



5 Starter Facts About Orthodox Judaism

1. Orthodox Judaism is more resistant than its counterparts to the concept that Torah mandates can change in response to changing social circumstances. There are ~529,000 Orthodox Jews in the United States and ~2.2 million worldwide.
2. Orthodox Judaism is a denomination of Judaism that aims to preserve daily practice and adherence to Jewish law as described in the Torah, Talmud (oral law), and other codes of Jewish law. This includes the dietary laws of Kashrut and clothing regulations.
3. Orthodox theology states that written and oral law were given to Moses and the Israelites through mass revelation. They believe Jewish law is divine will and binding for all Jews.
4. The main subgroups of Orthodox Judaism (Modern Orthodox, Haredi Orthodox, and Hasidic) differ mainly on the issues of Zionism and the extent to which Jews should be integrated with the society around them.
5. Because of its strict practice of Jewish law, Orthodoxy is most prominently distinguished from other Jewish practice by its adherence to gender-segregated prayer and its restrictions on the Sabbath. Adherents tend to live in concentrated geographic areas because of the inability to travel on the Sabbath.

Learn more at:

<http://www.orthodox-jews.com/#axzz4rB3VAUru>

<http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/background-and-overview-of-orthodox-judaism>

These five points are not meant to be comprehensive or authoritative. We hope they encourage you to explore this spirituality more deeply and seek out members of this community to learn about their beliefs in action. In understanding our differences we will better understand our common humanity.

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