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Radical Judaism: Rethinking God And Tradition (The Franz Rosenzweig Lecture Series)



Synopsis

How do we articulate a religious vision that embraces evolution and human authorship of Scripture? A Drawing on the Jewish mystical traditions of Kabbalah and Hasidism, path-breaking Jewish scholar Arthur Green argues that a neomystical perspective can help us to reframe these realities, so they may yet be viewed as dwelling places of the sacred. In doing so, he rethinks such concepts as God, the origins and meaning of existence, human nature, and revelation to construct a new Judaism for the twenty-first century.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"Filled with interesting observations . . . deliberately provocative [and] accessibly written." •Rabbi David Wolpe, Jewish Journal "A brilliant, complex work . . . deeply satisfying . . . a welcome pushing of the boundaries by a master thinker." •Jewish Book World "Rabbi Arthur Green . . . makes his clearest and boldest case yet . . . a valuable contribution . . . Green has now produced some of the best Jewish theology of our time." •Jay Michaelson, The Forward "Green is steeped in the classical sources of Jewish and especially kabbalistic tradition, and his writing is informed by the insights of scientists and secular thinkers." •Daniel J. Rettberg, AJL Newsletter "An indispensable, reader-friendly introduction to the new immanence in contemporary theology read out of the sources of Judaism." •Zachary Braiterman, Religious Studies Review "[A] rich and thoughtful work . . . Radical Judaism ought to be read by anyone who wants to get a sense of one major position on the contemporary American Jewish theological

landscape, as well as by those interested in the theoretical relationships between science and mysticism."•Samuel H. Brody, *Journal of Religion*"Green emerges as a decidedly non-traditionalist theologian through this illuminating and evocative discussion about such topics as classic metaphors for God, evolutionary theory, and Kabbalistic theories of creation. Radical Judaism is highly accessible, and the issues addressed are very much those of our contemporaries."•Neil Gillman, *The Jewish Theological Seminary of America*"A credible spirituality for our tumultuous times. Green draws richly from the Jewish mystical tradition, but also writes from the heart of his own experience. This lucidly written and wise book will reach far beyond the Jewish community."•Harvey Cox, author of *The Future of Faith*

Rabbi Arthur Green is professor and rector of the Rabbinical School of Hebrew College in Newton, MA.

For those like me who have trouble reconciling evolutionary science with the biblical creation story, and for those of us who see a contradiction between the deliverance of the complete Torah (with its telling of the future trials of the Israelites) and free will, this book was a real revelation. Rabbi Green provides a much-needed alternative to blind acceptance. Instead, the book provides the basis for a religious faith that can change with our increasing understanding of the universe and our place in it.

Rabbi Green is a deep thinker who brings his scholarly knowledge to bear in a very personal way. He takes on pretty weighty topics -- God and evolution, the nature of Torah study, the oneness of all creation, and even the two-state solution! I found myself transfixed and transformed by this short volume that speaks volumes -- thank you Rabbi Green!

This book articulated for me the understanding of the Holy that has been growing inside without words. I thank Rabbi Art Green for sharing a theology that I can understand, that energizes and inspires me. I had originally borrowed the book, and when I could resist no more began to highlight and underline (and yes, I replaced my friend's unmarked copy).

I'm a Hillel Director and will be using this as a text to study with my students. Green helps us frame a series of meaningful and relevant questions about theology in this day and age, and gives us a lot to think about.

I love reading theology but sometimes theology isn't really readable. Thank heaven, Art Green is a clear thinker and a clear writer. I got a lot to think about from this book. I wish I could take a course from him but going to live in Boston isn't an option now. I hope his students know how lucky they are.

This book is a great attempt at crafting a theology for the 21st century. Deserves to be read by Jews and non Jews alike.

For those thoughtful students of God, life, and meaning. Definitely an interfaith read, not written exclusively for Jews. If you are interested in how evolution and faith work together, this is for you.

Eye Opening! Wonderful expression of how Judaism could be.

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