

Question 11:

Do we observe Kabbalah?

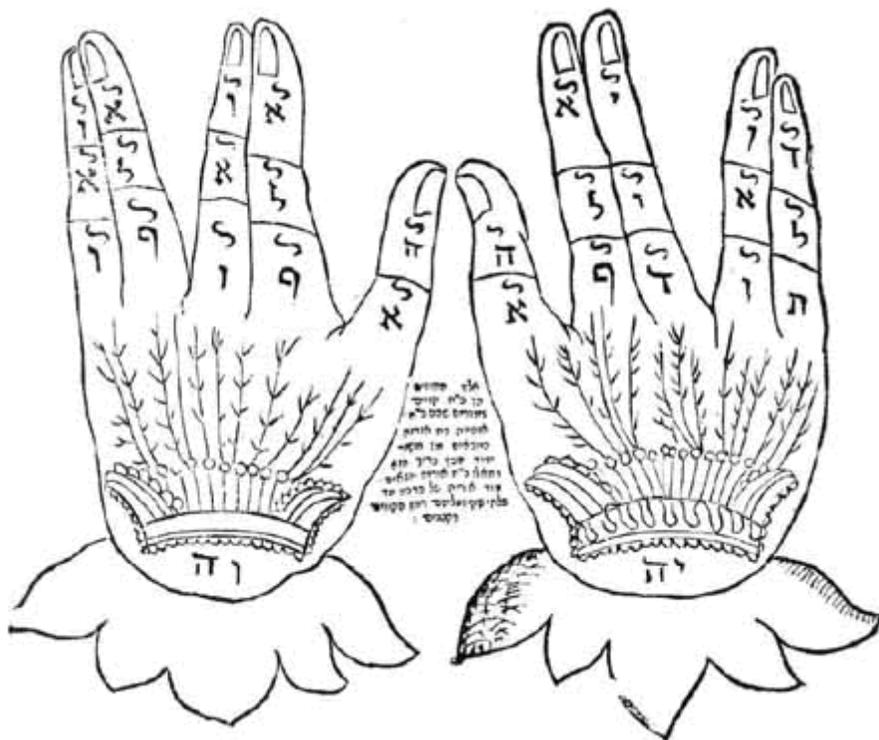
Answer 11:

No, we do not observe or practice Kabbalah or Kabbalism.

We have found that observing and conforming to Torah does not allow us or permit us to practice that which is not based upon Scripture. We realize that there are those who think that these practices are perfectly acceptable and in accordance with Scriptural Commandments and Doctrines, but we maintain that they are in contradiction both to the Torah, Tanakh and Brit Hadasha and as such we must not get caught up in practices which are in violation of Divine Scriptures.

Please read the following information and view the example provided in this information which was obtained from: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kabbalah>

(Hebrew: קַבְּלָה lit. "receiving"; often contemporary transliteration with a 'K' distinguishes from other, derivative traditions outside Judaism) is a discipline and school of thought concerned with the mystical aspect of Rabbinic Judaism. Its full theosophical system emerged in 11th-13th century Southern France and Spain, later being recast in 16th century Ottoman Palestine, though **incorporating earlier Chaldean science, and derivative **Jewish mystical forms**. In turn it became the central foundation of later **Jewish mystical development**.**



These hands, as in the [en: Priestly Blessing](#), are divided into twenty-eight sections, each containing a Hebrew letter. Twenty-eight, in Hebrew numbers, spells the word Koach = strength. At the bottom of the hand, the two letters on each hand combine to form יהוה, the name of God.

A hidden [Kabbalistic](#) practice focused on [Kavanot](#) (meditations) of [Divine names](#). [Angels](#) elevated or blocked prayers in the [ascending Worlds](#). The names were seen as keys to gates in Heaven, though simple tears of others could also open gates.

The central metaphor of [Ohr](#) ("Light") is used to describe Divine emanations.

Medieval Kabbalists believed that all things are linked to God through these emanations, making all levels in Creation part of one great, gradually descending chain of being. Through this any lower creation reflects its particular characteristics in Supernal Divinity. These descriptions reached their synthesis in 16th century CE [Cordoveran Kabbalah](#). This [metaphysical](#) explanation gave cosmic significance to the deeds of man, as the downward flow of the Divine "Light" that creates our reality, is opened or restricted according to the merits of each individual. Divine substance in Creation is dependent on the traditional [mitzvah](#) observances of Judaism.

The term *sefirah* thus has complex connotations within Kabbalah. The central metaphor of Man's soul is used to describe the Sefirot. In the Sefirot, performance of [Mitzvot](#) (traditional Jewish observances) unites the masculine and feminine aspects of supernal Divinity, and brings harmony to Creation. The description of Divine manifestation through the 10 Sefirot is a defining feature of Medieval Kabbalah, alongside their male and female aspects, and the concept of downward flow of Divine Light through the chain of Creation. The Sefirot correspond to the [Four Worlds](#) of this spiritual descent, [Atziluth](#), [Beri'ah](#), [Yetzirah](#) and [Assiah](#).

The Kabbalah posits that the human soul has three elements, the *nefesh*, *ru'ach*, and *neshamah*. The *nefesh* is found in all humans, and enters the physical body at birth. It is the source of one's physical and psychological nature. The next two parts of the soul are not implanted at birth, but can be developed over time; their development depends on the actions and beliefs of the individual. They are said to only fully exist in people awakened spiritually. A common way of explaining the three parts of the soul is as follows:

- *Nefesh* (נפש): the lower part, or "animal part", of the soul. It is linked to [instincts](#) and bodily [cravings](#).
- *Ruach* (רוח): the middle soul, the "spirit". It contains the [moral virtues](#) and the ability to distinguish between [good](#) and [evil](#).
- *Neshamah* (נשמה): the higher soul, or "super-soul". This separates man from all other life-forms. It is related to the [intellect](#), and allows man to enjoy and benefit from the [afterlife](#). This part of the soul is provided at birth and allows one to have some awareness of the existence and presence of God.

As you can see from the above article the Kabbalah did not come into existence until the 11th to the 13th century.

The picture which follows the first paragraph shows the positioning of the fingers on both hands and below explains what those positions mean and what their purpose is. If any of you

are familiar with the Star Trek series from television you will quickly realize that the hand gesture Mr. Spock made which was supposed to be Vulcan was actually the hand sign which was used in the series and the reason for this was that the actor Leonard Nimoy is a Jew and when they were looking for a gesture for him to use as a greeting or whatever, he merely used a gesture which he was familiar with as a Jew, but most non-Jews had no idea what it truly meant.

Kabbalah is spoken of as a mystical system which helps us to understand God and His different aspects irrespective of what Scripture speaks of with regards to the use of divination and magic.

Lev 19:26

‘Do not eat *meat* with the blood. Do not practise **divination or magic**.

Deu 18:9-14

“When you come into the land which יהוה your Elohim is giving you, do not learn to do according to the abominations of those gentiles.

“Let no one be found among you who makes his son or his daughter pass through the fire, or one who **practises divination**, or a user of **magic**, or one who **interprets omens or a sorcerer**,

or one who **conjures spells**, or a **medium**, or a **spiritist**, or one who calls up the dead.

“For whoever does these are an abomination to יהוה, and because of these abominations יהוה your Elohim drives them out from before you.

“Be perfect before יהוה your Elohim,

for these nations whom you are possessing do listen to those using magic and to diviners. But as for you, יהוה your Elohim has not appointed such for you.

In the Webster dictionary one of the meanings for the word *mystical* is: “Involving or having the nature of an individual’s direct, subjective communion with god, or ultimate reality, (The mystical experience of the Inner Light). Mysterious, unintelligible.”

In the Webster dictionary one of the meanings of the word *mysticism* is: “The experience of mystical union or direct communion with ultimate reality reported by mystics. The belief that direct knowledge of god, spiritual truth, or ultimate reality can be obtained through subjective experience (as intuition or insight).”

As can be seen in the above definitions we are searching for an ultimate reality or a mystical inner light. Also, we can find this ultimate reality through intuition or insight. We find this to not be an acceptable practice because it causes the individual to be in control of this experience rather than having Yahuah or Yahusha through the Divine unction of Ruach HaKodesh provide teaching and guidance as it relates to our walk in Torah and in the likeness of Yahusha.

The seeking of a mystical inner light or enlightenment is the cornerstone of many pagan religions and cultures, so we cannot be certain of which god or deity is being referred to. Yahuah never incorporates into His Divine Word concepts and directions which are found in pagan religions and idolatry.

Even groups of Jews such as Conservative, Reformed, and Karaites do not practice Kabbalah and some of these groups are not Talmud compliant. They believe that Divine and Holy Scripture such as the Torah and Tanakh provide all the necessary doctrines and principles that are required for a Believer to live an observant life. Please read the following which have been taken from the above article from Wikipedia and also from the Karaites:

Kabbalah tended to be rejected by most Jews in the Conservative and Reform movements, though its influences were not completely eliminated. While it was generally not studied as a discipline, the Kabbalistic *Kabbalat Shabbat* service remained part of liberal liturgy, as did the *Yedid Nefesh* prayer. Nevertheless, in the 1960s, Rabbi Saul Lieberman of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America is reputed to have introduced a lecture by Scholem on Kabbalah with a statement that Kabbalah itself was "nonsense", but the academic study of Kabbalah was "scholarship". This view became popular among many Jews, who viewed the subject as worthy of study, but who did not accept Kabbalah as teaching literal truths.

Karaism is the original form of Judaism as prescribed by God in the Torah. Karaite Judaism rejects later additions to the Tanach (Jewish Bible) such as the Rabbinic Oral Law (Talmud) and places the ultimate responsibility of interpreting the Bible on each individual. Karaism does not reject Biblical interpretation but rather holds every interpretation up to the same objective scrutiny regardless of its source. <http://www.karaite-korner.org/>

So, in conclusion, why would anyone be willing to take on traditions and teachings which have absolutely no Scriptural basis and are in fact contrary to the dictates of Elohim? These are questions that every True Believer should be asking of themselves in order to make sure that we are testing the spirits to see what spirit this information is being provided by.

1Ti 4:1-2

But the Spirit distinctly says that in latter times some shall fall away from the belief, paying attention to misleading spirits, and teachings of demons, speaking lies in hypocrisy, having been branded on their own conscience,

1Jn 4:1-3

Beloved ones, do not believe every spirit, but prove the spirits, whether they are of Elohim, because many false prophets have gone out into the world.

By this you know the Spirit of Elohim: Every spirit that confesses that יהושע Messiah has come in the flesh is of Elohim,

and every spirit that does not confess that יהושע Messiah has come in the flesh is not of Elohim. And this is the *spirit* of the anti-messiah which you heard is coming, and now is already in the world.