

Jewish Literacy Programme

Year 4 ~ Week 7

English Translation	חומש Words	Write each Hebrew word into script
near	קרוב	_____
far	רחוק	_____
head, top	ראש	_____
honour	כבוד	_____
so that	בעבור	_____
only, except	בלתי	_____

English Translation / Explanation	G.K. Words	Write each Hebrew word into script
The Six Fast Days (2)		
17th Tammuz: five tragedies happened, including the breaking of the walls of Jerusalem before the destruction of the Second Beis Hamikdosh. (see over page)	שבועה עשר בתמוז	_____ _____
9th Av: five tragedies happened, including the destructions of both the First Beis Hamikdosh (בית ראשון - in 586 BCE) and the Second Beis Hamikdosh (בית שני - in 70 CE). (see over page)	תשעה באב	_____ _____
Eating / Drinking	אכילה ושתיה	_____ _____
"Have an easy fast!"	צום קל	_____

א	ב	ג	ד	ה	ו	ז	ח	ט	י	כ	ך	ל	מ	נ	ס	ע	פ	ף	צ	ץ	ק	ר	ש	ת
א	ב	ג	ד	ה	ו	ז	ח	ט	'	כ	ך	ל	מ	נ	ס	ע	פ	ף	צ	ץ	ק	ר	ש	ת

WHAT HAPPENED ON THE 17TH OF TAMMUZ?

Five great catastrophes occurred in Jewish history on the 17th of Tammuz:

1. Moshe Rabeinu broke the luchos at Har Sinai, in response to the sin of the Golden Calf.
2. The daily offerings in the First Temple were suspended during the siege of Jerusalem, after the Kohanim could no longer obtain animals.
3. Jerusalem's walls were breached (broken through), prior to the destruction of the Second Temple in 70 CE.
4. Prior to the Great Revolt*, the Roman general Apostamos burned a Torah scroll - setting a precedent (an example) for the terrible burning of Jewish books throughout the centuries.
5. An idolatrous image was placed in the Sanctuary of the Holy Temple - a big insult to the Beis HaMikdosh and to Hashem.

*The rebellion of the Jews against the Romans, 132-135CE, led by Shimon Bar Kochba.

(Originally, the fast was observed on the Ninth of Tammuz since that was the day Jerusalem fell prior to the destruction of the First Temple in 586 BCE. However, after Jerusalem fell on the 17th of Tammuz - prior to the destruction of the Second Temple - the Sages decided upon a combined observance for both tragedies, the 17th of Tammuz.)

WHAT HAPPENED ON TISHA B'AV - THE NINTH OF AV

On Tisha B'Av, five national calamities occurred:

1. During the time of Moshe, Jews in the desert accepted the slanderous (Loshon Hora) report of the 12 Spies, and the decree was issued forbidding them from entering the Land of Israel. (1312 BCE)
2. The First Temple was destroyed by the Babylonians and Nebuchadnezzar. (586 BCE)
3. The Second Temple was destroyed by the Romans. (70 CE)
4. The Bar Kochba revolt was crushed by Roman Emperor Hadrian. (135 CE)
5. The Temple Mount was plowed under, and Jerusalem was rebuilt as a pagan city.

Other terrible misfortunes throughout Jewish history coincided with the Ninth of Av, including the expulsion from Spain in 1492, the outbreak of World War One in 1914, and the mass deportation of Jews from the Warsaw Ghetto in 1942.