

THEO 330 – SECTION #04 ACTIVITY (ANSWER KEY)

The University of St. Francis

Name _____

Fill in the Blank / Short Answer

1. Name the three monotheistic religions.

a. *Judaism*

b. *Christianity*

c. *Islam*

2. Name the three branches of Judaism and the charisms of each branch.

a. *Orthodox (far right, absolute letter of the law)*

b. *Conservative (JJC falls here – obeys law, but realizes that changes in society requires one to understand how law applies in today's age)*

c. *Reformed (understanding laws of Toráh in its history but most laws are not applicable to today's society)*

3. How did the Israelites understand the symbolism of their Promised Land?

Land. Land equaled with wealth. If God is mad with you, he removes your land. It has remained that way for 3500 years. Israel has always had a Jewish presence. The first temple came from Solomon's people. This is how the attachment started. The Israelites gave the Gaza strip to the Palestinians (Arabs), but the temple mount of Jerusalem (although possessed by Islamists) very much are part of the Jewish culture. Keeping the homeland was paramount.

4. What are the “four marks of silence” that signify the final gate of suffering over the loss of a loved one?

a. *Hearing the Inner Voice of Pain & Love.*

b. *Memory –
Reclaiming the Past by Refusing to Forget the Joys Once Held.*

c. *Action –
We must Honor the Dead by Continuing to Live Ourselves.*

d. *Wisdom –
Every Life is a Teaching; Every Person is a Guide of Truth.*

5. According to the reading material for this course, the Midrash compares the soul to what?

A princess married to a commoner. The most precious gift that the husband brings to his princess fails to thrill her. Likewise, if one were to offer the soul all the pleasures of the world, it would remain indifferent to them because it belongs to a higher order of existence.” Before the body comes into being, the soul already exists. It is pure and untainted. The exact place of the soul cannot be determined, and this is another of the mysteries of life.

Short Answer

1. The movement dedicated to establishing a Jewish state in the biblical land of Israel is called what?

Zionism

2. Non-Jewish peoples may be referred to as what?

Gentiles

3. What is the title for the person sent by God to rescue the Jewish people from suffering?

The Messiah

4. The Mishnah together with commentaries is known as the what?

Talmud

5. What is the name for God's presence in the world?

Shekinah

6. What are Jewish mystical traditions called?

Kabbalah

7. In what year did Israel declare itself an independent state?

1948

8. To which Jewish philosopher is attributed the following quotation:
The problem is not that we are allotted a *short* life, but rather that we are *extravagant* in spending it.

Moses Maimonides

9. What is the significance of the *Vidui* prayer?

The word Vidui is traditionally translated as "confession," but the prayer is, strictly speaking, not a confession. It is more a last statement of belief prior to one's death.

10. What is the Jewish person called who is designated to watch over the body of the deceased, continuously, until the burial takes place.

A Shomer

True or False

1. True Apocalyptic literature focuses on God's victory over evil.
2. False All branches of Judaism hold the same views about the afterlife.
3. True A child under the age of 13 does not have to observe the traditional rituals of an adult Jewish mourner (*Ovel*).
4. True Because a Jewish funeral is seen as "a rite of separation," the rites and ceremonies accompanying the funeral provide help in dealing with this loss.
5. False During the *El Molay Rachamin* prayer, normally the name of the deceased is *not* mentioned in respect to the other faithful Jewish souls who have died.
6. False Eulogies usually are discouraged during Jewish funerals.
7. False All branches of Judaism discourage the cremation of the deceased or organ donation, believing that on the last day, the bodies and souls of the dead will be raised.
8. False Faithful Jews believe that sickness and death are a result of a sinful life.
9. True Judaism is more focused on life than death.
10. True In Judaism, death is considered nothing more than a real and inescapable part of life's plan.

11. False Each of the three Jewish “movements” has specific and universal beliefs concerning the resurrection of the body and soul.

Multiple Choice

1. Pentateuch refers to the...
 - a. Three books of Moses
 - b. The first Talmud
 - c. **Five books of Moses**
 - d. Influence of Hellenistic thought on Judaism
2. What is a Covenant?
 - a. A coming of age ritual.
 - b. **A contract between God and God's people.**
 - c. An agreement prohibiting anti-Semitism.
 - d. A prediction of the early prophets.
3. What does “Israel” mean?
 - a. The one beloved of God
 - b. **The one who struggled (prevails) with God**
 - c. The one who laughs with God
 - d. The one forgiven by God
4. Who was the first patriarch of Judaism?
 - a. Moses
 - b. Isaac
 - c. Jacob
 - d. **Abraham**
5. Which group below *denied* the concept of bodily resurrection?
 - a. The Pharisees
 - b. **The Sadducees**
 - c. The Christians
 - d. A & B

6. Which of the following burial customs does a faithful Jewish mourner observe at the death of a loved one?
- a. They Rend Their Clothes (*Keriah*)
 - b. They Cut a Black Ribbon
 - c. They Offer the Rituals Standing Up.
 - d. All of These are Permissible**
7. According to the reading material, how must the living understand death in Judaism?
- a. A good life can perpetuate the memory of the deceased.
 - b. Every death can lead to a transforming growth in life.
 - c. Adversity often can be converted ultimately for the good.
 - d. All of These**
8. On Yom Kippur (The Day of Atonement), a person wears the what type of garment, a white robe which is similar to the burial shroud?
- a. Kittel**
 - b. Kippah
 - c. Maniple
 - d. Alb
9. What prayer below *is not* associated with Jewish death & dying rites?
- a. The Vidui Prayer
 - b. The Elohai Neshamah
 - c. The Mitzvot**
 - d. El Molay Rochamim
10. Who is required to observe the *Avelut*, a twelve-month period of mourning following a loved one's death?
- a. The Rabbi
 - b. The Parent**
 - c. The Spouse
 - d. The Friend

Essay

1. What is a Jewish covenant? Describe three major covenants.
2. Explain the differences in the two “Noah’s Ark” stories told in the Book of Genesis, Chapters 6-9.
3. The story of the Passover is the centerpiece of the Jewish faith, representing the covenant relationship that God established with his Chosen People. How does the concept of “death” in this story provide a sense of “hope” and “life” for an enslaved Chosen People?

Key Terms	
Alav Hashalom. (Ah-la-hv Ha-shaw-lome)	"Peace upon him." Phrase often used after the name of a departed male is mentioned.
Alehaw Hashalom. (All-le-haw Ha-shaw-lome)	"Peace be upon her." Phrase used after a departed woman is mentioned.
Avelim. (Ah-veh-leem)	"Mourners." Laws of mourning apply in case of death of one of seven relatives: father, mother, husband, wife, son or daughter, brother or sister.
The Avelut	Observed only for a parent, this period lasts for twelve months after the burial. During that time, mourners avoid parties, celebrations, theater and concerts. For eleven months of that period, starting at the time of burial, the son of the deceased recites the mourner's Kaddish every day.
Chevrah Kaddisha (Chev-rah Ka-dee-shaw)	"Holy Brotherhood." Society whose members devote themselves to burial and rites connected with it.
El Moleh Rachamin (Ale-moh-lay Ra-cha-meen)	"God full of compassion." Memorial prayer recited at funerals. Dates from the seventeenth century. Popular Yiddish name is "Molay."
Gilgul Hanefesh (Gil-gool Hah-neh-fesh)	Transmigration of the soul. According to <i>Zohar</i> , "Truly, all souls must undergo transmigration" (III, 99b). Kabbalistic School of Rabbi Luria (1534-1572) believed that a soul which had sinned returned to its earthly existence in order to make amends.
Halvavyat Hamat	The demonstration of honor and respect for the bereaved.
Hesped (Hes-peed)	Eulogy delivered by rabbi for the dead. Orations date back to biblical times, and contain an account of life accomplishments of the departed one.

Kabbalah (Kah-bah-lah)	“Tradition.” Applied to important complex of Jewish mystical philosophy and practice. Basic work is <i>Zohar</i> (“Splendor”), which appeared at end of thirteenth century.
Kaddish	“Holy” or “Sanctification.” Aramaic prayer for the dead. Essentially a doxology, praising God, and praying for speedy establishment of God’s kingdom upon earth. Recited by mourners for period of eleven months from date of burial.
Keriah (Ka-ree-ah)	“Rending.” Custom of mourner tearing a section of his garment or a black ribbon as symbol of grief. Rite performed before funeral. Rent made over the left side, over the heart. To be performed standing up, for the mourner is to meet sorrow standing upright.
Matzevah (Mah-tzave-vah)	Tombstone that is erected toward the end of the first year of interment.
Messiah	The “anointed,” the expected king and deliverer of the Jews; a term later applied by Christians to Jesus.
Midrash	“Exposition.” Books devoted to biblical interpretations. In form of homiletic expositions, legends, and folklore.
Minyan	“Number” or “Quorum.” Minimum number of ten Jews above the age of thirteen required for public services. According to Jewish law, <i>Minyan</i> is required for community recital of the <i>Kaddish</i> .
Mirrors	Practice of covering mirrors is not based on explicit Jewish law. Some authorities regard practices as superstitious and discourage use. Others interpret the rite symbolically. “We ought not to gaze upon our reflection in the mirror in the house of mourning. In so doing, we appear to be reflecting upon ourselves.”
Mitzvah (Plural: Mitzvot)	In Judaism, a divine commandment or sacred deed in fulfillment of a commandment.
Mourner’s Kaddish	Part of the mourning ritual, this prayer gives praise to God. Used at funerals and for 11 months after the death of a close relative. Inspired by Ez 38: 23.

Ovel	The mourner of one who has died.
Pentateuch	The five books of Moses at the beginning of the Hebrew Bible.
Rabbi Leader	Conducts the funeral services, answers many ritual questions regarding the ceremony of death, and aids in important approach of <i>Menachem Avel</i> (Mine-achem Ah-vel), "comforting the bereaved."
Sabbath	The day of the week set aside for rest and worship, in Judaism running from sunset Friday night to sunset Saturday night.
Seudat Havra-ah (S-oo-data Chav-vey-rah)	Meal of consolation.
Shalom	The Hebrew word for hello, goodbye and peace.
Shekinah	God's presence in the world, in Judaism.
Shiva (Shee-vah)	"Seven." Refers to the first seven days of mourning after burial.
Sh-loshim (Sh-lo-sheem)	"Thirty." Mourning begins on first day of the funeral and ends on morning of the thirtieth day.
Soul	Biblical expressions: <i>Nefesh</i> (Neh-fesh), <i>Neshamah</i> (n1sha-ma), and <i>Ruach</i> (Rue-ach), derived from roots meaning "breath," and "wind." Soul is the source without which there can be no life. Maimonides, the philosopher, asserted that only that part of the soul which each develops by his or her intellectual efforts is immortal.
Synagogue	Meeting place for Jewish study and worship.
Tachrichim (Ta-ch-re-cheem)	"Shroud." Robe in which some dead are buried. Made of white linen cloth.
Talmud	Jewish law and lore, as finally compiled in the sixth century AD.
TaNaK	The Jewish scriptures.
Tehiyyath Hamathem.	(Th-chee-yaht Ha-may-teem) "Resurrection of the dead." Belief by some that at the end of time the bodies of the dead will rise from the grave.
Torah	The Pentateuch; also, the whole body of Jewish teaching and law.

Unveiling	(Tombstone consecration in which special prayers are recited, such as <i>El Moleh Rachamin</i> and the <i>Mourner's Kaddish</i> . Customary to cover the tombstone with a veil and during service for one of the mourners to unveil the stone or plaque.
Yahrzeit (Yohr-tzite)	Yiddish term for the anniversary of death. Observed by reciting the <i>Kaddish</i> in the synagogue and lighting memorial light in the home.
Yahrzeit Light or Candle	Well established practice to have candle or special lamp in house of mourning for 24 hours on the anniversary of death.
Yizkor Prayer	"May God remember the soul of my revered ... "Recited on <i>Yom Kippur</i> , <i>Shemini Atzeret</i> , last day of <i>Passover</i> , and second day of <i>Shavuot</i> .