for land. The raven never returned. Noah waited another week for the water level to go down and then sent a dove to do the same thing. The dove couldn't find a place to rest, so it returned to the ark. Another week passed, and then Noah sent the dove out again. This time it came back with an olive branch. Noah now knew that the water was low enough for a tree branch to show! When Noah sent off the dove a week later, it didn't return. The dove had found a place to live - on dry land. Altogether, Noah and his family and the animals lived on the ark for 1 year, 1 month, and 27 days! God gave a sign of the rainbow to Noah and the rest of humanity that He would not destroy the earth again by means of a Flood.

**Covenant: Abraham**

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As part of the covenant, God asked Abraham to remove his foreskin and the foreskin of all Jewish boys after him. This process is known as circumcision.





A **test of Abraham's trust in God** is the account of the sacrifice of his son Isaac. God asks Abraham to sacrifice his son by Sarah - Isaac. God had promised that Abraham's descendants would come through Isaac, so the level of faith he displays is quite astonishing. Abraham trusts God and takes his son, as directed, up a mountain. At the very last minute, God intervenes and spares Isaac's life by providing another animal (a ram) for sacrifice. The test is complete, and God once more reminds Abraham of his promises of land, descendants will be as numerous as the stars in the sky and grains of sand.



*Moses*



**The Ten Plagues of Egypt**

 WATER TURNS TO BLOOD	 FROGS	 LICE	 FLIES	 SICK CATTLE
 BOILS	 FIRE HAIL	 LOCUSTS	 DARKNESS	 DEATH OF FIRSTBORN

*(Note: The image also includes a row of small icons at the bottom representing various plagues.)*



### Moses: Crossing the Red Sea:

Pharaoh and his staff became angry. “What is this we have done, letting all these slaves get away?” they asked. So, Pharaoh led the chase in his chariot, followed by the pick of Egypt’s chariot corps—600 chariots in all—and other chariots driven by Egyptian officers....As the

Egyptian army approached, the people of Israel saw them far in the distance, speeding after them, and they were terribly frightened and cried out to the Lord to help them. And they turned against Moses, whining, “Have you brought us out here to die in the desert because there were not enough graves for us in Egypt? Why did you make us leave Egypt? Isn’t this what we told you, while we were slaves, to leave us alone? We said it would be better to be slaves to the Egyptians than dead in the wilderness.”

But Moses told the people, “Don’t be afraid. Just stand where you are and watch, and you will see the wonderful way the Lord will rescue you today. The Egyptians you are looking at—you will never see them again. The Lord will fight for you, and you won’t need to lift a finger!”<sup>10</sup>

Then the Lord said to Moses, “Quit praying and get the people moving! Forward, march! Use your rod—hold it out over the water, and the sea will open up a path before you, and all the people of Israel shall walk through on dry ground! I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians, and they will go in after you and you will see the honour I will get in defeating Pharaoh and all his armies, chariots, and horsemen. And all Egypt shall know that I am Jehovah.”

Then the Angel of God, who was leading the people of Israel, moved the cloud around behind them, and it stood between the people of Israel and the Egyptians. And that night, as it changed to a pillar of fire, it gave darkness to the Egyptians but light to the people of Israel! So the Egyptians couldn’t find the Israelis!

Meanwhile, Moses stretched his rod over the sea, and the Lord opened up a path through the sea, with walls of water on each side; and a strong east wind blew all that night, drying the sea bottom. So the people of Israel walked through the sea on dry ground! Then the Egyptians followed them between the walls of water along the bottom of the sea—all of Pharaoh’s horses, chariots, and horsemen. But in the early morning Jehovah looked down from the cloud of fire upon the array of the Egyptians, and began to harass them. Their chariot wheels began coming off, so that their chariots scraped along the dry ground. “Let’s get out of here,” the Egyptians yelled. “Jehovah is fighting for them and against us.”

When all the Israelites were on the other side,<sup>11</sup> the Lord said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand again over the sea, so that the waters will come back over the Egyptians and their chariots and horsemen.” Moses did, and the sea returned to normal beneath the morning light. The Egyptians tried to flee, but the Lord drowned them in the sea. The water covered the path and the chariots and horsemen. And of all the army of Pharaoh that chased after Israel through the sea, not one remained alive.

The people of Israel had walked through on dry land, and the waters had been walled up on either side of them. When the people of Israel saw the mighty miracle, the Lord had done for them against the Egyptians, they were afraid and revered the Lord, and believed in him and in his servant

**Holocaust:** The word “Holocaust,” comes from the Greek words “holos” (whole) and “kaustos” (burned) and was used to describe a sacrificial offering burned on an altar in the Jewish Temple. Since 1945, the word has come to mean the systematic killing of millions of European Jews as well as millions of others, including Gypsies, the intellectually disabled, dissidents and homosexuals; as well as people persecuted for racial, political, ideological and behavioural reasons, by the Nazi’s who were in power between 1933-1945.

Adolf Hitler, saw Jews as an inferior race, and a threat to German racial purity. Hitler’s “final solution” came about under the cover of World War II, with mass killings taking place in the concentration camps. Around six million Jews and some 5 million others, targeted died in the Holocaust. Jews prefer to call the Holocaust “churban” which means destruction.

**Krystallnacht:** the “night of broken glass” 9th November 1938. This was a response to a Jew killing a Nazi diplomat in Paris. German synagogues were burned and windows in Jewish shops were smashed. It is called Krystallnacht as the broken glass shone like jewels (crystals) reflecting the fires burning all around. Hitler let Nazis turn on the Jews for 1 week. some 100 Jews were killed and thousands more arrested.

**Nuremberg Laws** of 1935, 2 main new laws were brought in by the Nazi party.

1. The Law for the Protection of German Blood and German Honour outlawed intermarriage between Aryan Germans and Jews.
2. The Reich Citizenship Law stripped Jewish people (later other groups as well) of their German citizenship.

Anyone with three or four Jewish grandparents was considered a Jew; two Jewish grandparents were designated Mischlinge (half-breeds). The Nazi’s had a department looking into people’s heritage with many of those sent to concentrations camp not aware of the fact they were of Jewish Heritage.

**Concentration camps:** The major camps were in German-occupied Poland and included Auschwitz, Belzec, Sobibor, and Treblinka. The Auschwitz complex, housed 100,000 persons at its death camps Prisoners slept on straw-stuffed mattresses laid on the floor. After being counted in the morning, they piled the mattresses in a corner of the room. The rooms were so overcrowded that prisoners could sleep only on their sides, in three rows. With no access to water, and unable to wash, they went around dirty. They had to go to the toilet in unscreened outside “privies”. The barracks were frequently damp, and lice and rats were an enormous problem for the prisoners. It is therefore hardly strange that epidemics of contagious diseases erupted frequently.



# The Inconsistent Triad

- This 'triad' of three ideas is 'inconsistent' because, it is alleged, we cannot believe all of them at the same time without contradiction.
- If God created the universe and everything that is in it, then he could have made the world in any way he chose. He could have made a world where there was no evil. How could an omnipotent God fail at the task of creating a perfect world and keeping it perfect? If the world has gone wrong and deviated from God's purposes, then why does God not use his omnipotence to make it right again/
- If God is omniscient he must have known what the world was going to be like when he made it; why did God not anticipate genocide, or hurricanes or cancer?

