

Judaism Beliefs - End of Topic test

Q1 What do Jews mean by 'The Shekinah'? (2 marks)

The divine presence of God - where Jews think they can feel God's presence most strongly. It is believed that this could be felt at the temple before it was destroyed in 70 AD.

2

Q2 Describe Jewish teachings about the Messiah? (5 marks)

Touch?

Jews believe that the messiah will come in the messianic age, in the Torah, it states that he will bring all the Jews to Jerusalem and rebuild the temple. In the Talmud, it states that he will ~~bring~~ resurrect everyone, however, reformed Jews do not believe this but some orthodox Jews do. Also some Jews believe that the messiah will be a descendant of King David. The messiah is the chosen one from God. He will bring world peace, many reformed Jews however, reject the idea of a messiah and think the messianic age will be when there is world peace which is caused by humans.

5

Q3 'The most important belief in Judaism is keeping the covenant' (15 marks)

~~Some Jews may agree with this statement, this is because it is~~

A covenant is a solemn agreement made between 2 parties, they are usually conditional, in Judaism, the 2 main ones are with Abraham and Moses.
 That the covenant is the most important belief in Judaism is the Shekinah → spell it out
 covenant

Many Jews may agree with this because the relationship between God and humans was built on this covenant. In the covenant with Abraham, God gave him the promised land and told him his descendants would be kings.

So ✓ Q4 God tells Abraham 'your descendants will be kings of nations', and all his descendants are Jews. As a sign of ^{this} circumcision, God gave Abraham circumcision, a sign that should be made on a boy's head at 8 days to show the covenant between God. This shows us the importance of the covenant to God. As another covenant he made was with Moses, this was given to him after he led the Jews out of Egypt away from slavery. A sign of this covenant was the 613 mitzvot ^{including} and the 10 commandments, which ~~many~~ Jews live by and follow daily as they believe that by following these it will build a relationship with God, therefore, making this a very important principle.

in Judaism.

However, some Jews may disagree with this as they think that Pikuach Nefesh is the most important belief in Judaism. Pikuach Nefesh is the belief that you can override any, but 3, of the Mitzvot in order to save a life. This is because life is the most important thing since humans are made in the image of God. In the Talmud it says, 'you should live, not die by the Torah', this shows us how important life is to Judaism. ~~that~~ This belief should overrule the covenants because you can break the Mitzvot, which is part of a covenant with God. An example of when you could break the Mitzvot would be if you ~~are~~ have to go to work as a Doctor on Sabbath day because it means that you will save a life. In Judaism, the saying L'Chaim, is said at many special occasions which means to life.

* (meaning belief in God.)

In conclusion, I think that the covenant is the most important belief in Judaism, this is because the most important principle of Judaism is monotheism which was started with the covenant with Abraham. Also, during the covenant with Moses he sent thunder and lightning to Mount Sinai to show the importance. The covenants have all impacts on Jews daily life, therefore making them the most important belief. Centrality of the Torah - the Law

In the Torah "The Law of the Lord is perfect renewing the soul"

③ Explain beliefs about the Afterlife in Judaism?

In Judaism, there is no mention of the Afterlife in the Torah, for this reason, many Jews tend not to think about death.

Jews think of the life to come as olam ha-ba, and some believe that this will come during the Messianic age ~~when~~ Jehovah and he will resurrect everyone. Reform Jews reject this idea as all ideas about resurrection have been removed from prayers and worship books. However, some Orthodox Jews accept this.

Also, some Jews think that we are preparing for the next life in this life and by following the Mitzvot and 10 commandments. A well known Jewish saying is 'This life is the night before Shabbat and you are preparing for

Eve

the next life in Mishnah! At Funads a text from wisdom 3 is said
~~that~~ 'They are at peace now', showing how the next life is more peaceful
than this one.

Orthodox Jews tend to accept the idea of the resurrection of the body and
soul, so therefore don't want to be cremated.

Reform Jews, reject the idea of resurrection and think that by living this
life to the fullest we are preparing for the next life.

Secular Jews think that we will live on in memories and reject the idea of
the afterlife.

8.

Cracking answers

