

SHABBAT



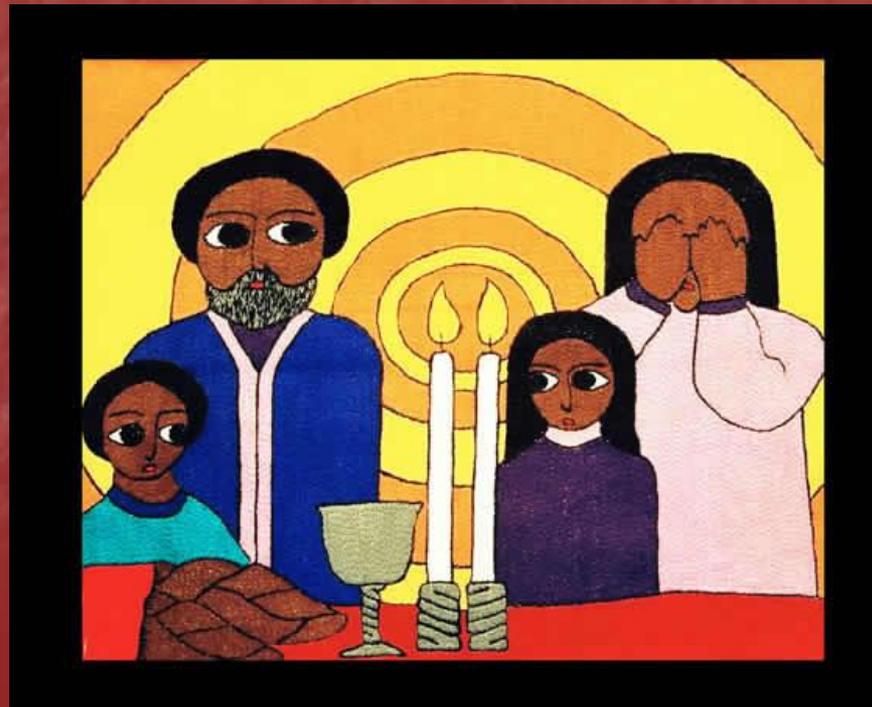
The Sabbath



Objectives

1. To understand the symbolic objects and actions found in the celebration of the Jewish Sabbath.
2. To recognise the importance of the Sabbath in the lives of Jewish people.

- Shabbat occurs between sunset on Friday and sunset on Saturday.
- No work should be done during this time.
- It is observed by the majority of Jewish people every week.



Sabbath as the bride

- The rabbis used to say that every day of the week had a partner, except the seventh day, so God gave her to Israel as a bride.
- Like any bride, the Sabbath must be cared for and loved. Everything must be got ready for her before she arrives, and while she is there she must be the centre of attention. When she leaves, everyone will feel sorry.

WHAT DOES THIS ANALOGY OF THE SABBATH TELL US ABOUT ITS IMPORTANCE TO JEWISH PEOPLE?

Friday before sunset

- All Jewish people hurry home on Friday to make sure they are there in time for the

**THINK BACK TO THE EXODUS STORY OF THE MANNA.
CAN YOU SUGGEST WHY THERE ARE TWO
LOAVES SERVED ON THE SABBATH, NOT ONE LIKE ON OTHER
DAYS?**

Candles are ready to be lit.

Two loaves of bread called Challa are placed on the table covered with a special cloth called a Challa Decke.

Lighting the candles

- Just before the Mass begins, the housewife lights the candles. Her eyes are turned to the blessing



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The Friday Sabbath

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Sabbath on Saturday

- On Saturday morning the family go to the synagogue.
- During the service the Torah scroll is taken out of the Aron Hakodesh (Ark), and one portion or sidrah of the Torah is read. The reading is the most important part of the service.
- Any Jewish man (and in Reform Judaism any man or woman) may be called to share in the reading. This is a great honour.



Prayers on the Sabbath

- Jewish people say prayers on the Sabbath for:

The country in which they live



To remind them that they are one with all people.

In Orthodox synagogues, prayers are in Hebrew except, in Britain, where the prayer for the Queen is in English.

The State of Israel



To remind them that they are one with all Jews.

In Reform synagogues, some prayers are in Hebrew and some in English.

- The service is led by the Ba'al Tephilah or master of prayer. He is also known as the Chazan or cantor.
- During the service there is a sermon by the Rabbi.



The Havdalah Ceremony

- When the Sabbath is over.
- This is marked by a little ceremony called Havdalah.
- The Havdalah ceremony is marked by the lighting of a plaited candle.
- All five senses should be used in the ceremony.

HOW ARE EACH OF THE FIVE SENSES USED DURING THE HAVDALAH CEREMONY?

HAVDALAH MEANS 'SEPARATION'. WHY DO YOU THINK THE CEREMONY IS CALLED THIS?

There should be at least 3 wicks braided together to symbolise the strength and unity of the Jewish people.

The wicks remind us of the sweetness of the Sabbath, which remains with them All week.



Put these Sabbath activities into chronological order



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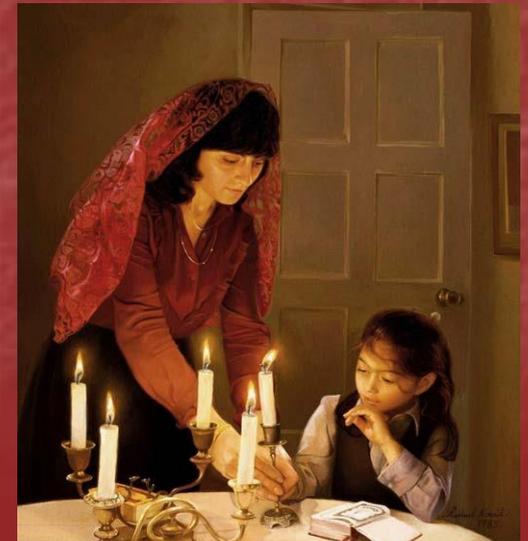
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