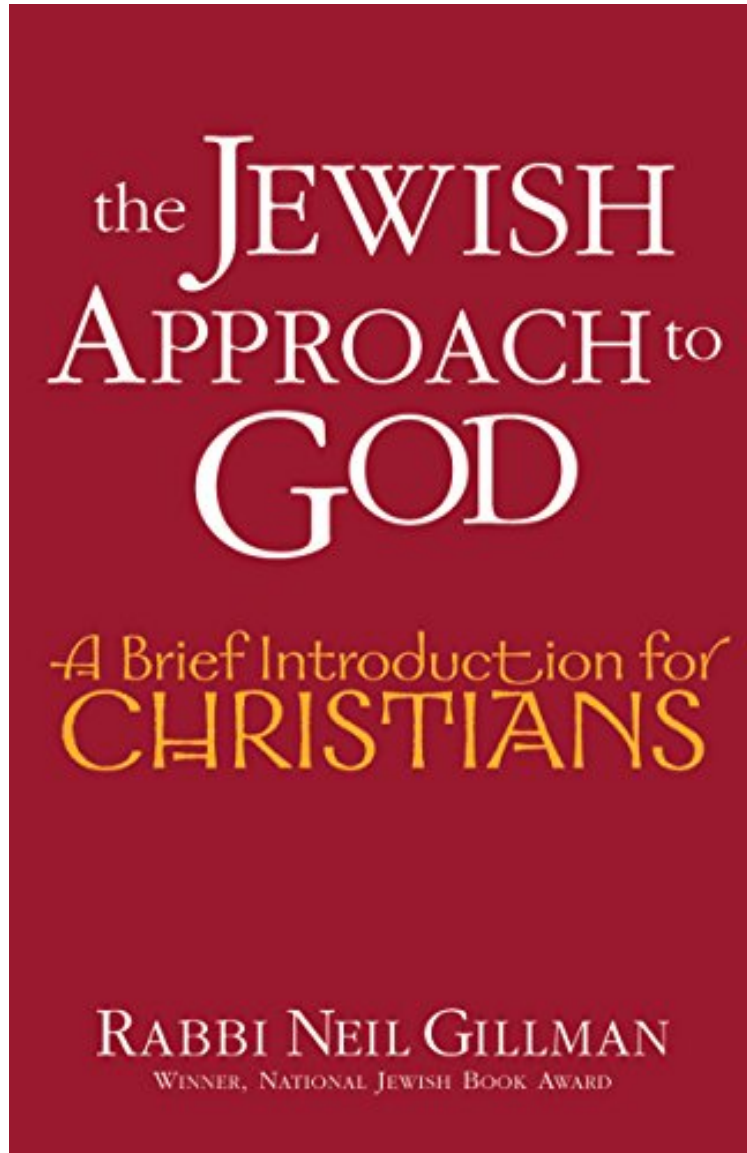


[Ebook free] The Jewish Approach to God: A Brief Introduction for Christians

The Jewish Approach to God: A Brief Introduction for Christians

Rabbi Neil Gillman

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Rabbi Neil Gillman : The Jewish Approach to God: A Brief Introduction for Christians before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Jewish Approach to God: A Brief Introduction for Christians:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Rabbi Gillman is an excellent writer. This book provides a warm introduction to ...By Bob HarperRabbi Gillman is an excellent writer. This book provides a warm introduction to

contemporary Jewish concepts of God. Christians can learn a lot about the subject and how to talk about religion from it. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Mainly for Christians? By R. Hochwalt This book was well organized, well written, interesting, informative, and really gave me a feeling for Jews' relationship and perception of God. I quarrel with the subtitle: A Brief Introduction for Christians. This might put off agnostics, Buddhists, secular humanists, Hindus, etc. from reading the book. I used to be a Christian, for many years now, I think of myself as a Buddhist more than anything else. I have just about finished the book, and the author doesn't make a point of writing for just a Christian audience -- at all. Christians would benefit from the book. They would in no way be offended. However, it has a more universal appeal than just to Christians. 2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Good book for Jews as well as Christians By Dennis Dawson Gilman is a very good person to read if you want to get a Jewish theology based more on the Bible and less on Greek philosophy. A pretty basic book, but it does contain fresh insights and clear writing.

A window into the Jewish understanding of God throughout history and today written especially for Christians. In Jewish Scripture Christianity's foundation God's presence is everywhere: in nature, in history and in the range of human experience. Yet the Torah, Maimonides and 4,000 years of Jewish tradition all agree on one thing: that God is beyond any form of human comprehension. How, then can Judaism be so crowded with descriptions and images of God? And what can they mean to the ways Christians understand their own faith? In this special book, Rabbi Neil Gillman guides you through these questions and the countless different ways the Jewish people have related to God, how each originated and what each may mean for you. Whether you are Christian, Muslim or even Jewish, this nuts-and-bolts introduction will both answer your questions and stimulate new ones. A theologian who writes as a great teacher, Gillman addresses the key concepts at the heart of Judaism's approach to God. From Ein Sof (Infinity) to Shekhinah (Presence), Gillman helps you understand what the search for knowing God itself says about Jewish tradition and how you can use the fundamentals of Judaism to strengthen, explore and deepen your own spiritual foundations. God Is Echad (Unique) God Is Power God Is Person God Is Nice Sometimes God Is Not Nice Sometimes God Can Change God Creates God Reveals God Redeems

From Publishers Weekly For a Christian, reading this book is like taking an introductory language course. You may not learn to speak the new language fluently, but in the process of studying it you discover a great deal about your own. The book's subject is God, not Judaism, and its perspective is generally Conservative (the author's denomination) and liberal/mystical in the tradition of his mentor Abraham Joshua Heschel. The Jewish understanding of God is based on the Shema: "The Lord our God alone is God." Gillman (The Death of Death) notes: "In Judaism since the beginning, God was not the conclusion of an argument but rather its point of departure. We begin with the conviction that there is a God in the world and that the world is all God's work." This God is powerful but self-limiting, personal and vulnerable, compassionate but sometimes angry or absent. In the Jewish worldview, God's work of creating, revealing and redeeming is shared with human beings. The mystical belief that "not only are Jews partners with God in redeeming the world, they are also partners with God in redeeming God" may sound radical, but "Christianity, by portraying a God who suffered and died on the Cross, extended this biblical notion... beyond anything that Judaism had ever imagined." Gillman teaches at the Jewish Theological Seminary and frequently speaks to Jewish and Christian congregations. This accessible volume, distilled from a lifetime of interaction with students of both faiths, is a warm and compelling introduction to the God of the Bible. Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Booklist Gillman proves to be a master teacher as he explains the difference between how Jews and Christians view God. In an accessible, organized style he uses metaphor--"To think and talk of God . . . is to think and talk metaphorically"--to reveal aspects of the God of the Israelites vis-a-vis biblical, historical, and contemporary interpretations. He relates how the Jewish view of God has evolved as the life circumstances of those speaking about God changed, from Job to Rabbi Harold Kushner in When Bad Things Happen to Good People. Further, he recounts how the Christian view of God also evolved, as it were, from the Jewish God of the Old Testament, and he details the difference between the ways Jews and Christians behold the words of the Bible. He explores God's uniqueness, omniscience, omnipotence, justice, love, and revelation, and he examines various takes on Creation as depicted in Genesis and redemption at the end of days. Taking on a complicated topic, Gillman treats it with clarity and dignity. Donna Chavez Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved About the Author Neil Gillman, rabbi and PhD, is professor of Jewish philosophy at The Jewish Theological Seminary in New York, where he has served as chair of the Department of Jewish Philosophy and dean of the Rabbinical School. He is author of Believing and Its Tensions: A Personal Conversation about God, Torah, Suffering and Death in Jewish Thought; The Death of Death: Resurrection and Immortality in Jewish Thought, a finalist for the National Jewish Book Award and a Publishers Weekly "Best Book of the Year"; The Way Into Encountering God in Judaism; The Jewish Approach to God: A Brief Introduction for Christians; Traces of God: Seeing God in Torah, History and Everyday Life (all Jewish Lights) and Sacred Fragments: Recovering Theology for the Modern Jew, winner of the National Jewish Book Award.