

# Pdf free Standing again at sinai judaism from a feminist perspective (Download Only)

Present at Sinai The Significance of Sinai Standing Again at Sinai Sin at  
Sinai Sisters at Sinai Sundays at Sinai Seconding Sinai Standing at Sinai:  
Sermons and Writings Jewish Interpretation of the Bible Sinai and Zion  
Revelation and Authority Fate and Destiny The Temple A Man's Responsibility  
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## **Present at Sinai 2002-01-01**

noble laureate s y agnon brings together what has always been at the heart of jewish religious consciousness the sinai event the revelation as both memory and continuously renewed experience

## ***The Significance of Sinai 2008***

this volume of essays is concerned with ancient and modern jewish and christian views of the revelation at sinai the theme is highlighted in studies on the dead sea scrolls paul josephus rabbinic literature art and philosophy the contributions demonstrate that sinai as the location of the revelation soon became less significant than the narratives that developed about what happened there those narratives were themselves transformed not least to explain problems regarding the text s plain sense miraculous theophany anthropomorphisms the role of moses and the response of israel were all handled with exegetical skills mustered by each new generation of readers furthermore the content of the revelation especially the covenant was rethought in philosophical political and theological ways this collection of studies is especially useful in showing something of the complexity of how scriptural traditions remain authoritative and lively for those who appeal to

them from very different contexts

## **Standing Again at Sinai 1990**

the author encourages the reader to rethink key jewish issues and ideas from a feminist perspective issues are addressed through the central jewish categories of torah israel and god

## ***Sin at Sinai 2008***

in this marvelous anthology of 24 stories about women in the bible rabbi jill hammer draws from the ancient tradition of midrash creative interpretation that elaborates upon the sparse details of the biblical text and brings to life the inner world and experiences of these unforgettable characters the stories reintroduce lilith sarah leah miriam and many other notable women of the bible as the author weaves together the rabbinic legends and her own vivid imagination hammer's commentary includes a list of biblical texts and an explanation of how each story came to be written and why praised for its originality and expressiveness this book gives biblical women the honor they deserve an honor due them as prophets rulers and teachers book jacket

## **Sisters at Sinai 2010-01-01**

first established 150 years ago chicago sinai is one of america s oldest reform jewish congregations its founders were upwardly mobile and civically committed men and women founders and partners of banks and landmark businesses like hart schaffner marx sears roebuck and the giant meatpacking firm morris co as explicitly modern jews sinai s members supported and led civic institutions and participated actively in chicago politics perhaps most radically their sunday services introduced in 1874 and still celebrated today became a hallmark of the congregation in sundays at sinai tobias brinkmann brings modern jewish history immigration urban history and religious history together to trace the roots of radical reform judaism from across the atlantic to this rapidly growing american metropolis brinkmann shines a light on the development of an urban reform congregation illuminating chicago sinai s practices and history and its contribution to christian jewish dialogue in the united states chronicling chicago sinai s radical beginnings in antebellum chicago to the present sundays at sinai is the extraordinary story of a leading jewish reform congregation in one of america s great cities

## **Sundays at Sinai 2012-06-26**

this work criticizes the terms pseudepigraphy and rewritten bible which presuppose conceptions of textual fidelity foreign to ancient judaism it develops the concept of a discourse whose creativity and authority depend on repeated returns to the exemplary figure of a founder

## **Seconding Sinai 2003**

standing at sinai sermons and writings captures the trends and the struggles of 25 years at temple sinai a large reform jewish synagogue in washington d c the book includes a selection of rabbi fred reiners high holy day sermons purim messages scholarly papers and additional writings that comment on key moments in his tenure the result reflects rabbi reiners religious and intellectual journey as well as the history of temple sinai during years of challenge expansion and growth standing at sinai grapples with the questions confronting the congregation and the larger jewish community at the turn of the 21st century can our jewish community maintain its integrity as it continues to assimilate what role does israel play in our lives what are the beliefs and values that help to shape us as post modern american jews

## **Standing at Sinai: Sermons and Writings 2011-06-28**

although jewish tradition gives tremendous importance to the hebrew bible from the beginning jewish interpretation of those scriptures has been practiced with remarkable freedom karin hedner zetterholm offers a clear and concise introduction to the legal theological and historical presuppositions that shaped the dominant stream of rabbinic interpretation including mishnah talmud and midrashim discussing specific examples of different interpretive methods she then explores the contours of jewish biblical interpretation evident in the new testament and the legacy of ancient traditions in the way different jewish movements read the bible today students of the history of biblical interpretation and of judaism will find this an important and engaging resource

## **Jewish Interpretation of the Bible 2012**

a treasury of religious thought and faith places the symbolic world of the bible in its original context

## ***Sinai and Zion 2013-05-28***

winner of the 2016 goldstein goren award for the best book in jewish thought at once a study of biblical theology and modern jewish thought this volume describes a participatory theory of revelation as it addresses the ways biblical authors and contemporary theologians alike understand the process of revelation and hence the authority of the law benjamin sommer maintains that the pentateuch s authors intend not only to convey god s will but to express israel s interpretation of and response to that divine will thus sommer s close readings of biblical texts bolster liberal theologies of modern judaism especially those of abraham joshua heschel and franz rosenzweig this bold view of revelation puts a premium on human agency and attests to the grandeur of a god who accomplishes a providential task through the free will of the human subjects under divine authority yet even though the pentateuch s authors hold diverse views of revelation all of them regard the binding authority of the law as sacrosanct sommer s book demonstrates why a law observant religious jew can be open to discoveries about the bible that seem nontraditional or even antireligious



## **Revelation and Authority 2015-01-01**

rabbi soloveitchik presents an extended theological meditation on the holocaust and the rise of the state of israel a profound examination of the jewish covenant of faith and the covenant of fate and destiny which links all jews religious irreligious and non religious this covenant of faith manifests itself in shared circumstances shared responsibility and shared activity fate and destiny likewise links all jews but while fate is thrust upon the jews destiny is freely chosen by the individual jew and the jewish people by adopting a torah lifestyle and possesses both significance and purpose

## **Fate and Destiny 2000**

when thinking of the ancient temple of jerusalem one often conjures up images of animal sacrifice pilgrimages to the holy city on religious festivals and the high priest solemnly entering the holy of holies on yom kippur indeed each of these observances was a staple of temple ritual but it is easy to lose sight of the temple as it impacted and impacts upon the daily life of jews and their physical and spiritual responsibilities building the temple is not merely one commandment of many it cannot be examined in isolation this volume shows how the temple relates to the notions of shabbat the land of

israel monarchy jewish independence and sovereignty education justice covenant sinai the garden of eden the jewish relationship to the gentile world and the very way the jew relates to god from a biblical viewpoint the temple is not only the central institution of the ideal jewish society but also the central concept that binds and organizes all others the minutiae of the temple as portrayed in the liturgy and in the bible often seem tedious and overritualistic classical sources of all genres abound to explain a particular passage or a particular rite this book identifies broad themes that animate the meaning of the temple its rites and the biblical passages that describe it details are probed as a larger conceptual whole animal sacrifice particularly problematic to many on moral grounds is examined in a new and revealing light many torah commandments stand unchanged for all time regardless of historical events not so the commandment to erect the temple social economic political and religious currents were integral to the temple s construction destruction and reconstruction by probing these currents from the bible s perspective one can gain insight into the meaning of the times in which we live we are in a process of rebuilding even though we are far from redemption

## ***The Temple 2010-10-01***

generations beyond portnoy growing up and being a son growing up and being a partner in marriage growing up and being a father a man within a sacred community the mitzvot of manhood

## ***A Man's Responsibility 2008***

this brief history of judaism not only seeks to tell the story of judaism or of judaisms but to define it in such a way as to make it possible for the reader to grasp and make sense of judaism all at once on its own terms professor neusner accomplishes this task by selecting the central jewish symbol of torah and describing its role down through the ages first torah is defined the dual torah oral and written and related to jewish identity then follows an account of the formation of the written torah and the development of the mishnah after the fall of jerusalem in 70 ce this leads into an account of midrash and the composition of the talmud after a discussion of torah as a symbol chapters follow on maimonides the zohar reform judaism and zionism the book ends by pulling the threads together into a woven portrait of judaism here in concise and readable form is the model volume for writing the history of judaism or of judaisms as well as the history of any

particular religion

## **Torah Through the Ages 2004-01-30**

although termed the little genesis the book of jubilees is significantly engaged with exodus it reworks key exodus narratives develops modules of exodus law and highlights exodus motifs the most fundamental connection to exodus is the grounding of the two narrational structures of jubilees in the scenario of moses receiving a revelation on mt sinai in the frame an anonymous narrator develops the mt sinai setting of the work in the body an angel employs that setting as the present time pivot for a retrospect that moves backward and forward in time focusing on the intersection of structure and content the study explores the relationship between the retrospective design of the angel narration and the exegesis the approach is a literary one that treats jubilees as a unitary text that may reflect the work of a single author or of a final editor the analysis draws particular attention to manipulations of temporal and textual perspective that transform exodus narratives facilitate the hermeneutical elaborations of exodus law and effect cohesion in the revelation that is the book of jubilees halpern amaru s study makes a significant contribution to our understanding of biblical interpretation in second temple judaism for example the reading of the jubilees narrative of the exodus as a revelation of how god uses his heavenly

forces i e mastema and his demons as well as the angels of the presence on behalf of israel has implications for the understanding of strategies that temper dualism in second temple judaism

## **The Perspective from Mt. Sinai: The Book of Jubilees and Exodus *2015-09-16***

women rabbis are changing the face of judaism discover how their interpretations of the torah can enrich your perspective rich and engaging makes available to a wide readership the collective wisdom of women who have changed the face of judaism judith plaskow author standing again at sinai judaism from a feminist perspective professor of religious studies manhattan college here for the first time women s unique experiences and perspectives are applied to the entire five books of moses offering all of us the first comprehensive commentary by women in this groundbreaking book more than 50 women rabbis come together to offer us inspiring insights on the torah in a week by week format included are commentaries by the first women ever ordained in the reform reconstructionist and conservative movements and by many other women across these denominations who serve in the rabbinate in a variety of ways this rich resource offers new perspectives to inspire all of us to gain deeper meaning from the torah and a heightened appreciation of

judahism a major contribution to modern biblical commentary the gift of choice for every young woman s bat mitzvah and for anyone wanting a new exciting view of torah contributing rabbis rebecca t alpert lia bass miriam carey berkowitz elizabeth bolton analia bortz sharon brous judith gary brown nina beth cardin diane aronson cohen sandra j cohen cynthia a culpeper lucy h f dinner lisa a edwards amy eilberg sue levi elwell rachel esserman helaine ettinger susan fendrick lori forman dayle a friedman elyse d frishman nancy fuchs kreimer shoshana gelfand laura geller elyse m goldstein julie k gordon claire magidovitch green rosette barron haim jill hammer karyn d kedar sarra levine valerie lieber ellen lippmann sheryl nosan stacy k offner sara paasche orlow barbara rosman penzner hara e person audrey s pollack sally j priesand geela rayzel raphael laura m rappaport debra judith robbins rochelle robins gila colman ruskin sandy eisenberg sasso ilene schneider rona shapiro michal shekel beth j singer sharon l sobel ruth h sohn julie ringold spitzer z l shira stern pamela wax nancy wechsler azen nancy h wiener elana zaiman

## **The Women's Torah Commentary 2011-06-24**

the book s point of departure is the return from the exile which is presented as an opportunity for jews primarily those in judah to interpret anew the relationship between god and israel the relationship had traditionally been thought of as a covenant and central to the book s thesis is that post exilic

writers used a paradigm that was essentially that of the pre exilic mosaic covenant i e a pact between god and humanity conditioned by the latter s observance of the law the first part of the book describes the process whereby the mosaic covenant was renovated and its content brought up to date in this discussion familiar topoi of second temple judaism such as penitential prayer creation theology and kinship ethos are shown to be integral to a contemporary concept of creation the second part of the book explores a paradox on the one hand the fact that the mosaic covenant was articulated in the discourse of kinship marked it with an insularity that in turn made this covenant attractive to sectarian groups here evidence is adduced largely from the dead sea scrolls on the other hand as the dominant paradigm the mosaic covenant had ascribed to it a high level of normativity as seen in the work of tradents such as the priestly editors and the author of jubilees ultimately the mosaic covenant was invoked at the center and the periphery as both a normative theological concept and a cipher to sectarian self identity the book concludes that by the end of the second temple period although the mosaic covenant was normative in terms of a covenantal nomism that was incumbent upon the jews the covenant s sectarian tendenz made its precepts non binding and optional

## **Glory and Power, Ritual and Relationship 2009-09-01**

in his pathbreaking *Israel in Egypt* James K Hoffmeier sought to refute the claims of scholars who doubt the historical accuracy of the biblical account of the Israelite sojourn in Egypt analyzing a wealth of textual archaeological and geographical evidence he put forth a thorough defense of the biblical tradition Hoffmeier now turns his attention to the wilderness narratives of Exodus Leviticus and Numbers as director of the North Sinai Archaeological Project Hoffmeier has led several excavations that have uncovered important new evidence supporting the wilderness narratives including a major New Kingdom fort at Tell el Borg that was occupied during the Israelite Exodus Hoffmeier employs these archaeological findings to shed new light on the route of the Exodus from Egypt he also investigates the location of Mount Sinai and offers a rebuttal to those who have sought to locate it in northern Arabia and not in the Sinai Peninsula as traditionally thought Hoffmeier addresses how and when the Israelites could have lived in Sinai as well as whether it would have been possible for Moses to write down the Law received at Mount Sinai building on the new evidence for the Israelite sojourn in Egypt Hoffmeier explores the Egyptian influence on the wilderness tradition for example he finds Egyptian elements in Israelite religious practices including the use of the tabernacle and points to a significant number of Egyptian personal names among the generation of the



exodus the origin of israel is a subject of much debate and the wilderness tradition has been marginalized by those who challenge its credibility in ancient israel in sinai hoffmeier brings the wilderness tradition to the forefront and makes a case for its authenticity based on solid evidence and intelligent analysis

## ***Ancient Israel in Sinai 2005-10-06***

after world war ii ernst ludwig ehrlich 1921 2007 published works in english and german by eminent israeli scholars in this way introducing them to a wider audience in europe and north america the series he founded for that purpose studia judaica continues to offer a platform for scholarly studies and editions that cover all eras in the history of the jewish religion

## ***Mysticism in Rabbinic Judaism 2018-02-19***

did the decisive event in the history of israel even happen the bible presents a living god who speaks and acts and whose speaking and acting is fundamental to his revelation of himself god s action in history may seem obvious to many christians but modern philosophy has problematized the idea today many theologians often use the bible to speak of god while at best remaining agnostic about whether he has in fact acted in history historical

revelation is central to both jewish and christian theology two major events in the bible showcase divine agency the revelation at sinai in exodus and the incarnation of jesus in the gospels surprisingly there is a lack of serious theological reflection on sinai by both jewish and christian scholars and those who do engage the subject often oscillate about the historicity of what occurred there craig bartholomew explores how the early church understood divine action looks at the philosophers who derided the idea and finally shows that the reasons for doubting the historicity of sinai are not persuasive the god who acts in history provides compelling reasons for affirming that god has acted and continues to act in history

## **At Sinai 1922**

some two thousand years ago a group of jews settled in ethiopia and was for millennia cut off from the rest of world jewry preserving its heritage with great self sacrifice when this community the beta israel ultimately made its way to israel to rejoin its brethren in the late twentieth century a host of complex dilemmas emerged should the beta israel shed its venerated customs based on ancient pre rabbinic jewish law and adopt the rabbinic halakhah of modern day jewry or is there a place for the unique legacy of the ethiopian jews within the umbrella of the wider jewish community rabbi shalom s startlingly original shulhan ha orit delves into the history customs and law

of the beta israel codifying the ancient cultural heritage of ethiopian jewry for the first time and contrasting it with orthodox rabbinic law he offers suggestions for honoring beta israel tradition while fully participating in the greater jewish community this book provides an invaluable service to jews of ethiopian descent on how to practically conduct themselves throughout the jewish year but more than that it is a fascinating meditation on the tension each of us faces between individual practice and group togetherness between difference and unity for anyone who has ever pondered the balance between communal belonging and being true to one s own self this is a mesmerizing read

## **The God Who Acts in History 2020-01-21**

outlines both the origins and the basic tenets of judaism the section on doctrine considers the torah as symbol that on teleology considers the torah and the messiah that on method considers the torah the canon and scriptural authority annotation copyright by book news inc portland or

## **From Sinai to Ethiopia 2016**

find spiritual strength for healing in the wisdom of jewish tradition the teachings and wisdom of jewish tradition can provide comfort and inspiration

to help you maintain personal balance and family harmony amid the fear pain and chaos of illness

## **Foundations of Judaism 1989**

the classical rabbinic tradition legal discursive and exegetical claims to be oral torah transmitted by word of mouth in an unbroken chain deriving its authority ultimately from divine revelation to Moses at Sinai since the third century CE however this tradition has been embodied in written texts through judicious deployment and analysis of the evidence Martin Jaffee is able to show that the rabbinic tradition as we have it developed through a mutual interpretation of oral and written modes

## **Facing Illness, Finding God 2010**

in this book Jacob Neusner gives an introductory systematic and holistic account of the theology and practice of rabbinic Judaism which emerged along with Christianity from antiquity and formed the classical statement of Judaism to the present day he offers a description of beliefs and practices theology as expressed in mythic narratives and norms of ritual and symbolic behavior Neusner also discusses revelation and scripture the doctrine of God the definition of the Holy the chain of tradition embodied in the story of

the written and oral torah the intervention of god in history through miracles sacred space atonement and repentance death and afterlife and art and symbol in judaism

## **Torah in the Mouth *2001-04-19***

more than three centuries after baruch spinoza s excommunication from the jewish community of amsterdam his legacy remains contentious born in 1632 spinoza is one of the most important thinkers of the enlightenment and arguably the paradigm of the secular jew having left orthodoxy without converting to another faith one of the most unexpected and provocative critiques of spinoza comes from leo strauss strauss grew up in a nominally orthodox home and emigrated from germany to the united states in the 1930s he taught at the university of chicago and was one of the most influential political philosophers of the twentieth century until his death in 1973 though strauss was not an orthodox jew in a well known essay that prefaced his study of spinoza he critically examines modern philosophy s challenge to traditional religion there he argues that while the enlightenment had failed to decisively refute orthodoxy at the same time orthodoxy could only claim to believe its core tenets were true but could not claim to know they were true strauss leaves the question at an impasse both the enlightenment and orthodoxy rest on axioms that neither side can fully prove or fully refute

curiously strauss never asks orthodox jewish thinkers if his approach to defending judaism against the claims of the enlightenment is the same as theirs this volume poses the question to a group of serious orthodox jewish thinkers in an attempt to find out if orthodoxy has a better answer to the questions raised by strauss than the one strauss advanced on its behalf the seventeen essays in this volume use a variety of approaches drawing on traditional primary jewish sources like scripture talmud and midrash medieval rationalists like maimonides enlightenment era orthodox sources jewish mystical writings like kabbalah and chasidut modern philosophical movements including postmodernism and analytic philosophy and contemporary jewish bible interpretation while the answers differ what unites these essays is the willingness to take strauss question seriously and to provide inside answers that is answers given by orthodox jews much of modern thought tries to square the circle of how to live in a world without belief the better question is whether it is possible to recover authentic religious belief in the modern world this volume is an orthodox jewish attempt to answer that question one that no serious person can approach with indifference

## ***Judaism when Christianity Began 2002-01-01***

a powerful and challenging examination of what jews believe today by a new generation s dynamic and innovative thinkers new in paperback at every

critical juncture in jewish history jews have understood a dynamic theology to be essential for a vital jewish community this important collection sets the next stage of jewish theological thought bringing together a cross section of interesting new voices from all movements in judaism to inspire and stimulate discussion now and in the years to come provocative and wide ranging these invigorating and creative insights from a new generation s thought leaders provide a coherent and inspiring picture of jewish belief in our time the passionate voices of a new generation of jewish thinkers continue the dialogue with god examining the dynamics of what jews can believe today they explore a dynamic god in process the canon of jewish literature and its potential to be both contemporary and authentic to tradition critical terms and categories for discussing jewish theology the ongoing nature of the jewish search for god ruptures within the modern jewish condition and much more

## ***Strauss, Spinoza & Sinai: Orthodox Judaism and Modern Questions of Faith 2022-01-13***

women rabbis are changing the face of judaism discover how their interpretations of the prophets writings and megillot can enrich your perspective the haftarah is a potent tool for understanding the values ethics

and moral lessons contained in the torah readings in this first of its kind volume more than eighty women rabbis from the reform conservative and reconstructionist movements offer fresh perspectives on the beloved texts that make up the haftarah the prophets and writings and the five megillot based on readings that are rich in imagery some poetic some narrative some dark and brooding their commentaries include surprising insights on the stories of deborah and yael david and goliath david and bathsheva and the witch of endor among many others themes such as jerusalem as woman the story of jonah and the fish and other prophetic images are informed and challenged by this groundbreaking work a rich resource a major contribution to modern biblical commentary and the ideal companion to the women s torah commentary the women s haftarah commentary will inspire all of us to gain deeper meaning from the hebrew scriptures and a heightened appreciation of judaism

## ***Jewish Theology in Our Time 2012-12***

rabbi byron l sherwin once noted that many jews seemed convinced that since traditional judaism is focused on halachah i e the practical observance of the commandments any discussion about theology is superfluous some go as far as to say that traditional judaism does not have a theology the problem of course is that any discussion about god the torah and the people of israel immediately raises fundamental questions such as which god are we discussing



how was the torah revealed who are the people of israel etc all these questions are the domain of theology the study of religious beliefs perhaps part of the issue with the aforementioned assumptions is the lack of creeds or doctrinal statements along the lines of those embraced by christianity jewish theology is multifaceted and does not reflect the systematic nature of christian thought this fact does not diminish its depth however at first glance the topics included in this volume may appear to be a series of disjointed and independent essays these topics in my opinion cover recurring themes and questions that define much of jewish theology any attempt to address jewish theology comprehensively would require many volumes this work is focused on a few key concepts only it is intended for the beginner but hopefully contains sufficient information to also be of interest to the more advanced reader and prove the starting point towards greater study chapter one titled creation explores the differences between mesopotamian worldviews and the bible's notion of god's creation of the world judaism and in its earlier form israelite religion did not arise in a vacuum similarities exist in the foundational stories of various neighboring cultures but the differences found in the torah reveal the heart of jewish faith the second chapter is titled jewish concepts concerning god and briefly discusses ideas of god in biblical rabbinic and kabbalistic thought there are conflicting images of god in the bible and the developments in jewish thought sought to address these differences the third chapter is titled who is a jew it

addresses the age old question of jewish identity from the vantage point of classical rabbinic perspectives as well as from alternate points of view found in modern jewish movements the strengths and weaknesses of these different views are briefly discussed the fourth chapter jewish views of afterlife discusses the fascinating topic of life after death in biblical literature as well as in the later works written during the second temple era the rabbinic period and into the medieval and modern periods chapter five titled polarity in jewish thought delves into the subject of the jewish alternative of descriptive theology to theological systems characterized by an emphasis on definition and classification the next chapter titled the revelation at the torah discusses the giving of the torah at sinai and covers the idea of the torah as it is understood in traditional and non traditional jewish movements a brief discussion on historical criticism is also included in addition the limits of prophetic revelation in the legislative process are also discussed the subsequent chapter the land of israel surveys biblical and rabbinic perspectives on god's unique relationship to the land of israel the last chapter titled tikkun olam address misconceptions regarding this prevalent but largely misunderstood idea tikkun olam is often understood as a jewish commitment to social justice its original meaning and the very different goals it envisions are deliberated

## ***The Women's Haftarah Commentary 2012-11-13***

throughout the ages jews have connected legends to particular days of the hebrew calendar abraham s birth the death of rachel and the creation of light are all tales that are linked to a specific day and season the jewish book of days invites readers to experience the connection between sacred story and nature s rhythms through readings designed for each and every day of the year these daily readings offer an opportunity to live in tune with the wisdom of the past while learning new truths about the times we live in today using the tree as its central metaphor the jewish book of days is divided into eight chapters of approximately forty five days each these sections represent the tree s stages of growth seed root shoot sap bud leaf flower and fruit and also echo the natural cadences of each season each entry has three components a biblical quote for the day a midrash on the biblical quote or a jewish tradition related to that day and commentary relating the text to the cycles of the year the author includes an introduction that analyzes the different months and seasons of the hebrew calendar and explains the textual sources used throughout appendixes provide additional material for leap years equinoxes and solstices a section on seasonal meditations offers a new way to approach the divine every day

# **An Introduction to Jewish Theology: Biblical and Rabbinic Concepts on God, the Torah, Life After Death, and More *2019-03-26***

throughout jewish history revolutionary events and subversive ideas have burst forth repeatedly transforming jewish experience re forming judaism seeks to explore these ideas and the individuals behind them by delving into historical disruptions that led to lasting change in jewish thought a distinguished array of scholars take us on a journey from the disruptive prophets of ancient times through rational mystical and extremist medievalists to the impact of haskalah and early reform thought in modernity contemporary innovations such as changes in liturgy and music feminism and post holocaust theology are included as are insights into sephardic and north african experiences by showing how judaism forms then re forms and re forms again the contributors demonstrate that tensions between continuity and change have always been part of jewish life helping us to both understand the past and contemplate the future the excellent chapters in this exciting and provocative book provide an illuminating journey through the grand sweep of jewish history seen through the lens of crises that generated radical transformations the volume is perfect for all who seek to explore the resilience that undergirds jewish survival and to benefit from first rate

scholarship and engaging style rabbi tamara cohn eskenazi phd effie wise ochs professor of biblical literature and history hebrew union college jewish institute of religion an accessible introduction to the long history of disruption in jewish life from antiquity to the present to paraphrase a famous slogan you don't need to be reform to enjoy re-forming judaism you just need to be curious as to how change happens jonathan d sarna phd university professor and joseph h belle r braun professor of american jewish history brandeis university there is a piece of every jew that relishes thinking of oneself as standing at sinai and being part of a people and tradition that extends from then to now the jewish tradition though is ours now only because it had the wisdom to change over the centuries this book graphically demonstrates how tradition and change together have kept judaism instructive and relevant over time so that jews now can enjoy and benefit from both its continuity and its ever refreshing and challenging nature rabbi elliot dorff phd rector and sol anne dorff distinguished service professor of philosophy american jewish university

## **The Jewish Book of Days *2010-01-01***

increasing numbers of jews are returning to their religious roots in a search for meaning eager to explore a heritage that is deeply embedded in history and at the same time rapidly changing but what is judaism today and what does

it mean culturally spiritually and ritually to be jewish in the twenty first century in being jewish ari l goldman offers eloquent thoughtful answers to these questions through an absorbing exploration of modern judaism a bestselling author and widely respected chronicler of jewish life goldman vividly contrasts the historical meaning of judaism s heritage with the astonishing and multiform character of the religion today the result will be a revelation for those already involved with judaism and a fascinating introduction for those whose interests are newly minted or rekindled taking the reader through the process of discovery or rediscovery being jewish is divided into three sections each focusing on one of the cycles of human life beginning with the traditions associated with the life cycle birth marriage death goldman moves on to describe the rituals that mark the course of the jewish year starting with rosh hashanah finally he reflects on the character of the jewish day exploring the role of prayer dietary laws and ethical behavior all of these moments from a minute to a lifetime take on vibrant meaning in his thoughtful picture perhaps the most fascinating aspect of being jewish is goldman s discussion of the extraordinary variations in how jews live their judaism today he finds a wide variety of practices between judaism s branches and within them for example a family on long island keeps a unique version of kosher they have three sets of dishes and utensils one for meat one for milk and one for nonkosher chinese takeout while traditional judaism frowns on such quirky modes of observance goldman elevates them jews

today he concludes are reaching for the holy in unexpected and innovative ways these dramatically different ideas about how a jewish life may be lived suggest how difficult it can be for today s reader to find an objective account of judaism and it is precisely goldman s reporter s eye that sets this book apart informed by tradition without embracing any one ideology this award winning journalist s probing book moves across the boundaries of modern judaism to demonstrate how it is lived while other efforts to tackle these themes are written from the perspective of a particular religious tradition being jewish is the work of a sophisticated observer who describes rather than proscribes by weaving a complex and compelling commentary on judaism this inspiring volume encourages us to find our own place within the tradition and leads us into a deeper understanding not just of the details of the religion but ultimately of what it means to be jewish

## **Re-forming Judaism 2023-08-07**

more than three centuries after baruch spinoza s excommunication from the jewish community of amsterdam his legacy remains contentious born in 1632 spinoza is one of the most important thinkers of the enlightenment and arguably the paradigm of the secular jew having left orthodoxy without converting to another faith one of the most provocative critiques of spinoza comes from an unexpected source the influential twentieth century political

philosopher leo strauss though strauss was not an orthodox jew in a well known essay that prefaced his study of spinoza he critically examines modern philosophy s challenge to traditional religion there he argues that while the enlightenment had failed to decisively refute orthodoxy at the same time orthodoxy could only claim to believe its core tenets were true but could not claim to know they were true strauss leaves the question at an impasse both the enlightenment and orthodoxy rest on axioms that neither side can fully prove or fully refute curiously strauss never asks orthodox jewish thinkers if his approach to defending judaism against the claims of the enlightenment is the same as theirs this volume poses the question to a group of serious orthodox jewish thinkers in an attempt to find out if orthodoxy has a better answer to the questions raised by strauss than the one strauss advanced on its behalf the seventeen essays in this volume use a variety of approaches drawing on traditional primary jewish sources like scripture talmud and midrash medieval rationalists like maimonides enlightenment era orthodox sources jewish mystical writings like kabbalah and chasidut modern philosophical movements including postmodernism and analytic philosophy and contemporary jewish bible interpretation while the answers differ what unites these essays is the willingness to take strauss question seriously and to provide inside answers that is answers given by orthodox jews much of modern thought tries to square the circle of how to live in a world without belief the better question is whether it is possible to recover authentic religious



belief in the modern world this volume is an orthodox jewish attempt to answer that question one that no serious person can approach with indifference

## **Being Jewish 2000-09-05**

this companion explores the history doctrines divisions and contemporary condition of judaism surveys those issues most relevant to judaic life today ethics feminism politics and constructive theology explores the definition of judaism and its formative history makes sense of the diverse data of an ancient and enduring faith

## **Strauss, Spinoza & Sinai 2022**

what is jewish men s spirituality in today s world is it necessary a provocative look at how a new generation of jewish men can grow spiritually and in doing so strengthen the intangible bonds of family love duty and truth which ultimately lead to god it unearths the male stereotypes that exist in judaism and color our expectations for what it means to be a jewish man in today s world it examines jewish sources that reveal the traditional life cycle of a man from son to partner in marriage to father and in doing so uncovers the ideals that define being a jewish man it also views jewish men

within the context of a sacred community and what that means for the sacred obligations of manhood

## ***The Blackwell Companion to Judaism 2008-04-15***

the bible may be likened to a magnificent diamond glistening with many brilliant colors all at the same time and although the different hues often appear to be contradictory when you view the totality of the light emanating from the diamond you begin to appreciate how complementary they really are thus the sages of the talmud understood that there are many possible truths contained in each biblical statement each adding its unique melody to the magnificent symphony of the whole synthesizing not in conflicting dissonance but in holy dialectic torah lights exodus is rabbi shlomo riskin s analysis and original contemplations on the birth of the israelite nation in the biblical book of exodus

## ***A Man's Responsibility 2011-05-06***

jewish feminism what have we accomplished what is still to be done when you are in the middle of the revolution you can t really plan the next steps ahead but now we can the book is intended to open up a dialogue between the early jewish feminist pioneers and the young women shaping judaism today read

it use it debate it ponder it from the introduction this empowering anthology looks at the growth and accomplishments of jewish feminism and what that means for jewish women today and tomorrow it features the voices of women from every area of jewish life the reform reconstructionist conservative orthodox and jewish renewal movements rabbis congregational leaders artists writers community service professionals academics and chaplains from the united states canada and israel addressing the important issues that concern jewish women women and theology women ritual and torah women and the synagogue women in israel gender sexuality and age women and the denominations leadership and social justice

## **Torah Lights: Exodus defines the birth of a nation 2006**

this book answers the following question for judaism among all the things that happened in antiquity what are the events that seen from the perspective of the world that would endure turn out to shape the long future how did axiological events identify the focal points of the unfolding religious system judaism in its formulation by the rabbinic sages of ancient times this is the system that originated in its own telling with god s teaching to mooses at sinai in the torah in written and traditional form of all that happened to

the jews in the millennium from the formation of the pentateuch moses to the end of the formative age muhammad the particular judaism that emerged as normative responded to only a select few and did so within a logic all its own here we identify those definitive events of danger and opportunity crisis and the focal points that they highlighted

**New Jewish Feminism 2012-06-28**

**Judaism from Moses to Muhammed 2005**

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