THE BEST OF JPS #1 – TEACHING THE BIBLE

Prepared by Rabbi Barry L. Schwartz, Director

Below are **five classic JPS references**, followed by **ten suggestions for courses** based on some of our best books in Bible Studies.

JPS Classic References:

1. JPS TANAKH

Available in various sizes, colors, and styles in both Hebrew-English and English-only editions. English-only version is also available through most e-book vendors.

2. JPS Torah Commentary

Genesis (Nahum M. Sarna), Exodus (Nahum M. Sarna), Leviticus (Baruch A. Levine), Numbers (Jacob Milgrom), Deuteronomy (Jeffrey H. Tigay)

3. JPS Bible Commentary

Five Torah volumes (above) plus these additional six volumes:

Jonah (Uriel Simon), Ecclesiastes (Michael V. Fox), Esther (Adele Berlin), Ruth (Tamara Cohn Eskenazi, Tikva Frymer-Kensky), Song of Songs-NEW (Michael Fishbane)

4. The Commentators' Bible – The Rubin JPS Migra'ot Gedolot

Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy-NEW, *Genesis* to be published in 2018 Edited, translated and annotated by Michael Carasik

Legends of the Jews (2 vols.)

By Louis Ginzberg

Other worthy references:

- a. The Jewish Bible: A JPS Guide
- b. Who's Who in the Jewish Bible (David Mandel)
- c. How to Read the Bible (Marc Brettler)



Course Suggestions:

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1. A History of the Bible The Divine Symphony: The Bible's Many Voices

(Israel Knohl)

2. The Bible as Literature The Bible's Many Voices

(Michael Carasik)

3. The Bible's Strangest Stories From Gods to God: How the Bible Debunked, Suppressed, or

Changed Ancient Myths & Legends (Avigdor Shinan and Yair Zakovitch)

4. The World of the Torah Torah Through Time: Understanding Bible Commentary from

Rabbinic Period to Modern Times

(Shai Cherry)

5. The Lost Scriptures **Outside the Bible: Ancient Jewish Writings Related to Scripture** 3

vols. (Louis H. Feldman, James L. Kugel, Lawrence H. Schiffman, eds.)

6. Questions from the Bible Eight Questions of Faith: Biblical Challenges That Guide and Ground

Our Lives

(Niles Goldstein)

7. Kabbalah and the Bible The Aura of Torah: A Kabbalistic-Hasidic Commentary to the

Weekly Readings (Rabbi Larry Tabick)

8. Hasidism and the Bible **The Language of Truth: The Torah Commentary on the Sefat Emet**

(Arthur Green)

9. Matriarchs The Lost Matriarch: Finding Leah in the Bible and Midrash

(Jerry Rabow)

10. Patriarchs The Gods Are Broken: The Hidden Legacy of Abraham

(Rabbi Jeffrey K. Salkin)