

PARSHA STUDY RESOURCES

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Angel, Hayyim. *A Synagogue Companion: Insights on the Torah, Haftaret, and Shabbat Morning Prayers* (222 ANG)

A collection of brief essays on the Torah, Haftaret, and Shabbat morning prayers, drawing from the best of traditional and contemporary scholarship, to make the synagogue experience more relevant, understandable, and inspiring.

Bennett, Roger. *Unscrolled: 54 Writers and Artists Wrestle with the Torah* (222 BEN)

Collects the thoughts of leading young Jewish writers, artists, photographers, screenwriters, architects, actors, and musicians as they grapple with, and give new meaning to, the portions of the Torah that are usually read over the course of a year.

Burg, Avraham. *Very Near to You: Human Readings of the Torah* (222 BUR)

The book is a new interpretation of the weekly Torah reading that invites the reader to develop their own interpretations.

Cogan, Lainie Blum. *Teaching Haftarah: Background, Insights, and Strategies* (223 COG)

Provides a concise summary of each Haftarah and the rabbinic interpretations attached to it, literary and historical analyses, and an exploration of the connections between the Haftarah and the weekly or holiday Torah portions.

Diamond, James. *Stringing the Pearls: How to Read the Weekly Torah Portion* (220.1 DIA)

Provides a structured method for reading and understanding the Torah, leading Jewish learners through one portion from each of the five biblical books to give examples for further individual study.

Drinkwater, Gregg. *Torah Queeries: Weekly Commentaries on the Hebrew Bible* (220.1 DRI)

This incredibly rich collection unites the voices of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and straight-allied writers, including some of the most central figures in contemporary American Judaism. All bring to the table unique methods of reading and interpreting that allow the Torah to speak to modern concerns of sexuality, identity, gender, and LGBT life.

Eskenazi, Tamara Cohn. *The Torah: A Women's Commentary* (220.1 ESK)

Provides commentary on individual Torah portions from the world's leading Jewish female Bible scholars, rabbis, historians, philosophers and archaeologists.

Feldman, Daniel Z. and Stuart W. Halpern. *From Within the Tent: The Haftaret* (223)

The rabbis and professors of Yeshiva University have come together to present scholarly and insightful essays on the weekly Haftara reading.

Fields, Harvey J. *A Torah Commentary for Our Times: Genesis* (222.1 FIE)

***A Torah Commentary for Our Times: Exodus and Leviticus* (222.2 FIE)**

***A Torah Commentary for Our Times: Numbers and Deuteronomy* (222.4 FIE)**

A provocative approach to the weekly *sidrah*, juxtaposing the insights of ancient, medieval, and modern commentators.

Fishbane, Michael. *The JPS Bible Commentary: Haftarat* (223 FIS)

Noted Bible scholar Michael Fishbane introduces each *haftarah* with an outline and discussion of how that passage conveys its meaning, and he follows it with observations on how it relates to the Torah portion or special occasion.

Hammer, Reuven. *Entering the Torah: Prefaces to the Weekly Torah Portions* (220.1 HAM)

These prefaces are meant to complement and enrich your study of the portion by pointing out important ideas and raising problems and questions for consideration.

 **Held, Shai. *The Heart of Torah: Essays on the Weekly Torah Portion* (222 HEL)**

These essays—two for each weekly portion—open new horizons in the world of Jewish biblical commentary. A renowned rabbi, lecturer and educator, Held brings creative theological exploration, penetrating psychological observation, keen attentiveness to literary detail, deep learning in Jewish philosophy and theology, and compassionate attention to the stirrings of the human heart.

Kurtz, Rabbi Vernon. *Encountering Torah: Reflections on the Weekly Portion* (222 KUR)

This very special book includes Rabbi Kurtz's writings on each *parashah* and was published in honor of the 25th anniversary of his rabbinate at NSS Beth El.

 **Ladin, Joy. *The Soul of the Stranger: Reading God and Torah from a Transgender Perspective* (220 LAD)**

Reading some of the best-known Torah stories through the lens of transgender experience, Joy Ladin explores fundamental questions about how religious texts, traditions, and the understanding of God can be enriched by transgender perspectives, and how the Torah and trans lives can illuminate one another.

 **Levy, Steven. *The JPS Rashi Discussion Torah Commentary* (222 LEV)**

Rashi, the medieval French rabbi Shlomo Yitzchaki (1040-1105), authored monumental commentaries on the Hebrew Bible and the Babylonian Talmud. With *The JPS Rashi Discussion Torah Commentary*, his commentary on the Torah—regarded as the most authoritative of all Torah commentaries—is finally accessible to the entire Jewish community.

Lieber, David. *Etz Hayim: Torah and Commentary* (220 LIE)

Includes essays on key themes by prominent Conservative movement rabbis and scholars with two approaches to interpreting the Torah. The *p'shat* commentary seeks to explain the basic meaning of the text. The *d'rash* commentary selects insights from over 2,000 years of Torah study, including passages from the Talmud and Midrash and readings by contemporary rabbis and scholars, including women's voices. See also *Etz Hayim: Study Companion* (220 BLU).

Loeb, Sorel Goldberg and Barbara Binder Kadden. *Teaching Torah: A Treasury of Insights and Activities* (222.1 LOE)

Includes a synopsis of each Torah portion, insights from the tradition, strategies for analyzing the text, other resources, and project ideas.

Plaut, W. Gunther. *The Torah: A Modern Commentary* (222 PLA)

Includes original Hebrew text and the Jewish Publication Society's English translation of the Pentateuch and of the Haftarah with commentaries by W. Gunther Plaut and Bernard J. Bamberger.

Plaut, W. Gunther. *The Haftarah Commentary* (223 PLA)

A comprehensive translation of the weekly selections complete with meticulously cantillated Hebrew text, commentary and translations, essays, gleanings from modern and ancient sources, notes, glossary, bibliography, and additional selections.

Rosman, Steven M. *The Bird of Paradise and Other Sabbath Stories* (298 ROS)

A collection of Jewish stories based on the weekly portions from the Torah, including original tales and adaptations from the Midrash, the Talmud, and the Chasidic masters.

Rossel, Seymour. *The Torah: Portion-by-Portion* (222.1 ROS)

Each chapter covers one weekly portion, featuring: a gender-sensitive translation; topical discussion questions; graphs, charts, maps, and photographs of the realia of archaeological and biblical criticism; a synopsis of the Haftarah for each portion and the traditional reason it was chosen to accompany the portion; wide-ranging comments from Talmud, Midrash, Rashi, and other traditional commentators; comments from modern Bible scholars; and evidence from archaeology, linguistics, Egyptology, Assyriology, and a dozen other sciences that have been applied to the study of Torah over the last two centuries.



Sacks, Jonathan. *Judaism's Life-Changing Ideas: A Weekly Reading of the Jewish Bible* (222 SAC)

In this inspiring work, Rabbi Sacks introduces his readers to one life-changing idea from each of the weekly parashot. If we change the way we think, he argues, we can change the way we feel, which changes the way we act, which changes the people we become.

Sacks, Jonathan. *Lessons in Leadership: A Weekly Reading of the Jewish Bible* (222 SAC)

In this companion volume to his celebrated series *Covenant & Conversation*, Rabbi Jonathan Sacks mines the weekly Torah portions for insights into the nature of power, authority, and leadership.

Salkin, Jeffrey K. *The Modern Men's Torah Commentary: New Insights from Jewish Men on the 54 Weekly Torah Portions* (220.1 SAL)

This major contribution to modern biblical commentary addresses the most important concerns of modern men—issues like relationships, sexuality, ambition, work and career, body image, aging and life passages—by opening them up to the messages of the Torah. Featuring poignant and probing reflections on the weekly Torah portions, this collection shows men how the messages of the Torah intersect with their own lives by focusing on modern men's issues.

Simon, Charles. *Understanding the Haftarat: An Everyperson's Guide* (223)

Provides the reader with the context to understand how the *haftarat* were organized, why they might have been selected and suggests reasons for finding meaning and value.

Steinsaltz, Adin. *Talks on the Parasha* (222 STE)

A collection drawn from Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz's oral discourses on the weekly *parashot*.

Takac, Esther. *Genesis - the Book with Seventy Faces: A Guide for the Family* (OVERSIZE 222.1 TAK)

This beautifully designed guide, filled with watercolors, pen and ink, and crayon drawings, illuminates the twelve *parashiot* of the book of Genesis and provides a wonderful resource to learn, study, and interpret from the perspective of the sages, modern scholars, midrash, legends, and kabbalah.