



HEBREW *words*

Part II: Jewish Holidays & Remembrances





Rosh Hashanah

roshe hah · shah · nah

Rosh Hashanah

r o s h e h a h · s h a h · n a h

Rosh Hashanah is a major Jewish holiday known as the Jewish New Year. The name means “Head of the Year” and begins on Tishrei 1 on the Hebrew calendar (during September or October on the Gregorian calendar).

Rosh Hashanah ushers in the High Holy Days of the Jewish calendar and begins a time of intense reflection on one’s life and repentance before God.

Holiday greetings for Rosh Hashanah are *Shanah Tovah Umetukah!* (A good and sweet year!) and *L’Shana Tovah!* (For a good year!).



Yom Teruah

y o m t e h · r u h · a h



Yom Teruah

y o m t e h · r u h · a h

Yom Teruah is one of the Jewish Fall Feasts and is known as the Feast of Trumpets. The name means “Day of Blowing” and the feast is observed together with Rosh Hashanah.

During this holiday, Jewish people celebrate the start of a new year in synagogue services that include special liturgy, prayers and blessings along with 100 blasts of the shofar, the trumpet of the Bible made from a ram’s horn.

Biblical references to Yom Teruah include Leviticus 23:23-25 and Numbers 29:1-6.

A person wearing a white prayer shawl (tallit) is shown from the back, holding a book. The background is a soft, out-of-focus landscape. The text is overlaid in the center.

Yom Kippur

y o m k i p · p o u r



Yom Kippur

y o m k i p · p o u r

Yom Kippur, or the Day of Atonement, is one of the Jewish Fall Feasts and is the holiest day of the year. It begins on Tishrei 10 on the Hebrew calendar (during September or October on the Gregorian calendar). It is a time for fasting, praying and repentance to find right standing with God for the coming year. As such, it is a solemn holiday.

The name means “Day of Covering,” signifying that the hope of Yom Kippur is found in the covering of sin and a restored relationship with the Lord.

Greetings include *Tzom Kal* (Have an easy fast) and *Chatima Tova!* (A good final sealing).

Scripture references include Leviticus 16:29-34, 23:26-32, and Hebrews 9:11-27, 10:1-23.

A close-up photograph of a person's hands holding a yellow citron and a green sprig of lulav. The hands are positioned in the center of the frame, with the citron held in the palm and the lulav sprig held in the fingers. The background is a plain, light-colored surface, possibly a wall or a backdrop, which is slightly out of focus. The lighting is soft and even, highlighting the texture of the citron and the vibrant green of the lulav. The overall composition is simple and elegant, emphasizing the natural elements of the Sukkot festival.

Sukkot

su · kote

Sukkot



s u · k o t e

Known as the Feast of Tabernacles, Sukkot is one of the Jewish Fall Feasts and is a seven-day holiday commemorating God's provision for the Israelites as they journeyed through the wilderness.

Sukkot translates to “booths” or “tabernacles.” Other names for this holiday include the Feast of Booths, the Feast of Ingathering and the Season of Our Joy.

This Fall Feast takes place during Tishrei 15-21 on the Hebrew calendar (during September or October on the Gregorian calendar).

The holiday greeting for Sukkot is *Chag Sukkot Sameach!* (Joyous Sukkot Holiday!)

Scripture references include Leviticus 23:33-43, Deuteronomy 16:13-15, John 7:1-44, and Revelation 21:3.

A man wearing a black hat and a white prayer shawl with black stripes is looking down at an open Torah scroll. The background is softly blurred, showing what appears to be a white fence and some greenery. The overall mood is solemn and focused.

Simchat Torah

s e e m · k h a h t t o h · r a h

Simchat Torah

s e e m · k h a h t t o h · r a h

Simchat Torah celebrates the Torah, which, in its most literal definition, is the first five books of the Bible. Simchat Torah marks the end and restart of the annual Torah Portion (or Parasha) reading cycle.

The name means “Joy of the Torah” and the holiday begins on Tishrei 23 of the Hebrew calendar (during September or October on the Gregorian calendar).

While it is a major holiday, there is no specific holiday greeting for Simchat Torah.

In Scripture, Simchat Torah is derived from God’s command in Deuteronomy 31:9–13 to read the full Torah every seven years.

A black and white photograph of a hand holding a lit candle. The candle is the central focus, with a bright flame. The hand is positioned in the lower half of the frame, with fingers wrapped around the candle. The background is dark and out of focus. The text 'Kristallnacht' is overlaid in a large, white, serif font across the middle of the image. Below it, the words 'kris · tahl · nacht' are written in a smaller, white, lowercase serif font with dots between the words.

Kristallnacht

kris · tahl · nacht

Kristallnacht

k r i s · t a h l · n a h k t

Kristallnacht is a German word that means “Night of Broken Glass.” It refers to the coordinated attack on the Jewish people in Germany and other areas under Nazi control in the early days of World War II.

On the night of November 9–10, 1938, German citizens smashed the windows of Jewish businesses and synagogues, looting and vandalizing until nothing was left to salvage. Many Jewish people were injured and killed during this brutal anti-Semitic attack that was both encouraged and deliberately left unchecked by local authorities.

Kristallnacht is acknowledged and remembered as a warning against anti-Semitism, which is still prevalent today – more than 70 years after the horrors of the Holocaust. Kristallnacht is also a day of mourning and a time of prayer for Israel and God’s Chosen People.



Chanukah

k h a h · n o o · k a h

Chanukah



k h a h · n o o · k a h

Chanukah is a major Jewish holiday that lasts eight days and commemorates a miracle of light that took place after God delivered the Jewish people from Syrian-Greek oppressors.

The name means ‘dedication.’ As such, the holiday is also referred to as the Feast of Dedication and the Festival of Lights.

Chanukah takes place from Kislev 25-Tevet 2 or 3 on the Hebrew calendar (during November or December on the Gregorian calendar).

Holiday Greetings include *Happy Chanukah!* and *Chag Chanukah Sameach!* (Joyous Chanukah Holiday).

Chanukah events took place during the inter-testament period (between the Old and New Testaments), though Scripture references may be found in the New Testament in John 10:22-39.





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