

Weekly Torah Readings -

Understanding Parashat HaShavua

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Torah Portions

Each week in synagogues around the world a portion from the Torah (called a *parashah*) is chanted. In total, the Torah is divided into 54 of these *parashiyot* - one for each week of a year - so that in the course of a year the entire Torah (from Genesis to Deuteronomy) has been chanted during services (during non-leap years there are fewer weeks so some weekly portions are doubled to keep up). **Note:** *Messianic Jews add weekly Brit Chadashah (and sometimes Ketuvim) readings as well.*



Weekly Readings
Holiday Readings
Perek Yomi Tehillim

The Torah Blessings and Aliyot

The Torah portions themselves are divided into sections, called *aliyot* (literally, "ascent"), and it is customary to call up people from the congregation to recite a blessing before and after the section. For Shabbat services each *parashah* is divided in seven *aliyot*, with a concluding portion (called the *Maftir*) recited by the person who will also recite the *Haftarah* blessings. This means that on a given Shabbat, eight people will be called to recite blessings over the Torah.

The Procedure for Making Aliyah

The person assigned *aliyah* is called up to the *bimah* (Torah reading table) by his Hebrew name. The cantor will point to the first word in the scroll that begins the portion. The person then touches the margin area closest to that point with his *tzitzit* and then touches the *tzitzit* to his lips. Standing directly in front of the scroll with both hands on the handles (*etz chayim*), he recites the *barekhu* and the **first Torah blessing**. He then releases the *etz chayim* and moves to the right to allow the cantor to read the portion. When the cantor is finished, the person again holds both *etz chayim* and recites the **second Torah blessing**. After this, the next person is called up to the *bimah* and the process repeats until all seven *aliyot* and the concluding *maftir* are completed.

Haftarah Portions

The weekly Torah portion is followed by an additional portion from the *Nevi'im* (Prophets) called *haftarah*. Normally the *haftarah* portion has some relation to the Torah portion of the week.

The Maftir and Haftarah

The *maftir* is the last *aliyah* of the Torah reading service on Shabbat, which usually comprises the last few verses of the week's Torah portion (on festivals and certain special Sabbaths, the *maftir* is a different reading: see the table below). The person who receives the *maftir* also recites the *haftarah* (a reading from the Prophets) and the **Haftarah blessings** that go with it. The *haftarah* and *maftir* are connected to show that the books of the Prophets must be grounded in the study of the Torah.

The Torah Reading Ceremony

The Torah and haftarah reading ceremonies are performed as follows: the Torah is taken from the Ark and paraded around the room before it is brought to rest on the *bimah* (torah reading podium). The weekly portion (*parashat hashavuah*) is divided up into portions (*pasukim*), and certain members of the congregation are called to **recite the blessing** over their assigned portion of the week's reading. This honor is referred to as an *aliyah* (literally, ascension or calling up).

The first aliyah of any day's reading is reserved for a kohen (that is, someone descended from the priestly line of Aaron, the brother of Moses), the second is reserved for a Levite, and subsequent aliyot are normally given to people celebrating major life events, such as marriage or the birth of a child. **[Click here to learn the blessing over the Torah.](#)**

Traditional Parashah Table

The following table lists the 54 sections according to conventional transliterated name. To find the current week's readings, you must consult a **Jewish Calendar** that lists the parashiot (and the seven aliyot with maftir). Click on the Scripture links to read the *entire* portion on your computer:

#	Parashat	Torah	Haftarah	Brit Chadashah
1	Bereshit (In The Beginning)10/17/09	Gen 1:1-6:8	Isa 42:5-43:11	Jn 1:1-5; Rev 22:6-21
2	Noach (Noah)	Gen 6:9-11:32	Isa 54:1-55:5	Mt 24:36-46; 1 Pet 3:18-22
3	Lekh Lekha (Go/Leave)	Gen 12:1-17:27	Isa 40:27-41:20	Rom 4:1-25
4	Vayera (and He appeared)	Gen 18:1-22:24	II Ki 4:1-37	Lk 1:26-38; 24:36-53; 2 Pet. 2:4-11
5	Chayei Sarah (Life of Sarah)	Gen 23:1-25:18	I Ki 1:1-31	Mt 1:1-17; 1 Cor 15:50-57
6	Toldot (Generations: line/story)	Gen 25:19-28:9	Mal 1:1-2:7	Rom 9:1-31
7	Vayetzei (and he left)	Gen 28:10-32:3	Hos 12:13-14:10	Jn 1:19-51
8	Vayishlach (and he sent)	Gen 32:4-36:43	Hos 11:7-12:12	Heb 11:11-20; Mt 26:36-46
9	Vayeshev (and he lived)	Gen 37:1-40:23	Amos 2:6-3:8	Mt 1:1-6, 16-25
10	Miketz (at the end)	Gen 41:1-44:17	I Ki 3:15-4:1	Mt 27:15-46; Rom 10:1-13
11	Vayigash (and/then he went up)	Gen 44:18-47:27	Ezek 37:15-37:28	Lk 6:9-16; Eph 2:1-10
12	Vayechi (and he lived)	Gen 47:28-50:26	I Ki 2:1-12	1 Pet 1:1-9, Hebrews 11:21-22
13	Shemot (and these are the names)	Ex 1:1-6:1	Isa 27:6-28:13; 29:22-23	1 Cor 14:18-25; Acts 7:17-29; Matt 10:16-28; Ya'akov 5:1-12
14	Va'era (and I appeared)	Ex 6:2-9:35	Ezek 28:25-29:21	Rom 9:14-33
15	Bo (go)	Ex 10:1-13:16	Jer 46:13-46:28	Lk 22:7-30; 1 Cor 11:20-34
16	Beshalach (when [he] let go)	Ex 13:17-17:16	Judges 4:4-5:31	Jn 6:15-71
17	Yitro (Jethro)	Ex 18:1-20:23	Isa 6:1-7:6; 9:5-9:6	Mt 5:8-20
18	Mishpatim (laws)	Ex 21:1-24:18	Jer 34:8-34:22; 33:25-26	Mt 5:38-42;17:1-11
19	Terumah (gift/offering/donation)	Ex 25:1-27:19	I Ki 5:26-6:13	2 Cor 9:1-15; Mt 5:33-37
20	Tetzaveh (you command)	Ex 27:20-30:10	Ezek 43:10-43:27	Heb 13:10-17
21	Ki Tisa (when you take)	Ex 30:11-34:35	I Ki 18:1-18:39	2 Cor 3:1-18
22	Vayakhel (and he assembled)	Ex 35:1-38:20	I Ki 7:40-7:50	2 Cor 9:6-11; 1 Cor 3:11-18
23	Pekudei (amounts of)	Ex 38:21-40:38	I Ki 7:51-8:21	Heb 1:1-14
24	Vayikra (He called)	Lev 1:1-5:26	Isa 43:21-44:23	Heb 10:1-18
25	Tzav (command)	Lev 6:1-8:36	Jer 7:21-8:3; 9:22-23	Heb 7:24-8:6
26	Shmini (eighth)	Lev 9:1-11:47	II Sam 6:1-7:17	Heb 7:1-19; 8:1-6 & Acts 10:9 - 22 & 34, 35
27	Tazria (she conceives)	Lev 12:1-13:59	II Ki 4:42-5:19	Lk 7:18-35; Mt 8:1-4
28	Metzora (one being diseased)	Lev 14:1-15:33	II Ki 7:3-7:20	Mt 23:16-24:2;30-31; Rom 6:19-23

29	Achrei Mot (after the death)	Lev 16:1-18:30	Ezek 22:1-22:19	Heb 9:11-28
30	Kedoshim (holy ones)	Lev 19:1-20:27	Amos 9:7-9:15	1 Cor 6:9-20; 1 Pet 1:13-16
31	Emor (speak)	Lev 21:1-24:23	Ezek 44:15-44:31	Lk 14:12-24; 1 Pet 2:4-10
32	Behar (on the mount)	Lev 25:1-26:2	Jer 32:6-32:27	Lk 4:16-21
33	Bechukotai (to my decrees)	Lev 26:3-27:34	Jer 16:19-17:14	Mt. 21:33-46; 2 Cor 6:14-18
34	Bamidbar (in the desert)	Num 1:1-4:20	Hos 2:1-2:22	Rom 9:22-33; 1 Cor 12:12-30
35	Nasso (take)	Num 4:21-7:89	Judges 13:2-13:25	Acts 21:17-26
36	Beha'alotcha (when you set up)	Num 8:1-12:16	Zech 2:14-4:7	1 Cor 10:6-13; Rev 11:1-19
37	Shelach (send/send for you)	Num 13:1-15:41	Josh 2:1-2:24	Heb 3:7-4:1
38	Korach (Korah son of Izhar)	Num 16:1-18:32	I Sam 11:14-12:22; Isaiah 66:1-24	Acts 5:1-11; Rom 13; Matthew: 18
39	Chukat (God Spoke)	Num 19:1-22:1	Judges 11:1-33, Psalm 139	John 3. Romans 8:31- 39
40	Balak (king of Moab)	Num 22:2-25:9	Micah 5:6-6:16	Matthew 7:12-29, 2nd Peter 2&3, Jude 3-24, Rev 2:12-17, Romans 11:25-32; 1 Cor 1:20-31
41	Pinchas (son of Eleazar)	Num 25:10-30:1	I Ki 18:46-19:21	Jn. 2:13-25, Romans 11:2-32
42	Matot (Tribes)	Num 30:2-32:42	Jer 1:1-2:3	Phil 3:7-21
43	Masei (Journeys)	Num 33:1-36:13	Jer 2:4-28; 3:4	James 4:1-12
44	Devarim (Words)	Deut 1:1-3:22	Isa 1:1-1:27	Acts 9:1-21; 1 Tim 3:1-7; Yochanon 15:1-11; Hebrews 3:7-4:11
45	Vaetchanan (I Pleaded)	Deut 3:23-7:11	Isa 40:1-40:26	Mt 23:31-39; Matthew) 4:1-11; Mk 12:28-34; Acts 13:13-43; Romans 3:27-31; Ya'akov 2:14- 26
46	Eikev (Because)	Deut 7:12-11:25	Isa 49:14-51:3	Heb 11:8-13; Rom 8:31-39
47	Re'eh (See)	Deut 11:26-16:17	Isa 54:11-55:5	Jn 7:37-52; 1 Jn 4:1-6
48	Shoftim (Judges)	Deut 16:18-21:9	Isa 51:12-52:12	Jn 1:19-27; Acts 3:22-23
49	Ki Teitzei (When You Go)	Deut 21:10-25:19	Isa 54:1-54:10	Mt 5:27-30; 1 Cor 5:1-5
50	Ki Tavo (When You Enter)	Deut 26:1-29:8	Isa 60:1-60:22	Lk 21:1-4; Eph 1:3-6
51	Nitzavim (Ones Standing)	Deut 29:9-30:20	Isa 61:10-63:9	Rom 10:1-12; Acts 19-20
52	Vayeilech (Then He Went Out)	Deut 31:1-31:30	Isa 55:6-56:8	Rom 10:14-18
53	Ha'Azinu (Listen)	Deut 32:1-32:52	II Sam 22:1-51	Rom 10:14-11:12
54	Vezot Haberakhah (This is the Blessing)	Deut 33:1-34:12	Josh 1:1-18	Rev 22:1-5

Additional Parashiot for Holidays

Below are additional readings for holidays and special shabbats. Note that on holidays, the *maftir* portion is different than the usual Torah reading:

Parashat	Torah	Haftarah	Brit Chadashah
Rosh Hashanah Day 1	Gen 21:1-34; Num 29:1-6	I Sam 1:1-2:10	1 Thess 4:13-18
Rosh Hashanah Day 2	Gen 21:1-34 Num 29:1-6	Jer 31:1-19	1 Thess 4:13-18
Shabbat Shuvah	Deut 32:1-32:52	Hos 14:2-10; Micah 7:18-20; Joel 2:15-27	Rom 10:14-11:12
Yom Kippur (shacharit)	Lev 16:1-34 Num 29:7-11	Isa 57:14-58:14	Rom 3:21-26; Cor 5:10-21
Yom Kippur (minchah)	Lev 18:1-30	Jonah 1:1-4:11; Micah 7:18-20	Rom 3:21-26; 2 Cor 5:10-21
Sukkot 1	Lev 22:26-23:44 Num 29:12-16	Zech 14:1-21	Jn 1:10-14; Rev 7:1-10; 21:1-4
Sukkot 2	Lev 22:26-23:44 Num 29:12-16	I Ki 8:2-21	Jn 1:10-14; Rev 7:1-10; 21:1-4
Sukkot CH" M 1	Num 29:17-25		Jn 1:10-14; Rev 7:1-10; 21:1-4
Sukkot CH" M 2	Num 29:20-28		Jn 1:10-14; Rev 7:1-10; 21:1-4
Sukkot CH" M 3	Num 29:23-31		Jn 1:10-14; Rev 7:1-10; 21:1-4
Sukkot CH" M 4	Num 29:26-34		Jn 1:10-14; Rev 7:1-10; 21:1-4
Sukkot Shabbat	Ex 33:12-34:26	Ezek 38:18-39:16; Ecclesiastes (K)	Jn 7:37-44
Hoshana Rabbah	Num 29:26-34		Jn 7:1-2, 37-44
Shemini Atzeret	Deut 14:22-16:17 Num 29:35-30:1	I Ki 8:54-9:1	Mt 17:1-9; Mk 12:28-33
Simchat Torah	Deut 33:1-34:12 Gen 1:1-2:3; Num 29:35-30:1	Josh 1:1-18	Mt 5:17-48; Rom 7:21-25
Chanukah 1	Num 7:1-17		Jn 9:1-7; Jn 10:22-39
Chanukah 2	Num 7:18-29		Jn 9:1-7; Jn 10:22-39
Chanukah 3	Num 7:24-35		Jn 9:1-7; Jn 10:22-39
Chanukah 4	Num 7:30-41		Jn 9:1-7; Jn 10:22-39
Chanukah 5	Num 7:36-47		Jn 9:1-7; Jn 10:22-39
Chanukah 6	Num 7:42-47		Jn 9:1-7; Jn 10:22-39
Chanukah 7	Num 7:48-59		Jn 9:1-7; Jn 10:22-39
Chanukah 8	Num 7:54-8:4		Jn 9:1-7; Jn 10:22-39
Asarah B'Tevet	Ex 32:11-34:10		
Tu B'Shevat	Ps 104:16-17; Psalms 120-134		Mt 7:13-24, 28-29
Shekalim	Ex 30:11-16	II Ki 11:17-12:17	
Ta'anit Esther	Ex 32:11-34:10	Esther (K)	Mt 6:16-18; Lk 2:36-37

Zakhor (Purim)	Deut 25:17-19	I Sam 15:1-34	
Purim	Ex 17:8-16	Esther (K)	Heb 11
Parah	Num 19:1-22	Ezek 36:16-38	
Ha-Chodesh	Ex 12:1-20	Ezek 45:16-46:18	
Shabbat Ha-Gadol		Mal 3:4-24	
Passover Day 1	Ex 12:21-51 Num 28:16-25	Josh 3:5-7; 5:2-6:1; 6:27	Lk 22:7-20; Jn 1:29-31; 1 Cor 15:20-28
Passover Day 2	Lev 22:26-23:44 Num 28:16-25	II Ki 23:1-9; 21-25	
Passover CH"M 1	Ex 13:1-16; Num 28:19-25		
Passover CH"M 2	Ex 22:24-23:19; Num 28:19-25		
Passover CH"M 3	Ex 34:1-26; Num 28:19-25		
Passover CH"M 4	Ex 9:1-14; Num 28:19-25		
Passover (shabbat)	Ex 33:12-34:26 Num 28:19-25	Ezek 37:1-37:14 Song of Songs (K)	Rev 15:1-4
Passover Day 7	Ex 13:17-15:26 Num 28:19-25	II Sam 22:1-51	
Passover Day 8	Deut 15:19-16:17 Num 28:19-25	Isa 10:32-12:6	
Firstfruits (Habbikurim)	Ex 23:19; Deut 26:1-11		Rev 15:1-4
Yom HaShoah	Deut 4:30-40		Rev 6:9-11
Yom Hazikaron			
Yom Ha'atmaut	Deut 11:8-21	Isa 10:32-11:12	Mt 24:29-44
Lag Ba'Omer			
Yom Yerushalayim			
Shavuot Day 1	Ex 19:1-20:23; Num 28:26-31	Ezek 1:1-28; 3:12; Ruth (K)	Jn 1:32-34; Mt 3:11-17; Acts 2:1-21, 37-41
Shavuot Day 2	Deut 15:19-16:17	Hab 2:20-3:19	Acts 2:1-13
Tisha B'Av (shacharit)	Deut 4:25-40	Jer 8:13-9:23	Mt 3:11-17
Tisha B'Av (Minchah)	Ex 32:11-14, 34:1-10	Isa 55:6-56:8; Lam (K)	Mt 23:16-23; 24:1-2
Rosh Chodesh (weekday)	Num 28:1-15		
Rosh Chodesh (shabbat)	Num 28:9-15	Isa 66:1-24	

Perek Yomi Tehillim

There are two ways Orthodox Jews read through the book of Psalms (*Tehillim*). One way is to read through the entire Tehillim every week. Using this method, each day of the week is assigned a specific portion of the whole, as follows:

Sun	Mon	Teu	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1-29	30-50	51-72	73-89	90-106	107-119	120-150

For example, on Sundays you would recite Psalm 1 (*Mizmor Aleph*) through Psalm 29 (*Mizmor Kaf-Tet*), on Mondays you would recite Psalm 30 (*Mizmor Lamed*) through Psalm 50 (*Mizmor Nun*), and so on, until the entire book is read through on Shabbat. The process repeats the following Sunday with the same portions.

The other method is to read through Tehillim every month. Using this method, each day of the Hebrew month is assigned a (smaller) portion of the whole, as follows:

First Week

Day	Psalms
01	1-9
02	10-17
03	18-22
04	23-28
05	29-34
06	35-38
07	39-43

Second Week

Day	Psalms
08	44-48
09	49-54
10	55-59
11	60-65
12	66-68
13	69-71
14	72-76

Third Week

Day	Psalms
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15	77-78
16	79-82
17	83-87
18	88-89
19	90-96
20	97-103
21	104-105

Fourth Week

Day	Psalms
22	106-107
23	108-112
24	113-118
25	119:1-96
26	119:97-176
27	120-134
28	125-139

Fifth Week

Day	Psalms
29*	140-144
30	145-150

Note: Since the Hebrew calendar alternates between a short month (29 days) and a long month (30 days), during a short month, psalms 145-150 are recited on the twenty-ninth day of the month.

Blessing Before the Torah:

Bar'chu et Adonai ham'vorach!

Baruch Adonai ham'vorach l'olam va'ed!

Baruch Ata, Adonai Eloheinu, melech

ha'olam, asher bachar-banu mikol-

ha'amim v'natan lanu et-torato. Baruch Ata

Adonai, noten hatorah.

בָּרְכוּ אֶת־יְיָ הַמְּבָרֵךְ!

בְּרוּךְ יְיָ הַמְּבָרֵךְ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד!

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ, מֶלֶךְ

הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר בָּחַר־בָּנוּ מִכָּל־

הָעַמִּים וְנָתַן־לָנוּ אֶת־תּוֹרָתוֹ.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יְיָ, נוֹתֵן הַתּוֹרָה.

Praise Adonai to Whom our praise is due!

Praised be Adonai to Whom our praise is due, now and forever!

Praised be Adonai our God, Ruler of the Universe, who has chosen us from all peoples by giving us the Torah. We praise You, Adonai, Giver of the Torah.

Blessing After the Torah:

Baruch Ata, Adonai Eloheinu, melech

ha'olam, asher natan lanu Torat emet

v'chayei olam nata b'tocheinu. Baruch Ata

Adonai, notein hatorah.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ, מֶלֶךְ

הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר נָתַן לָנוּ תּוֹרַת

אֱמֶת וְחַיֵּי עוֹלָם נִטַּע בְּתוֹכֵנוּ.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה, יְיָ, נוֹתֵן הַתּוֹרָה.

Praised be our Eternal God, Ruler of the universe, who has given us a Torah of truth, implanting within us eternal life. We praise You, Adonai, Giver of the Torah.