

Shema Israel – Hear, O Israel

“Shema” = “Hear” or “Hear & Take Action”

Deuteronomy 6:4-19 –

Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.

Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

These commandments I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.

Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.

- ❖ **Shema Israel** is prayed Twice Daily in Jewish homes, morning & evening, and ending prayer on Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, holiest day of the Jewish Year.
- ❖ **Shema Israel** is prayed while binding the tefillin, or little boxes on the arms & forehead containing the prayer.
- ❖ **Shema Israel** is also on the Mezuzah, or little scroll that placed on the doorposts of Jewish homes.
- ❖ **Shema Israel** prayer is recited in the face of death or by the survivors of a recent tragedy.



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שְׁמַע, יִשְׂרָאֵל

דברים ו' 4-9 Deuteronomy 6:4-9

שְׁמַע, יִשְׂרָאֵל: ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ, ה' אֶחָד.

Shma Yis'ra'el, Adonai Eloheinu, Adonai echad.
Hear, O Israel: the LORD our God is one LORD:

וְאַהַבְתָּ, אֶת ה' אֱלֹהֶיךָ, בְּכָל לִבְבְּךָ וּבְכָל נַפְשְׁךָ,

V'ahav'ta et Adonai Elohecha b'chol l'vav'cha uv'chol naf'she'cha

And thou shalt love the LORD thy God with all thine heart, and with all thy soul

וּבְכָל מְאֹדְךָ. וְהָיוּ הַדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה, אֲשֶׁר אֲנֹכִי מֵצִוְּךָ

uv'chol meodecha. V'hayu had'varim ha'ele asher anochi m'tzav'cha
and with all thy might. And these words, which I command thee this day,

הַיּוֹם עַל לִבְבְּךָ. וְשִׁנַּנְתָּם לְבְנֶיךָ, וְדִבַּרְתָּ בָם,

hayom al l'vavecha: V'shinantam l'vanecha v'dibarta bam,
shall be in thine heart: And thou shalt teach them diligently
unto thy children, and shalt talk of them

בְּשִׁבְתְּךָ בְּבֵיתְךָ וּבִלְכֻתְךָ בַּדֶּרֶךְ, וּבְשֹׁכְבְּךָ וּבְקוּמְךָ.

b'shivte'cha b'veitecha, uv'lechtech va'derech, uv'shach'b' cha uv'kumecha
when thou sittest in thine house, when thou walkest by the way,
and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.

וְקִשְׁרָתָם לְאוֹת, עַל יָדְךָ; וְהָיוּ לְטוֹטְפֹת, בֵּין עֵינֶיךָ.

Uk'shar'tam l'ot al yadecha v'hayu l'totafot bein einecha
And thou shalt bind them for a sign upon thine hand,
and they shall be as frontlets between thine eyes.

וְכָתַבְתָּם עַל מְזוֹזֹת בֵּיתְךָ, וּבִשְׁעָרֶיךָ.

Ukh'tav'tam al m'zuzot beitecha u'vesha-are'cha.
And thou shalt write them upon the posts of thy house, and on thy gates.



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