

Understanding Major World Religions

“Judaism (A)”

Glossary of Terms -- Judaism.

1. **Adonai** -- Hebrew for Lord. A title.
2. **Bar Mitzvah** -- Ritual for young men and women. Rite of passage.
3. **Elohim** -- Literally gods. A name applied to God in Hebrew Bible.
4. **Gemara** -- Commentary on the Mishnah.
5. **Kosher** -- Literally "fit" or "proper". Ritual cleaning for food.
6. **Mishnah** -- Collection of oral laws.
7. **Purim** -- Jewish holiday which celebrates liberation from the Persians.
8. **Shema** -- Deut. 6:4. It is the closest to a creed in Judaism. God is one.
9. **Synagogue** -- Literally assembly. A meeting of the Jews that began in the Diaspora.
10. **Talmud** -- Collection of the Mishnah and Gemara.
11. **Torah** -- The law. It refers to the first five books of the Bible.
12. **Yom Kippur** -- Day of Atonement.
13. **Zionism** -- Founded in late nineteenth century in order to find a natural homeland for the Jews.