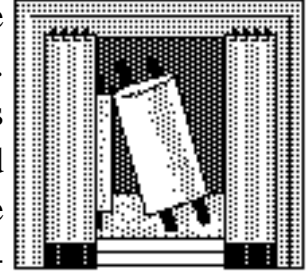


# סֵפֶר תּוֹרָה

## *Sepher Torah*

When HaShem gave the Torah to us on Mt. Sinai, He gave to us a supreme gift because He told us about Himself. He wrote down in words we could understand what He likes and does not like, what He wants us to do and not do, and how much He loves us. In fact, He loves us so much He wrote down promises in the Torah—promises He keeps forever!



Because the Torah HaShem gave to us is so wonderful and important, we have always kept it with us wherever we've gone. We read it and study it and ask HaShem to teach us what it means. In fact, the word *TORAH* (תּוֹרָה) means “teaching”, so the Torah is HaShem’s very own teaching for us! And, He gave us one of the most important jobs ever—He wants us to teach the Torah to all the people on the earth! He wants everyone to know Him, to worship Him alone, and to obey His commandments.

The most important promise that HaShem gave us in the Torah is that He would send our Messiah to cleanse us of our sins, to teach us, and to lead us to love Him and each other as we should. The Messiah’s name is Yeshua, and He came just as HaShem promised. He died for us and rose again so that we might have eternal life. He taught us that if we love HaShem, then we will love His Torah and obey it. Obeying the Torah is a way to show HaShem how much we love Him.

In ancient times we made copies of the Torah on vellum (leather from a sheep) pages sewn together and rolled up to make a scroll (סֵפֶר). We wrote the letters exactly as HaShem gave them to Moses so that we could always teach our children exactly what HaShem taught us. When our scribes make a Torah Scroll, they are very, very careful to make sure they don’t make any mistakes! They write the letters without vowels (because that’s how HaShem gave it to Moses) and they count the letters to make sure not one is missing!

They write the words HaShem gave to Moses, which we call the Books of Moses. There are five books altogether in the Torah. They are Bereshit (Genesis), Shemot (Exodus), Vayikra (Leviticus), Bemidbar (Numbers), and Devarim (Deuteronomy).