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Who is Sheshach? Jer. xxv. 26.

Sh = 2nd letter from end of alphabet

B = 2nd letter from beginning

Ch = 11th letter from end of alphabet

L = 11th letter from beginning

So Sheshach = Babel.

This cryptic method is called

Athbash A=th B=sh

Emphasized Letters, Jot and Tittle

שמע ישראל יהוה אלהינו יהוה אחד

Hear O Israel the Lord our God is One. Deut. vi.

שמע ישראל יהוה אלהינו יהוה אחד ואהבת את יהוה אלהיך בכל לבבך ובכל
נפשך ובכל מאדך והיו הדברים האלה אשר אנכי מצוה היום עלי לבבך ושננתם
לבניך ודברתם בהם בשבתך בביתך ובכל דרךך ובשכבך ובקומך וקשרתם
לאות על ידך והיו לטעמת בן עיון ומתבנים על מזוזות בותך ובשעריך

Note the "Yod" or "Jot" and the "i" and the "tittle" a decoration marking certain letters

Rubric K&S = There are seven Alephs in Pentateuch having seven Taagin



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Massorah

To deliver to another for safe custody
R. Akiba called it "A Fence to the Scriptures"

No notes or comments are made, just
a record of facts and features.

The Massoretes tabulated number of
occurrences of every letter.

D, M, occurs 77778 times

They used K'ri (read) and K'thib (written)
but never altered the text.

Preservation of the Text.

1. The Targums or Paraphrases in Aramaic.
Onkelos a disciple of Hillel who was
Grandfather of Gamaliel.
2. The Talmud or Doctrine. Embodied in
rules all that had been written
3. The Talmud consists of two parts
 (1) Mishna "The second law" or "Text"
 (2) Gemara "The commentary".

Neh. viii. 8

"They read in the book of the law" = in original tongue
"distinctly" = Chaldee paraphrase
"gave the sense" = exposition & division of words
"caused to understand" = points & accents

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Memory Methods

*"In the beginning" occur three times
at commencement of a verse :—
Gen. i. 1; Jer. xxvi. 1; xxviii. 1*

*No chapter or verse numbers used
in stead we find the memory sign*

"God establisheth the righteous"

*"God" = Genesis i. 1
"Jehorakim" = Jer. xxvi. 1 "establish"
"Zedekiah" = Jer. xxviii. 1 "righteous"
The emendations of the Sopherim (18).*

*The text altered out of regard for
the good name of God*

"Curse God" Job i. 5. 11; ii. 5. 9.

*Hebrew = Barak means "To bless"
changed from Kalal "To curse"
Commentators have strained credulity
in attempting an explanation.*

*"Their glory" Psa. cvi. 20, from
"MY glory" (See Rom. i. 23 "They
changed the glory of the uncorruptible
God")*

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Fifteen Points of the Sofherim

Saphar = to count. Formed under Ezra.
Nehemiah vii.8 : So they read in the book of
the law distinctly, and gave the sense, and
caused them to understand the reading"

The work completed by The men of the
Great Synagogue. 410 - 300 B.C.

Deut. xix.29. לָנוּ וְלִבְנֵינוּ

"To us and our children". Really the dots
should go over "Unto the Lord our God"
but out of respect are transferred.

"The secret things even the revealed
things belong to us and to our children"

Suspended Letters.

"Jonathan the son of Gershom, the son
of Manasseh" (Judges xviii.30)
The R.V. reads "Moses"

מֹשֶׁה The ך = Hebrew "ח"

This was to save the good name
of Moses from any contact with
idolatry

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Significance of Number

Each Hebrew letter had numerical value

א = 1 ב = 2 ג = 3 ד = 4

Gen. i. 1

	Numeric Value	
י	בראשית	913 In the beginning
	ברא	203 Created
	אלהים	86 God
	את	401 (An indefinite article which is not translatable)
	השמים	395 The heavens
	ואת	407 And (with indefinite article)
	הארץ	296 The earth.

86	God
395	The Heavens
<u>296</u>	The Earth
<u>777</u>	

Number of letters used 28 - 7×4