

Hebrew Terminology Reference List

Adonai	Lord; God; name used as a substitute for the Sacred Name
Abba	“Daddy” or “dear Father”
Alef-bet	Hebrew alphabet (the first two letters are alef and bet)
Aliyah	“Go up;” used to refer to reading the Torah or moving to Jerusalem
Barukh	Bless
Bemidbar	In the wilderness – Hebrew name for the book of Numbers
B’reisheet	In the beginning – Hebrew name for the book of Genesis
Challah	Sweet egg bread, commonly used on Sabbath
Chesed	Grace, kindness
Chodesh	Month
Devarim	Words – Hebrew name for the book of Deuteronomy
Echad	One; plurality referred to as one unit
Elohim	God; gods. The plural form of ‘el, meaning “strong one”
Emet	Truth, firmness, stability
Eretz	Land, earth; commonly used to refer to the Land of Israel
Halakhah	Walking; used to refer to rulings regarding commandments
Halleluyah	Praise (hallel) to Adonai (Yah)
Haftarah	Passage from the Prophets accompanying each weekly Torah Parashah
HaShem	Literally “The Name,” a common substitute for the Sacred Name
Ivri / Ivrit	Hebrew language or a Hebrew person
Kadosh	Holy, set-apart
Ketuvim	Prophets – the third division of the Hebrew Scriptures
Mashiach	Anointed One, Messiah
Melekh	King
Midrash	Interpretation, discussion, explanation by use of Biblical stories

Mitsvah / Mitsvot	Commandment(s)
Moed(im)	Holy, set-apart day(s), festivals
Neviim	Wisdom books – the second division of the Hebrew Scriptures
Olam Habbah	The World to Come – the afterlife
Oneg	Delight; Oneg Shabbat is the shared meal after sabbath services
Parashah / Parashiyot	Portion(s); weekly division of Torah readings
Pardes	Acronym of <u>P</u> 'shat, <u>R</u> emez, <u>D</u> rash, <u>S</u> od – four levels of scriptural interpretation
Ruach	Wind, breath, spirit – Ruach haKodesh is Hebrew for Holy Spirit
Shabbat	Rest, the seventh day
Shalom	Peace
Shekhinah	Glory – Adonai's visible presence
Shema	Hear, listen, with the implication of obedience
Shemot	Names – Hebrew name for the book of Exodus
Siddur	Prayer book
Tallit / tallitot	Four-cornered garment(s) on which to attach tzitzit
Talmid / talmidim	Disciple(s)
Tanakh	Acronym of <u>T</u> orah, <u>N</u> eviim, <u>K</u> etuvim – entire Hebrew Scriptures
Teshuvah	To turn back, repentance
Torah	Instruction, the books of Moses, the first five books
Tov	Good
Tzitzit / tzitziyot	Tassels, fringes, designed to fulfill the commandment of Numbers 15:38
Vayikra	And He called – Hebrew name for the book of Leviticus
Yerushalayim	Jerusalem
Yeshua	Salvation, Hebrew name of Jesus
Yisrael	Israel
Yom	Day