

Messianic Yisra'el Glossary of Words

A helpful tool for Beginners by Rabbi Edward Levi Nydle-B'nai Avraham



A

Adonai-Master
Afikomen-the piece of hidden matzah at the Passover Seder
Aharon-Aaron
Akedah- the binding of Yizqaak
Alef-Bet-the Hebrew alphabet
Aliya-To go up to Yisra'el or to read the Torah
Amen-It is True, indeed
Amidah- the 18 blessing in the Siddur, the standing prayer
Am Echad- One people
Am Yisra'el-people of Yisra'el
Aramaic- a Semitic language
Aron HaKodesh-the ark that contains the Torah Scrolls
Attarah- the neck piece on the tallit
Avinu Malkenu-Our Father, our King
Avodah- work-service
Avot- the fathers
Azazel- the scapegoat



B

Ba'al- false "lord" Ba'al
Bar- son of
Baruk- Blessed
Bat-daughter of
Bar/bat mitzvah- a rite of passage for boys at age 13, and girls at age 12
Bavel- Babylon
Beit-house
Ben-son
Bet Din- House of judgment, rabbinical court
Bet Midrash-House of study
Bet HaMikdash- the Temple
Binah-Understanding
Birkat HaMazon- Grace after meals
Birkat Kohanim-Priesthood blessing
Brit Milah- circumcision
B'nai-children of



C



Cantor- “chazzan” the person who chants the liturgy
Chai-life
Challah- dough offering, Shabbat loafs of braided bread
Chametz-leaven
Chanukah-Celebration in winter of the cleansing of the Temple
Chasidim- movement of strict Torah observance
Chattan- bride-groom
Chavah-Chawah-Eve
Chaver- friend



Chokhmah- Wisdom
Chumash- from the Number 5, the 5 Books of Moses plus HafTarah and Commentary
Chuppah- the bridal canopy
Cohen-priest
Cohen Gadol-High Priest

D

Da’at- knowledge
Daven-pray
Diaspora-the exile from the land
Dreidle- the spinning top at Chanukah
D’var Torah-word of the Torah



E

Eemunah- faithfulness
Ephraim- The general term for the 10 Northern Tribes
Elohim- Mighty One of Yisa’el
Eretz Yisra’el-Land of Yisra’el
Erev Shabbat-Friday Night
Etrog-citrus fruit used at Sukkot



F

Frum- a term for a Torah observant person

G

Gan Eden- the Garden of Delight
Gartel- belt or sash
Gefilte fish- a carp or pike in pickled juice at Passover
Gelt- term for money given at Chanukkah and Purim
Ger- a stranger or resident alien
Get- a bill of divorcement
Golem- a monster-like creature
Goy-goyim- a gentile
Greggar- a noisemaker used at Purim



H



Haftarah-The reading from the Prophets
Hagbah- the raising of the Torah
Haggadah- the telling of the story of Passover
Hakodesh Baruk Hu- the Holy One, blessed be He
Halakah- the way to walk out Torah
Hallel- the Psalms from 113-118
Hamantashchen-Haman's hat or triangle pastry at Purim
HaShem- the Name
Hatafat Dam Brit- the drawing of blood for an already circumcised person
Havdalah-the ritual marking the end of Shabbat



J-K

Kabbalah- the deeper received teachings
Kaddish- the prayer exalting YHWH's Name as an affirmation of faith
Kadosh- set apart, holy
Kallah- bride
Kavanah- heartfelt direction in prayer
Kavod- glory
Klippot-shells or husks, forces of evil
Keter-crown
Ketubah- marriage contract
Kiddush- sanctification by wine
Kippah- the head-covering
Kittel- a white robe worn on Shabbat and High Holy Days
Korban- sacrifice
Kosher-the dietary laws



L

Lag B'omer-half-way between Passover and Shavuot, the day of Rabbi Shimon bar Yochai
Lashon Kodesh- the Holy Tongue, Hebrew
Latkes-potatoe pancakes served at Chanukkah
L'chayyim-to life, a toast
Lekah Dodi-song of welcoming the Shabbat Bride/Queen
Lev- heart
L'olam Vaed- forever and ever
Lulav- a palm, myrtle, & willow used at Sukkot



M

Ma'ariv- the evening service
Machzor- the Siddur for the High Holy Days
Malkut-Kingdom
Mantle-the covering on the Torah Scroll
Matzah- unleavened bread
Mazel Tov- congratulations
Meggilah-a scroll
Malak- angel
Melek-King
Menorah- the candlestick
Mentsch- a good person



Messiah- The anointed One
 Mezuzah- doorposts, the parchment in the small container on the doorpost
 Mikveh- immersion in living waters
 Minhagim –customs
 Minchah-after service
 Minyan- 10 adults required to say certain prayers
 Miryam- Mary
 Mishpocheh-family
 Mitzrayim- Egypt
 Mitzvah- a command
 Mohel- one who does the Brit Milah
 Moshe Rabbenu-Moses our teacher
 Moshiach- the Messiah
 Motze Shabbat- Saturday evening AFTER Shabbat
 Musaf- additional prayer



N

Nachas- good tidings
 Nefesh- soul
 Neshamah- the higher soul
 Niddah- she who is separated because of menses
 N'tilat Yadayim-the ritual washing of hands

O

Olam habah- the world to come
 Olam hazeh- this world
 Omer- the first sheaf cut after Passover
 Oneg Shabbat-Sabbath joy

P

Parashah-section of Torah to be read that week
 Payas- sidelocks
 Pareve-foods that are neither milk nor meat
 Paroket-curtain/veil
 P'rushim-Pharisees
 Pesach- Passover
 Pidyan HaBen- Redemption of the first-born son
 Purim- Festival in Spring, Book of Esther is read
 Pushke- a can for coins for the poor



Q-R

Rabbi – my teacher
 Rav- a rabbi ordained outside of Yisra'el
 Rebbe- Head rabbi of a sect within Judaism
 Rebbetzin- the rabbi's wife
 Rosh chodesh- New moon
 Rosh Hashanah- head of the Year in Fall
 Ruach HaKodesh-Holy Spirit



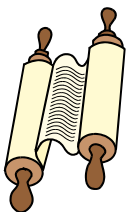
S

Seder- Passover meal
Seduah- a meal
Sefer-book
Shabbat- the seventh day
Shacharit-morning pray service
Shaddai- the Almighty
Shalom- peace, hello, goodbye
Shalom Aleikhem- Peace to you
Shaul- Paul
Shammash- attendant, servant
Shanah-year
Shatnetz- the law of forbidden mixture in garments
Shavuah Tov- good week, said at havdalah
Shavuot- Pentecost, Feast of Weeks
Shehechyanu- a blessing said on Festivals and various occasions
Sh'eliah-question
Shekel- a coin
Shem- name
Sh'ma- the proclamation of the Unity of Elohim
Shemini Atzeret- the 8th Day of Sukkot
Shekinah- the glory of the Divine presence
Shofar- ram's horn
Shomer Shabbat- one who keeps Shabbat
Sh'mikah- ordination
Siddur- prayer book
Simchat Torah- last day of Sukkot –rejoicing in the Torah
Snood-headcovering for women
Sofer- a scribe
Spice box- a ritual object in which the havdalah spices are kept
Sukkah- a booth constructed of bows of trees
Sukkot- Feast of Booths in the fall
Synagogue- called a shul in Yiddish, house of worship



T

Taharat Mishpachah- laws of family purity
Tallit- a prayer shawl
Tallit Katan- a small four-cornered garment worn under short
Talmidim- disciples
Talmud- literally “teaching” a Collection of records of rabbinical teachings
Tameh- ritually impure
TaNaK- the Torah Prophets and Writings
Tefillah- prayers of worship
Tefillin- small black boxes and straps worn on forehead and arm
Tehillim- Psalms
Teshuvah- repentance
Tikkun- Rectification or a sofer's copy book
Torah-First 5 books of the Scriptures, or may mean all books of Scripture
Trief- not kosher, torn
Tzaddik- a righteous man
Tzedakah- charity to the poor
Tz'dukim- the Sadducees



Tzion-Zion
Tzitzit- strings with a cord of blue on a four-cornered garment

W-X-Y-Z



Yad- arm or hand, a pointer used to reading the Torah Scroll
Yahrzeit- anniversary of one's death
Yahweh/Yahuweh- the Name of Elohim
Yahshua/Yeshua/Y'shua- the Name of the Messiah
Yerushalayim- Jerusalem
Yeshivah- an educational institution
Yetzer hara- the evil inclination/ the flesh
Yetzer haTov-good inclination
Yid- a Jew
Yisra'el- Israel
Yizkor- a memorial prayer
Yom Kippur- Day of Atonement
Yom Tov- a holiday
Yud- smallest Hebrew letter

Zemirot- songs at Shabbat

