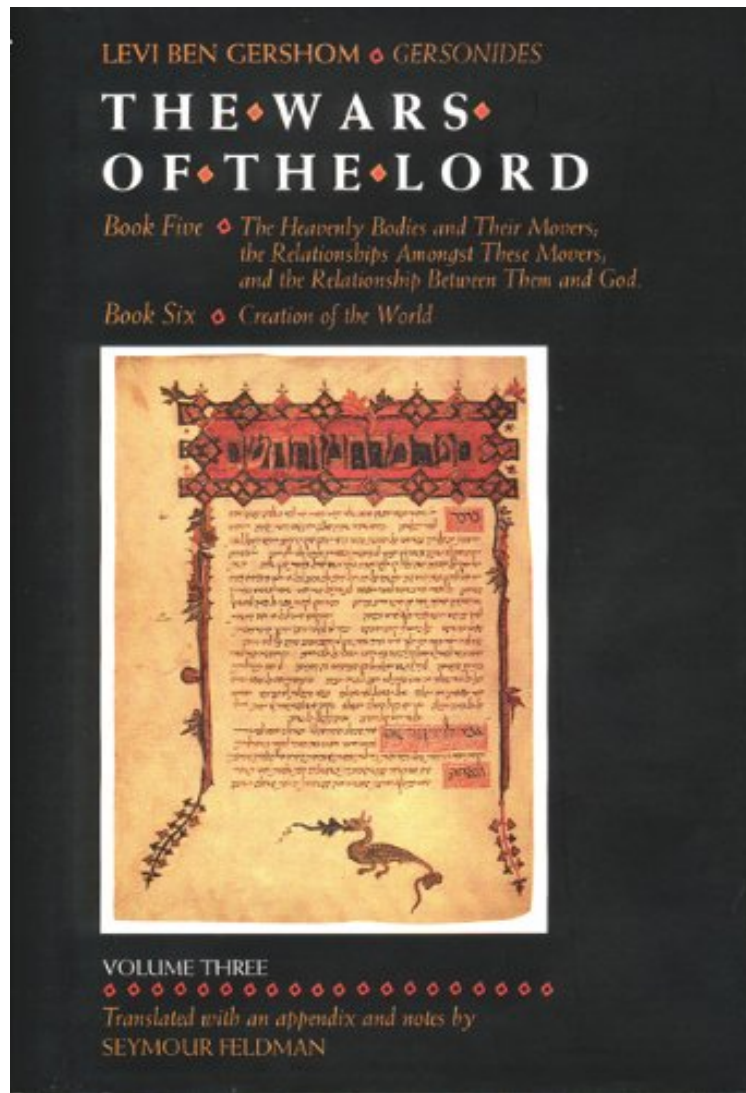



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The Wars of The Lord: Volume Three

Levi Ben Gershom

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Levi Ben Gershom : The Wars of The Lord: Volume Three before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Wars of The Lord: Volume Three:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great work of rationalist JudaismBy Robert New EnglandGersonides, also known as the Ralbag, wrote this work of Jewish philosophy, synthesizing rabbinic Judaism with the rationalist philosophy of Aristotle. In this broad sense, he is in the same tradition as the other great Jewish rationalists, such as Maimonides (Rambam.)This book is an English translation of Sefer Milhamot Ha-Shem, ("The Wars of the Lord"). It is modeled after Maimonides' Guide for the Perplexed.Gersonides explains his disagreements with some elements of Maimonides' syncretism of Aristotelianism and rabbinic Jewish thought, and offers his own

alternatives. His book includes discussions of: 1. the doctrine of the soul, in which Gersonides defends the theory of impersonal reason as mediating between God and man. He explains the formation of the higher reason (or acquired intellect, as it was called) in humanity; his view being thoroughly realist and resembling that of Avicenna; 2. prophecy; 3. God's knowledge of facts and providence, in which is advanced the theory that God does not know individual facts. While there is general providence for all, special providence only extends to those whose reason has been enlightened; 4. celestial substances, the spiritual hierarchy which the Jewish philosophers of the middle ages accepted, and also giving, along with astronomical details, some astrological theory; 5. rationalist views on creation and miracles. 0 of 6 people found the following review helpful. Two Stars By Yekarah Not what I expected.

The Wars of the Lord is the major treatise of Levi ben Gershom of Provence (1288-1344), one of the most creative and daring minds of the medieval world. The work, an unparalleled achievement of Jewish thought, is devoted to a demonstration that the Torah, properly understood, is identical to true philosophy.

"A well-crafted and scholarly translation. No serious Judaic or philosophy collection should lack this unique and challenging classic work." Choice