

RECITATIONS

שִׁמְעוּ יִשְׂרָאֵל יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵינוּ יְהוָה אֶחָד
וְאַהַבְתָּ אֶת יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ בְּכֹל-
לִבְבְּךָ וּבְכֹל-נַפְשְׁךָ וּבְכֹל-מְאֹדְךָ :

Shema, Yisrael; Jehovah Elohenu; Jehovah echadh.

W' ahav-ta eth Jehovah Elohekha b' khol

l' vav' kha oo v' khol naph-sh' kha oo v' khol m' odhe' kha.

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.

Deuteronomy 6:4-5

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 “the 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. Large italics show words included in the Heavenly Doctrine’s translation of a verse.

1) 41. Tuesday, September 6 – Monday, September 19

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 diligently¹ 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

2) 40. Tuesday, September 20 – Monday, October 3

Thou shalt not hate thy brother in thy heart.
Reproving, thou shalt reprove thy fellow man, and not bear a sin against him. Thou shalt not avenge, and thou shalt not bear a grudge [against] the sons of thy people, but thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself: I [am] Jehovah.

Leviticus 19:17-18

¹ “teach diligently”: literally, “sharpen”

3) 42. Tuesday, October 4 – Monday, October 17

And He humbled thee, and made thee hunger, and fed thee manna, which thou didst not know, neither did thy fathers know, so that He might make thee know that man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of the LORD man shall live.

Deuteronomy 8:3

4) 31. Tuesday, October 18 – Monday, October 31

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

5) Bklt. Tuesday, November 1 – Monday, November 14

Priest:

וַיִּדְבֹר 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 אֱלֹהֶיךָ אֲשֶׁר הוֹצֵאתִיךָ מֵאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם מִבֵּית עַבְדִּים:

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

מֵאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם מִבֵּית עַבְדִּים:

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

לֹא־ יִהְיֶה 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 פֶסֶל וְכָל־ תְּמוּנָה:

t moo-nah w khol- phe-sel l kha tha|-'aseh lo|-
likeness [of] and any graven image to thee thou shalt make Not

אֲשֶׁר בַּשָּׁמַיִם מִמַּעַל וְאֲשֶׁר בְּאֶרֶץ:

bash-sha-mai-yim 'asher mim-ma-'al, ba-'a-rets
in heavens what [is] from above, in earth

מִתַּחַת וְאֲשֶׁר בַּמַּיִם מִתַּחַת לְאֶרֶץ:

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 תַעֲבֹדֵם:

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 אָנֹכִי יְהוָה אֱלֹהֶיךָ 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	עֲוֹן	פָּקֵד
shil-le-shim, thirds,	”al- upon	ba-nim, sons,	”al- upon	’a-voth fathers	”awon iniquity of	po-kedh visiting

חֶסֶד	וְעָשָׂה	לְשׂוֹנְאֵי:	רִבְעִים	וְעַל-
che-sedh mercy	w ”o-seh and doing	l sol-n’ai, to haters of me,	rib-be-”im fourths	w ”al- and upon

מִצְוֹתַי:	וְלִשְׁמֵרֵי	לְאַהֲבֵי	לְאַלְפִים
mits-wo-thai. my commands.	oo-l sho -m re and to keepers of	l ’o havai, to lovers of me,	la -’ala-phem to thousands

Exodus 20:1-6

6) Bklt. Tuesday, November 15 – Monday, November 28

Bless the LORD, O my soul,
 And all that is within me,
 *bless His holy name*².
 Bless the LORD, O my soul,
 And forget not all His benefits.

Psalms 103:1-2

7) 4. Tuesday, November 29 – Wednesday, December 7

Therefore the Lord Himself shall give you a sign:
 Behold, the virgin shall conceive, and bear a Son,
 and shall call His name Immanuel. Butter and honey
 He shall eat, that He may know to reject the evil and
 to choose the good.

Isaiah 7:14-15

² Literally, “the name of His holiness”

8) **13. Thursday, December 8 – Friday, December 16**

And all this was done that it might be fulfilled which was declared by the Lord through the prophet, saying,

Behold, the virgin shall have in the womb and bring forth a Son, and they shall call His name Emmanuel, which being interpreted is, God-with-us.³

And Joseph, being raised from sleep, did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him, and took [unto him] his wife, and knew her not, until she brought forth her firstborn Son; and he called His name Jesus.

Matthew 1:22-25

9) **116. Monday, January 2 – Tuesday, January 17**

Jesus says to him, Am I with thee so much time and thou hast not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father; and how sayest thou, show us the Father? Dost thou not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father is in Me?

The sayings that I speak to you, I do not speak from Myself; but the Father, who remains in Me, He does the works. Believe Me, that I *am* in the Father, and the Father *is* in Me; and if not, on account of the works themselves, believe Me.

John 14:9-11

³ Isaiah 7:14

10) 103. Wednesday, January 18 – Monday, January 30

And He answering said to them, Have you not read that He who made them from the beginning made *them* male and female⁴ and said, On this account a man shall leave father and mother, and shall join⁵ to his wife; and the two shall become one flesh?⁶ Wherefore they are no longer two, but one flesh. What, therefore, God has joined together, let not man pull apart⁷.

Matthew 19:4-6

11) 131. Tuesday, January 31 – Monday, February 13

Let us rejoice and be glad, and let us give the glory to Him; for the wedding of the Lamb is come, and His wife has prepared herself. And it was given to her that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright; for the fine linen is the just deeds of the holy. And he said to me, Write: Happy are they who have been called to the wedding supper of the Lamb.

Revelation 19:7-9

⁴ Genesis 1:27

⁵ "...shall **join** to his wife... What therefore God has **joined** together...." The first "join" literally means to "stick" or "be glued." The second "joined" literally means "yoked."

⁶ Genesis 2:24

⁷ The Greek word for "pull apart" is related to the word for "chasm," thus a complete break and not just a separation (see CL 234-270, 276).

12) 43. Tuesday, February 14 – Friday, February 24

For this commandment which I command thee today *is* not *too* wonderful for thee, neither *is* it far off.

It *is* not in the skies, to say, Who shall go up for us to the skies and fetch it for us, that we may hear it and do it?

Neither *is* it across the sea, to say, Who shall cross the sea for us and fetch it for us, that we may hear it and do it?

But the Word *is* very near to thee, in thy mouth and in thy heart, that thou mayest do it.

Deuteronomy 30:11-14

13) 125. Monday, February 25 – Friday, March 3

He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes I will give to eat of the tree of life, which is in the midst of the paradise of God.

Revelation 2:7

14) 104. Monday, March 13 – Monday, March 27

Priest: 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.⁸ This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself.⁹ On these two commandments hang the whole Law and the Prophets.

Matthew 22:37-40

⁸ Deuteronomy 6:5

⁹ Leviticus 19:18

15) Bklt. **Tuesday, March 28 – Tuesday, April 11**

And the angel answering said to the women, Fear not, for I know that you seek Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here, for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.

And going quickly, say to His disciples that He is risen from the dead; and behold, He goes before you into Galilee; there you shall see Him; behold, I have told you.

And going out quickly from the sepulcher with fear and great joy, they ran to report *this* to His disciples.

Matthew 28:5-8

16) 106. **Wednesday, April 12 – Monday, April 24**

So is the kingdom of God, as if a man should cast seed into the earth, and should sleep and rise night and day, and the seed should sprout and grow up, he knows not how. For of its own accord the earth bears fruit, first a blade, then an ear, then full wheat in the ear. But when the fruit is ripe, straightway he sends in the sickle, because the harvest stands *ready*.

Mark 4:26-29

17) 80. **Tuesday, April 25 – Monday, May 1**

Obey My voice, and I will be your God, and you shall be My people; and walk in all the way that I have commanded you, that it may be well for you.

Jeremiah 7:23

18) 97. Tuesday, May 2 – Monday, May 15

All things whatever you want men to do for you, you should also do for them; for this is the Law and the Prophets.

Matthew 7:12

19) 132. Tuesday, May 16 – Tuesday, May 30

And I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse; and He who sits upon him *is* called Faithful and True; and in justice He judges and makes war. And His eyes *are* as a flame of fire, and upon His head *are* many diadems¹⁰, having a name written that no one knew except Himself. And He *is* arrayed with a garment dipped in blood; and His name is called, The Word of God.

Revelation 19:11-13

20) 134. Wednesday, May 31 – Friday, June 9

And I, John, saw the holy city New Jerusalem coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband....

And the angel... spoke with me, saying, Come, I will show thee the bride, the Lamb's wife. And he carried me away in the spirit upon a great and high mountain, and showed me the great city, the holy Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God.

Revelation 21:2, 9-10

¹⁰ "Diadems" are precious stones (AR 540, AE 717).