

Today you will learn  
about Jewish beliefs  
and the different  
texts their society  
had.



## Jewish Beliefs and Texts

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# If you were there...

- “You live in a small town in ancient Israel. Some people in your town treat strangers very badly. You have been taught to be fair and kind to everyone, including strangers. One day, you tell one of your neighbors he should be kinder to strangers. He asks why you feel that way.”
- How will you explain your belief in kindness?

# Jewish Beliefs

- Religion is what the Jews base their whole society on.
- They believe in one God.
  - This belief is called monotheism
  - How does this differ from other civilizations we have learned about?

# Education

- Children learn the basics of Judaism
- Older boys (not girls) studies to learn religion



# Justice and Righteousness

- **Justice** – kindness and fairness in dealing with other people.
  - They believed that everyone deserves this even strangers and criminals
  - They believed that you should help those in need

**Righteousness** – doing what is proper. Jews are supposed to behave properly even if others around them are not.

# Religious and Moral Law

- God gave them laws to follow.
- All Jews have an obligation to follow them.
- Kings were not above the law.

# The Ten Commandments

- Most important Jewish laws, a smaller part of a bigger **Jewish Law**.
- Moses recorded a system of laws that they were supposed to follow called **Mosaic law**.
- Guide people in daily life

# Mosaic Laws

- Governs how people:
  - Pray
  - Celebrate holidays
  - Sabbath – for Jews this is Saturday
  - Foods they can eat – no pork or shellfish



# Sacred Texts

- **The Torah**

- Most sacred text
- 5 books that include the history of the Jews
- Readers do not touch it

- **The Hebrew Bible**

- Look at page 238 – how many parts of the Hebrew Bible were there?

- **Commentaries**

- Talmud – lessons for every day



The Torah

The Hebrew Bible



# Scrolls

- Dead Sea Scrolls – writings of Jews from 2,000 years ago
- Look at page 239
  - How did the Dead Sea Scrolls gets discovered?



# How did Jews impact our World?

- Jews lived all over the Western World
- Their ideas shaped a lot of the western culture
  - Christianity (Jesus was Jewish)
  - Islam (descendants of Abraham)
- What texts do people today still use that the Jews believed in?

# Homework

- Read pages 86-88 in your workbook.
- Complete ALL questions on pages 86-88.