

The Torah

The Torah, or the Pentateuch, is the beautiful handprinted scroll of the Five Books of Moses. These books make up the Book of Law, the first section of the Old Testament in the Bible.

The Torah is kept in the Ark of the synagogue. Each Sabbath a portion of the Torah is read during worship. Each week the reading is started where the previous reader stopped reading. Now the Torah is divided into about fifty sections and the entire Torah can be read in about a year.

The Books of Moses are given the name the Book of Law because they contain the laws of the hebrews, the Constitution of Judaism. The ancient people were taught their religious laws such as the laws of sacrifices and the dates and observances of their holidays. They were also taught their political laws, the taxes due to their government, the appointment of officers, and also their business laws.

The books contained in the Torah are: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy.

The book of Genesis tells the beginning of all things, plus mentioning the laws of marriage and of the Sabbath concerning food. Leviticus consists entirely of legal material. Exodus and Numbers are a mixture of law and history. Deuteronomy is mostly made up of addresses incorporating laws.

These chapters vary in text, but they reach towards the same goal. This goal is a perfect world for everyone to live in. In order to have a perfect world, we must live according to God's laws-the Ten Commandments. These laws should not be broken, for they too strive for a perfect world. In order to have a perfect world, we must all do our share in understanding each other and in following God's laws. *In this way, we will*

have a peaceful world for everyone.