

Recitations



Jehovah is my strength and my shield;
My heart trusts in Him, and I am helped,
And my heart triumphs;
And from my song will I confess Him.

Psalm 28:7

Why learn recitations?

1. "And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart; and you shall teach them diligently to your children."
(Deut. 6:6-7)
2. In the New Testament, the Lord sets an example for us by often quoting Scripture.
3. By knowing actual statements from the Word, a person is equipped to fight when in temptation, as the Lord did in the wilderness.
4. Knowing scriptural passages is necessary to confirm and uphold the doctrine of genuine truth.
5. Having passages of Scripture in one's mind provides vessels in which to receive influx from the Lord and be conjoined with Him, for He is the Word made flesh.
6. During the process of learning and reciting passages from the Word, there is a direct association with angels. We have the opportunity to feel their delight, thus developing our affection for the Word.
7. The Word is the only way to learn about the Lord God, life after death, heaven and hell, and how to live and believe in order to be happy forever (AC 8939:3).

Translation

In Old Testament passages that are very familiar, we have used "LORD" with small capitals in place of Jehovah. Though the Heavenly Doctrine always uses Jehovah for this name, it also says that Jehovah is the Lord Himself (AC 14, TCR 82-83).

In modern English, we do not have a way to distinguish "you" - singular from "you" - plural ("you all"). The Writings say that the singular means love, affection and good, while the plural means wisdom, thoughts and truths. To note this difference, which is clear in the Hebrew and Greek, we use "thee, thou, thy" when it is singular.

Words in small italics are not found in the Hebrew or Greek. They are added to make the English easier to read.

1) Bklt. Tuesday, September 1 – Monday, September 14

Jehovah is my strength and my shield;
My heart trusts in Him, and I am helped,
And my heart triumphs;
And from my song will I confess Him.
Jehovah is a strength to them,
And He is the stronghold of the salvations of His anointed.
Save Thy people, and bless Thine inheritance,
And shepherd them and lift them up, even to eternity.

Psalm 28:7-9

2) 104. Tuesday, September 15 – Monday, September 28

Minister: And Jesus said to him,

Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with thy whole heart, and with thy whole soul, and with thy whole mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law and the Prophets.

Matthew 22:37-40

3) 31. Tuesday, September 29 – Monday, October 12

Priest: And God spoke all these words, saying,

I am the LORD thy God, who brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of servitude.

Thou shalt have no other gods before My face. Thou shalt not make unto thee a carved [image], or any likeness [of anything] that is in the heavens above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the waters under the earth.

Thou shalt not bow thyself down to them, nor serve them. For I, the LORD thy God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the sons, on the third and on the fourth generation of those who hate Me, and doing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.

Exodus 20:1-6

4) Bklt. Tuesday, October 13 – Monday, October 26

וַיְדַבֵּר אֱלֹהִים אֶת כָּל־הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה לְאָמֹר:
 le'-mor: ha-'el-leh, had-d va-rim kol-'eth 'elo-him wai-y dhab-ber
 saying: (the) these (the) words all God And spake

אָנֹכִי יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיךָ אֲשֶׁר הוֹצֵאתִיךָ
 ho|-tse-thi-kha 'asher 'elo-he-kha YHOWAH 'a|-no-khi I
 brought thee out who thy Gods the LORD I [am]

מִמִּצְרַיִם מִבֵּית מִצְרַיִם עֲבָדִים:
 'ava-dhim. mib-beth mits-rai-yim, me-'e-rets
 servants. from house of Egypt, from land of

לֹא־יְהִי לְךָ אֱלֹהִים אֲחֵרִים עַל־פְּנָי:
 pa-nai. 'al 'ache-rim 'elo-him l kha yi-h yeh lo|-
 my faces before other gods to thee shall be Not

לֹא־תַעֲשֶׂה לְךָ פְּסֶל וְכָל־תְּמוּנָה
 t moo-nah w khol- phe-sel l kha thal-'aseh lo|-
 likeness [of] and any graven image to thee thou shalt make Not

אֲשֶׁר בַּשָּׁמַיִם מִמַּעַל וְאֲשֶׁר בְּאֶרֶץ
 ba-'a-rets wa|-'asher mim-ma-'al, bash-sha-mai-yim 'asher
 in earth and what [is] from above, in heavens what [is]

מִתַּחַת וְאֲשֶׁר בַּמַּיִם מִתַּחַת לְאֶרֶץ:
 la-'a-rets. mit-ta-chath bam-mai-yim wa|-'asher mit-ta-chath,
 to earth. from under in waters and what [is] from under,

לֹא־תִשְׁתַּחֲוֶה לָהֶם וְלֹא תַעֲבָדֵם
 tho|-''ov-dhem; w lo' la-hem thish-ta|-chaweh lo'|-
 thou shalt serve them; and not to them thou shalt bow down Not

כִּי אֲנֹכִי יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵיךָ אֵל קָנָא
 kan-na', 'el 'elo-he-kha YHOWAH 'a|-no-khi ki
 jealous, [am] a God thy Gods the LORD I for

שְׁלִישִׁים	עַל-	בְּנִים	עַל-	אָבֹת	עוֹן	פְּקֹד
shil-le- <i>shim</i> ,	"al-	ba- <i>nim</i> ,	"al-	'a- <i>voth</i>	"awon	po-kedh
thirds,	upon	sons,	upon	fathers	iniquity of	visiting

חֶסֶד	וְעָשָׂה	לְשׂוֹנְאֵי:	רִבְעִים	וְעַל-
<i>che-sedh</i>	w "o-seh	l sol-n' <i>ai</i> ,	rib-be-" <i>im</i>	w "al-
mercy	and doing	to haters of me,	fourths	and upon

מִצְוֹתַי:	וְלִשְׁמֵרֵי	לְאַהֲבָי	לְאַלְפִים
mits-wo- <i>thai</i> .	oo-l sho -m re	l 'o <i>havai</i> ,	la -'ala- <i>phim</i>
my commands.	and to keepers of	to lovers of me,	to thousands

5) 55. Tuesday, October 27 – Monday, November 9

The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear Him
And sets them free.

Taste and see that the LORD is good;

Happy is the man [who] has confidence in Him.

Psalm 34:7-8

6) 73. Tuesday, November 10 – Monday, November 16

The eyes of all wait for Thee,

And Thou givest them their food in its time.

Thou openest Thy hand,

And satisfiest every living thing with good pleasure.

Psalm 145:15-16

7) Bklt. Tuesday, November 17 – Monday, Nov. 30

Three times thou shalt celebrate to Me in the year.

Thou shalt keep the Festival of Unleavened Things... and the Festival of the Harvest, of the firstfruits of thy works, which thou didst sow in the field; and the Festival of Ingathering, in the going out of the year, when thou gatherest in thy works from the field. Three times in the year every male of thine shall be seen before the faces of the Lord Jehovah.

Exodus 23:4-17

8) 2 in Advent Bk. Tuesday, December 1 – Monday, December 7

The scepter shall not be removed from Judah, and a lawgiver from between his feet, even until Shiloh comes; and to Him will be the obedience of the peoples.

Genesis 49:10

9) 17 in Advent Bk. Tuesday, December 8 – Friday, December 18

And Mary said unto the angel, How shall this be, since I know not a man? And answering the angel said to her, The Holy Spirit shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee; therefore also the Holy One who shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

And behold, thy cousin Elizabeth, she has also conceived a son in her old age; and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren. For with God not any word shall be impossible.

And Mary said, Behold, the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her.

Luke 1:34-38

10) 32. Monday, January 4 – Tuesday, January 19

Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him innocent who takes His name in vain.

Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labor and do all thy work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the LORD thy God. [In it] thou shalt not do any work: thou, nor thy son nor thy daughter, thy manservant nor thy maidservant, nor thy beast, nor thy sojourner who is within thy gates. For [in] six days the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and hallowed it.

Exodus 20:7-11

11) 115. Wednesday, January 20 – Monday, February 1

In My Father's house are many dwellings, and if not, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am you may be also.

John 14:2-3

12) 108. Tuesday, February 2 – Tuesday, February 16

Everyone who comes to Me and hears My words and does them, I will show you whom he is like:

He is like a man building a house, who dug and went deep and laid a foundation on the rock. And there was a flood; the river burst against that house, and it did not have the strength to shake it, for it was founded on the rock.

But he who hears and does not do them is like a man who built a house on the earth without a foundation, against which the river burst, and straightway it fell; and the ruin of that house was great.

Luke 6:47-49

13) Bklt. Wednesday, February 17 – Friday, March 5

אֱלֹהֵיךָ	יְהוָה	שֵׁם-	אֶת-	תִּשָּׂא	לֹא	
'elo-he-kha thy Gods	YHOWAH the LORD	shem- name of	'eth-	this-sah thou shalt put	lo' Not	II

יְהוָה	יִנְקֶה	לֹא	כִּי	לְשׂוֹא	
YHOWAH the LORD	y nak-keh will hold guiltless	lo' not	ki for	lash-shaoo'; to vanity;	

לְשׂוֹא	שְׁמוֹ	אֶת-	יִשָּׂא	אֲשֶׁר-	אֵת
lash-shaoo'. to vanity.	sh mo His name	'eth-	yis-sa' putteth	'asher- who	'eth

לְקַדְּשׁוֹ:	הַשַּׁבָּת	יוֹם	אֶת-	זְכוֹר	
l kad-d sho. to hallow it.	hash-shab-bath the Sabbath	yom day	'eth-	za-khor Remember	III

מְלֵאכְתֶּךָ:	כָּל-	וְעָשִׂיתָ	תַּעֲבֹד	יָמִים	שֵׁשֶׁת
m la'kh-te-kha. thy work.	kol- all	w ''a-si-tha and shalt do	tal-''avodh thou shalt serve	yo-mim days	she-sheth Six

אֱלֹהֵיךָ	לִיהוָה	שַׁבָּת	הַשְּׁבִיעִי	וְיוֹם
e'lo-he-kha; thy Gods;	LAI-HOWAH to the LORD	shab-bath Sabbath	hash-sh vi-''i the seventh [is]	w yom and day

אַתָּה	מְלֵאכָה	כָּל-	תַּעֲשֶׂה	לֹא-
'at-tah, thou,	m la'-khah, thy work	khol- any [of]	tha -'aseh thou shalt do	lo'- not

וְאִמָּתְךָ	עַבְדְּךָ	וּבִתְךָ	וּבִנְךָ-
wa -'ama th kha, and thy maidservant,	''av-d kha thy manservant	oo-vit-te-kha, and thy daughter,	oo-vin-kha- and thy son

בְּשַׁעְרֶיךָ:	אֲשֶׁר	וְגֵרְךָ	וּבְהֵמָתְךָ
bish-''ar-re-kha. in thy gates.	'asher which [is]	w ghe r kha' and thy stranger	oo-v hem-te-kha, and thy beast,

יְהוָה	עָשָׂה	יָמִים	שֵׁשֶׁת־	כִּי
YHOWAH	"a-sah	yo-mim	shel-sheth-	ki
the LORD	made	days	[in] six	for

הַיָּם	אֶת־	הָאָרֶץ	וְאֶת־	הַשָּׁמַיִם	אֶת־
hai-yam,	'eth-	ha-'a-rets	w'eth-	hash-sha-mai-yim,	'eth-
the sea,		the earth	and	the heavens,	

הַשְּׁבִיעִי	בַּיּוֹם	וַיִּנַּח	בָּם	אֲשֶׁר־	כֹּל־	וְאֶת־
hash-sh vi-"i;	bai-yom	wai-ya-nach	bam;	asher-	kol-	w'eth-
the seventh;	in day	and rested	[is] in them;	which	all	and

הַשַּׁבָּת	יוֹם	אֶת־	יְהוָה	בְּרַךְ	בֵּן	עַל־
hash-shab-bath	yom	'eth-	YHOWAH	be-rahk	ken	"al-
the Sabbath	day		the LORD	blessed	so	upon

וַיְקַדְּשֵׁהוּ:

wai-y kad-d she-hoo.
and hallowed it.

14) 75. Monday, March 15 – Monday, March 29

A voice says, Proclaim! And I said, What shall I proclaim?

All flesh is grass, and all its holiness is as the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, for the spirit of Jehovah blows on it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the Word of our God shall rise up to eternity.

Isaiah 40:6-8

15) Bklt. Tuesday, March 30 – Monday, April 12

And entering into the sepulcher, they saw a young man sitting on the right, arrayed in a white robe; and they were astounded. But he says to them, Do not be astounded. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified; He is risen; He is not here; see, the place where they put Him. But go your way, tell His disciples and Peter that He goes before you into Galilee; there you shall see Him, as He said to you.

Mark 16:5-7

16) 33. Tuesday, April 13 – Monday, April 26

Honor thy father and thy mother, that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God gives thee.

Thou shalt not murder.

Thou shalt not commit adultery.

Thou shalt not steal.

Thou shalt not answer false witness against thy neighbor.

Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's house.

Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife, or his manservant, or his maidservant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is thy neighbor's.

Exodus 20:12-17

17) 41. Tuesday, April 27 – Monday, May 10

Hear, O Israel: Jehovah [is] our God; Jehovah [is] one. And thou shalt love Jehovah thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy powers.

And these words, which I command thee this day, shall be upon thy heart, and thou shalt teach them diligently to thy sons, and shalt speak of them when thou sittest in thy house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thy hand, and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes. And thou shalt write them on the doorposts of thy house, and on thy gates.

Deuteronomy 6:4-9

18) Tuesday, May 11 – Monday, May 24

הָאָדָמָה	עַל	יְמֵיךָ	יֵאָרְכוּן	לְמַעַן
ha-'adha-mah the ground	'al upon	yo-me-kha thy days	ya -'ari-khooon shall be long	l ma-'an to [the] end [that]

: לָךְ	נָתַן	אֱלֹהֶיךָ	יְהוָה	אֲשֶׁר-
lakh. to thee.	no-then giveth	'elo-he-kha thy Gods	YHOWAH the LORD	'asher- which

: תִּרְצַח	לֹא	
tir-tsach. thou shalt murder.	lo' Not	V

: תִּנְאַף	לֹא	
tin-'aph. thou shalt commit adultery.	lo' Not	VI

: תִּגְנוֹב	לֹא	
tigh-nov. thou shalt steal.	lo' Not	VII

: שִׁקֵּר	עֵד	בְּרֵעֶךָ	תַּעֲנֶה	לֹא-
sha-ker. a lie.	'edh witness of	v re -'akha unto thy neighbor	tha -'aneh thou shalt answer	lo'- Not

רֵעֶךָ	בֵּית	תַּחְמוֹד	לֹא	
re-'e-kha. thy neighbor.	beth house of	thach-modh thou shalt covet	lo' Not	IX

וְעַבְדּוֹ	רֵעֶךָ	אִשְׁתּוֹ	תַּחְמוֹד	לֹא-
w 'av-do, and his manservant,	re-'e-kha, thy neighbor,	'e-sheth wife of	thach-modh thou shalt covet	lo' Not

: לְרֵעֶךָ	אֲשֶׁר	וְכֹל	וְתַמְרוֹ	וְשׁוֹרוֹ	וְאָמָתוֹ
l re-'e-kha. to thy neighbor.	'asher which [is]	w khol and all	wa -'chamo-ro, and his ass,	w sho-ro and his ox,	wa -'ama-tho, and his maidservant,

19) 128. Tuesday, May 25 – Friday, June 4

The kingdoms of the world have become [*kingdoms*] of our Lord and of His Christ, and He shall reign for ages of ages... We give Thee thanks, Lord God Almighty, who is, and who was, and who is to come, because Thou hast taken Thy great power, and hast reigned.

Revelation 11:15, 17