

Lesson #16  
Bible Project  
Shema/Listen

1. For thousands of years, Jews have said these to express their devotion of God.
  - a. Deut. 6:4-5: "Hear O Israel, the Lord is our God. The Lord is one, and as for you, you shall love the Lord your God with all of your heart, with all of your soul, and with all of your strength."
2. First word of Shema is "hear" or "listen".
3. In Hebrew, Shema can also mean "pay attention to." Also means, "responding" to what you hear.
4. To God, "listening" is the same as "keeping the covenant."
  - a. The idea is the "listen and obey." Two sides of the same coin.

## YHWH – Lord

1. YHWH or LORD is the personal name for God.
  - a. Story of Moses and burning bush. Moses asked God's name. YHWH is "I AM" or "He will be."
  - b. But God added, tell people "YHWH" i.e. He sent or "He will be."
2. The Jews wanted to reverence God, so they stopped saying, "YHWH" but instead used "Lord" anytime the name YHWH came up in the Bible. So changed to "Lord" which is "Adonai."
  - a. So when translating Bible versions, they used the same practice. So we always see it as "Lord."
  - b. Now we use the name "Jehovah" instead of YHWH.
  - c. "Lord" is always the indication of the Divine name.

## Ahavah/Love

1. Typically Ahavah means to show concern or physical affection.
2. God's love is an eternal fact. Just the way things are.
3. God's is a feeling but just that. It is also an "action." Not just a sentimental feeling from God.
4. So now, humans should express themselves in "actions!" Otherwise we're just saying mere words.
5. We also show our love by the way we treat other people.
6. We love because God first loved us.

## Lev/Heart

1. Israelites didn't believe in a brain. They believed that ALL human activity came from the "HEART."
  - a. We "know" from the "heart".
  - b. Wisdom comes from the heart to discern between truth and error.

## Nephesh/Soul

1. "Soul" occurs over 700 times in the Old Testament.
  - a. Basic meaning of "Soul" is THROAT.
2. SOUL i.e. THROAT can be used to refer to the whole person.
  - a. Throat controls ALL that goes in and out of our lives.
3. In the Old Testament, Nephesh is translated SOUL but is really refers to the ENTIRE PERSON.

## Meod/Strength

1. "MEOD" occurs about 300 times in scripture.
2. Meod actually doesn't mean "strength."
3. Meod actually means "very" or "much."
4. Meod intensifies the meaning of any word.
5. To love God with ALL of your "MEOD" is to love God intensively with our entire being.
6. Meod in the Greek translation is "DUNIMAS."