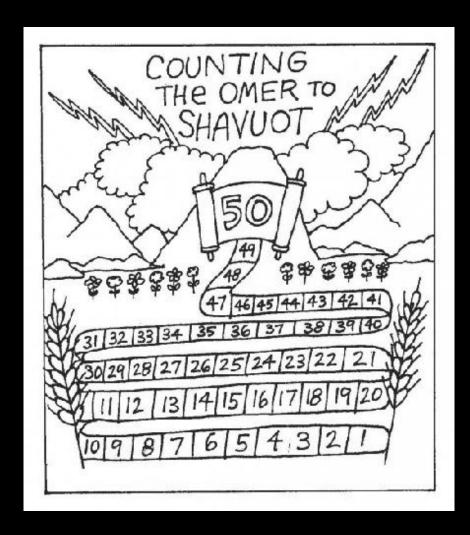
Sefirat HaOmer - Counting the Omer



From Passover Until Shavuot

The Agricultural Connection

In the land of Israel...



Pesach = Festival of the Spring! Crops just ripening. Green Lettuce/Celery on Seder Plate. Eat Matzah, No Chametz



Shavuot = Festival of Harvest Gathering!
Brought Breads and Basket of First Fruits
as a Thanksgiving Offering to Hashem

The Spiritual Connection



Pesach = Freedom from Egypt





Shavuot = Received the Torah at Mount Sinai



What is the Torah?



Ashkenaz - Horizontal



Sephardic - Vertical

Literal Translation(s): Teachings, Light

תּוֹרָה צִּנְּה לָנוּ מֹשֶׁה מוֹרָשָׁה קְהַלַת יַעְקֹב

Yaakov <- Kehilat <- Morasha <- Moshe <- Lanu <- Tzivah <- Torah

"The Torah that Moshe commanded us is the heritage of the congregation of Yaakov." (Deuteronomy 33:4)







Written Torah - תּוֹרָה שֶׁבִּכְתָב 'Torah She-Be-Chtay'



Torah - 5 books of Moses (Bible) Neviyim (Prophets) Ketuvim (Holy Writings - ie Megilas / Psalms)

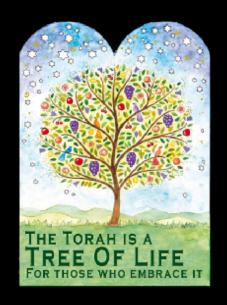
Oral Torah - תּוֹרָה שֶּׁבְּעַל־פֶּה 'Torah She-Be-Al Peh'



Mishna
Talmud / Gemara
Midrash (stories)
Halacha (laws)
Kabbalah (traditions)
Commentaries
... and more and more

Why Mount Sinai in the Desert?





Eitz cha-a-yim hi, la ma-cha-zi-kim-bah, V'-to-m'-che-ha m'-u-shar D'-ra-che-ha, dar-chei no-am V'-chol n'-ti-vo-te-cha, sha-lom

Ha-shi-vei-nu A-do-nai Ei-le-cha v'-na-shu-vah Cha-deish, cha-deish ya-mei-nu Cha-deish ya-mei-nu, k'-ke-dem

It is a tree of life for those who hold fast to it, and all its supporters are happy. Its ways are ways of pleasantness and all its paths are peace.

Return us to You, Adonai, and we will return; renew our days as of old.

עֵץ חַיִים הִיא לַמַּחֲזִיקִּים בָּה, וְתמְכֶיהָ מְאֻשֶׁר. דְּרָכֶיהָ דַרְכֵי נעַם, וְכָל נְתִיבוֹתֶיהָ שָׁלוֹם.

> הַשִּׁיבֵנוּ יְיָ אֵלֶיךְ וְנָשׁוּבָה, חַדֵּשׁ יָמֵנוּ כְּקֶדֶם.