



TORAH WEEK 01 B'REISHIT

01 - Torah Portion: B'reishit בְּרֵאשִׁית ("In the Beginning")

Portion Summary:

In this first week's portion, B'reishit opens the Torah with the account of Creation. The text reveals YHVH's creative power in forming Shamayim (heavens), Adamah (earth), and all living creatures, culminating in the creation of humanity in YHVH's image.

Genesis chapters 1 through 6 narrate the beginning of Adamah, the story of Adam and Havah, the fall, and the genealogies that lead up to Noah. Key themes of creation, the nature of humanity, the consequences of sin, and the hope of redemption are introduced, laying the foundation for all subsequent scripture.

The Torah scrolls are the oldest and most sacred of all Israelite scriptures, containing the five books of the Hebrew text. The first week's reading, B'reishit, means "In the Beginning." The English name *Genesis* comes from the Septuagint (70), the Greek translation of the Hebrew Bible. The word *Genesis* means "Origin," so the Greek title for the first book of the Bible is "The Book of Origins."

Genesis describes the origins of everything. It begins with the origins of Creation, then focuses on the origins of mankind and their sinful (selfish) nature, the transgressions of the Watchers, and the birth of the Nephilim (children of fornication). This portion also addresses the origins of the nation of Israel.

Opening Prayer:

Blessed are you, Adonai YHVH our Father, Sovereign of Creation, who has given us your Torah of truth, implanting within us eternal life through Y'shua. our Messiah. Blessed are you, YHVH Eloheinu, Adonai, King of Creation.

Torah: (Books of Moses):

Genesis 1 – YHVH creates the firmament, adamah, light, land, seas, sun, moon, stars, and creatures, culminating with the creation of humanity (Adam and Havah) in His image.

Genesis 2 – The creation of man and woman, focusing on the Garden of Eden and the command not to eat from the tree of knowledge of good and evil.

Genesis 3 – The serpent tempts Havah; Adam and Havah eat the forbidden fruit, leading to sin, separation from Elohim, and eventual physical death.

Genesis 4 – The story of Cain and Abel. Cain's offering is rejected, leading to the first murder.

Genesis 5 – Genealogy from Adam to Noah, showing the passage of time and the human lineage.

Genesis 6 – Humanity's corruption increases; the Nephilim (giants) appear. YHVH prepares to send a deluge but spares Noah.

Nevi'im (Prophets):

Isaiah 8:20 – Calls for adherence to YHVH's Torah and testimony.

Isaiah 12:2-3 – Hymn of praise for YHVH's salvation and deliverance.

Isaiah 42:1, 10, 21 – Prophecies of YHVH's servant bringing justice to the nations.

Isaiah 43:1 – YHVH reassures Israel of His love and redemption.

Ketuvim (Writings):

Ecclesiastes 1:9 – The cyclical nature of human experience.

Proverbs 4:18-19 – The righteous walk in light; the wicked stumble in darkness.

Proverbs 6:23 – YHVH's commandments are a source of life.

Gospels & Epistles:

John 1:1-5 – Y'shua as the Word, through whom all was created.

2 Corinthians 5:21 – Reconciliation through Y'shua.

Romans 5:12-21 – Contrasts Adam's sin with Y'shua's redemptive obedience.

Gospels and Epistles

John 1:1–5, 9–14 – Y'shua as the eternal Word, through whom all things were created, the Light shining in the darkness, and the Word made flesh.

John 8:44 – The devil as “a murderer from the beginning” and the father of lies, connecting to the serpent's deception.

John 17:24 – Y'shua speaks of being with the Father “before the foundation of the world.”

Matthew 19:4–6 – Y'shua affirms the creation of male and female in the beginning and the covenant of marriage.

Mark 10:6–9 – Parallel to Matthew, affirming creation order and unity in marriage.

Luke 3:38 – Genealogy tracing Y'shua back to “Adam, the son of Elohim.”

Romans 5:12–21 – Adam's disobedience brought death; Y'shua's obedience brings life.

1 Corinthians 15:21–22, 45–49 – Through Adam came death; through Messiah comes resurrection. Messiah is the “last Adam.”

Romans 8:19–22 – Creation groans, awaiting redemption because of the Fall.

2 Corinthians 5:17, 21 – In Messiah, a new creation; Y'shua becomes sin for us.

Colossians 1:15–20 – Y'shua as the image of the invisible Elohim, firstborn over all creation, through whom all things were made and reconciled.

Ephesians 1:4–7 – Chosen in Messiah “before the foundation of the world,” redeemed through His blood.

Hebrews 1:1–3, 10–12 – The Son as Creator, Sustainer, and heir of all things.

Hebrews 2:14–15 – Y'shua partook in flesh and blood to destroy the one who had the power of death (the serpent's consequence).

1 Peter 1:18–20 – The Lamb chosen before the foundation of the world.

2 Peter 3:5–7 – Reference to creation, the flood, and YHVH's judgment.

1 John 1:1–3 – That which was from the beginning, the Word of life, made manifest.

1 John 3:8 – The Son of Elohim was manifested to destroy the works of the devil.

Revelation 13:8 – The Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

Sefarim Hachizonim (Apocrypha):

2 Esdras 6:1-6, 42-46 – Creation and YHVH's sovereignty.

2 Esdras 14:20-22 – Reflection on creation, sin, and redemption.

Reflections:

The Nature of Creation: Humanity is created in YHVH's image, endowed with responsibility and relationship with the Creator.

Sin & Separation: The fall led to humanity's separation from YHVH.

Covenant & Redemption: YHVH's promise of redemption culminates in Y'shua.

Light & Darkness: The contrast between good and evil, truth and deception.

Study Questions:

1. How does this week's Torah portion relate to the Haftarah (Prophets) and New Testament readings?
2. Which readings stood out to you the most?
3. Can you identify Y'shua in this week's portion?
4. How does this apply to our lives today?

Ending Prayer:

May YHVH bless and keep you, may His face shine upon you, and may His peace be upon you, now and forever. Emunah