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Foundations of Torah, Principles of Faith, and Moshiach (the Messiah)

LESSON #2 of 8

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Part A. The Authenticity of the Written Torah - https://asknoah.org/essay/written_torah

Part B. The Authenticity of the Oral Torah - https://asknoah.org/essay/oral_torah

Quiz for Lesson #2

Some of the following questions may seem very open ended and philosophical. But they are taken from the text of the lesson, and the intention is to be sure that you have read and understood the material. So please don't spend too much time on the quiz or write long, in-depth answers.

1. Ex. 24:12 states: "And I will give you the tablets of stone and the *Torah* and the *mitzvah*." In this verse,
(a) What does "the Torah" refer to? (b) What does "the *mitzvah*" refer to?

2. Which came first, the Oral Torah or the completion of the Written Torah?

3. During their 40 years in the wilderness, how were the people able to remember their Oral Torah lessons?

4. When Tzadok and Baithos decided to reject the Torah, what claim did they use in trying to convince other Jews to follow them?

5. With what Jewish commandment did G-d ensure that the Written Torah would never be changed?

6. What was the schedule that Moses instituted for public reading of the Torah scroll?

7. Where do we find the rules for how Torah scrolls are to be copied, going back all the way to the 13 original scrolls that Moses wrote?

8. How do we know the vowels and punctuation that make it possible to read a Torah scroll?

9. (a) Do the debates between the Sages that are recorded in the Mishnah and the Talmud mean that there were disagreements among the Sages about what the Oral Torah is?

(b) Give one of the reasons why the Sages debated.

10. What are the four classical dimensions of Torah interpretation?

11. Why did Rabbi Yehudah the Prince decide to author a set of short notes (Mishnah) on the Oral Torah?

12. (a) Who received the entire Oral Torah from Samuel the Prophet?
(b) Who did that person pass it on to?