

Lesson One: Review Questions

1. What is a *kadosh*?

It is a Hebrew meaning holy, set apart, or other. When Moses encounters God in the burning bush, he realizes that God is “other”, all powerful, all knowing, all good. He is struck with fear and awe. God is fascinating (*fascinans*) and evokes an overwhelming feeling of awe (*tremendum*) or astonished wonder, far beyond anything experienced in the material universe.

2. What is the only thing called “holy” in the Book of Genesis?

The only thing called “holy” in the Book of Genesis is the Sabbath. God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it (made it holy) and dedicated it to himself. Genesis 2:3: “God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it he rested from all the work he had done in creation.”

3. What is the significance of the number seven in establishing covenants?

Sheva is the Hebrew word for seven. It can also mean oath. The first covenant between God and man happened on the seventh day of creation when God promised his blessing on creation and Adam agreed to serve as his son, taking dominion over the earth, abiding by God’s rules. In another covenant, Abraham promises loyalty to Abimelech with the gift of seven ewe lambs in exchange for Abimelech’s acknowledgment that Abraham had dug the well that Abimelech’s men had seized. Abimelech left Abraham in peace. The well was named Beer-Sheba, meaning the well of the seven or the well of the oath (Genesis 21:22-33)