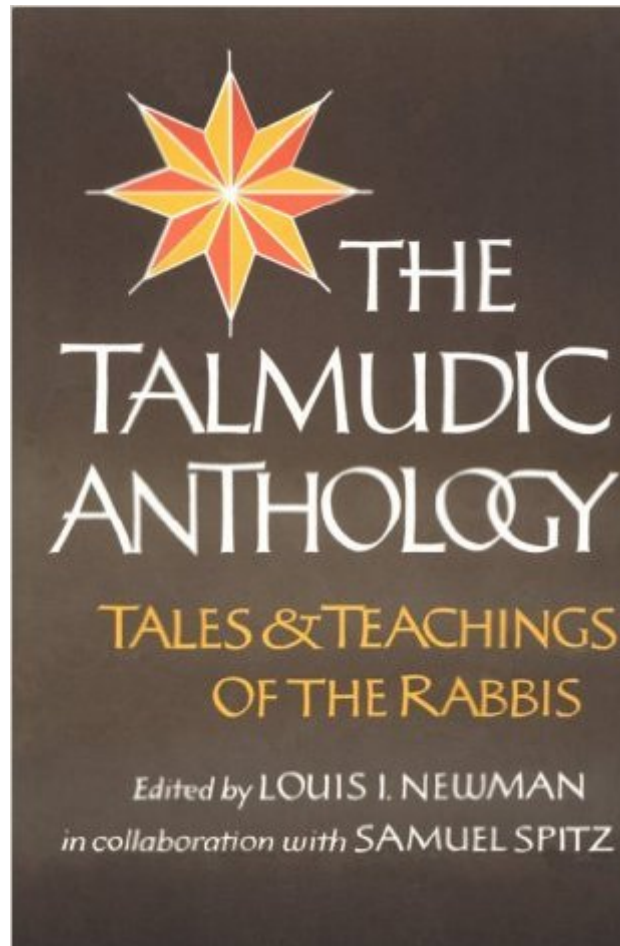


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Talmudic Anthology: Tales And Teachings Of The Rabbis



Synopsis

Book by Louis I. Newman

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In one respect the Talmud is similar to Microsoft Windows. It is vast, but you do not need to understand all of it to benefit from part of it. The Talmud grew out of oral discussions of the Torah. The Torah is the first five books of the Jewish Holy Scriptures and the Christian Old Testament. These are Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy. Those who have read the Gospels know that the Jews of Biblical times spent much time discussing the meaning of the Torah. This is because Jesus often had discussions with the Pharisees. The Gospel of Luke 2:41 - 47 describes Jesus at the age of twelve discussing the Torah in the Temple of Jerusalem with Jewish scholars. "Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem after the custom of the feast. And when they had fulfilled the days, as they returned, the child Jesus tarried behind in Jerusalem; and Joseph and his mother knew not of it. But they, supposing him to have been in the company, went a day's journey; and they sought him among their kinfolk and acquaintance. And when they found him not, they turned back to Jerusalem, seeking him. And it came to pass, that after three days they found him in the Temple, sitting in the midst of the doctors, both hearing them, and asking them questions. And all that heard him were astonished at his understanding and answers." After the destruction of the Temple in 70 AD Jewish scholars began to write down the results of these discussions. The Palestinian Talmud was edited in Jerusalem about 400 AD. The Babylonian Talmud was edited

about one hundred years later. These efforts seem to have been independent of each other. In his introduction to *The Talmudic Anthology* Louis I.

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