

SUBJECT: Religious Education

UNIT: YEAR 7 Unit 3: Is it challenging being Jewish in Britain today?



What are Jewish key beliefs?

The 13 Principles:

- Has always existed and will always exist
- Is the reason the universe exists
- Created the universe out of nothing
- Creates everything
- Is one being
- Is the only God
- Is not a physical being
- Existed before anything else
- Is the only object of worship
- Should not be worshipped through anyone or anything
- Communicates with human beings through prophets or human messengers
- Gave Moses the Torah
- Will never give another Torah
- Knows everything
- Is interested in the lives of human beings
- Reward those who obey his Mitzvot (commands in the Torah)
- Does not reward those who break his Mitzvot

Who is the Messiah?

One of the 13 Key Principles states that a Messiah will again lead the Jewish people. When the Messiah comes, the whole world order will be based on the Torah (their religious book). The Messiah will be the most important leader on Earth.



What are the do's and don'ts of the Torah?

Family:

- To honour your mother and father.
- Do not use contraception.
- Parents have many obligations to their children, including providing a physical environment, disciplining them, and setting a good example.

Personal Hygiene:

- Priests should wash their hands
- Have clean clothes.
- When leaving the bathroom always wash your hands.
- clean and organise your house.

Diet:

- Do not get intoxicated.
- Do not eat meat and dairy together.
- Only eat Kosher food.
- Only eat poultry and animals with split hooves that only eat grass.

What are Jewish responses to the Holocaust?

The Torah teaches that only a victim can forgive someone. This implies that God cannot forgive offenses between people until the people involved have forgiven each other. It also means that some offenses, such as the Holocaust, can never be forgiven, because those Jewish people involved had died and therefore, unable to forgive.



What are the different groups of Judaism?

Orthodox

- 66% of Jews in UK
- They follow laws written in the Torah
- All Jewish people must obey laws given by God.
- Rabbis can also give laws and rulings.
- Men and women are separated for worship.
- Modern Orthodox engage with modern world.
- Haredi separate themselves from modern world.

Reform

- Questioned Orthodox Jewish teachings.
- They believe Torah was created by humans not God, therefore they don't have to follow all its teachings and the Rabbis rulings.
- Count for about 20% of Jews in the UK
- Men and women worship together.

How do Jewish people celebrate?

Pesach: Pesach celebrates when Moses freed the Israelites from slavery and led them through the desert – this celebration lasts 8 days. They have a Seder meal, which symbolises the struggles, and journey they went on.

Sukkot: This looks back on when the Israelites led a max Exodus through the desert. This is time to spend remembering with family