

# NATURE OF GOD AND CREATOR

Judaism  
Beliefs & Teachings

**Monotheistic:** Belief in only one God

- Judaism is a **monotheistic** religion (belief in one God)
- God is the source of **all** Jewish morality, beliefs and value
- God is the **only creator**
- God created everything in this world and outside it
- **God also created evil**
- God not only **created** the world, but he **sustains** it, meaning he keeps it going
- God has created everything we need in this world, *when humans mismanage their resources that's when people suffer*
- Some Jews prefer writing **G-d** as a sign of **respect**

**Shema:** a Jewish prayer affirming belief in one God.

**Omnipotent:** all-powerful.

**Omniscient:** all-knowing.

**Omnipresent:** all-present (everywhere at all times).

## *The Shema Prayer*

*'Hear o Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might'*

*In the Tanakh it says...*

*'In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.'*

*In the Tanakh it says...*

*'I am the Lord and there is none else, I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe – I the Lord do all these things.'*

*In the Tanakh it says...*

*'God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.'*

*Orthodox Jews take the creation story to be 100% accurate as it is the word of God. It does not matter what science says.*

*Reform Jews however might take the creation story metaphorically, so may combine both science and the creation story*

## Past Exam Questions

**Spec 2** - Which one of the following is used by Jews to describe God's nature? (1)

**2018** - Which one of the following is used by Jews to describe the nature of God? (1)

**2019** - Which one of the following describes God as maker of the world? (1)

**2020** - Give two Jewish beliefs about the nature of God. (2)

**2021** - Explain two ways in which Jews understand the belief that God is One. (5)

## Possible Questions

Give two Jewish beliefs about God as a creator. (2)

Explain two Jewish beliefs about God as a creator. (4 or 5)

Explain how the belief that God is the creator influences Jews (4 or 5)  
'Belief in God as the creator is the most important Jewish belief' (12)

The belief in **one** God **Influences...**

- **influences** Jews to not worship idols
- **influences** Jews to recite the Shema prayer
- **influences** Jews to respect God and everything he does in the world

The belief in God the **creator Influences...**

- **influences** Jews to appreciate everything God has given to them
- **influences** Jews to understand that evil has a purpose in this world and we should trust that God has a reason for this which we may not understand