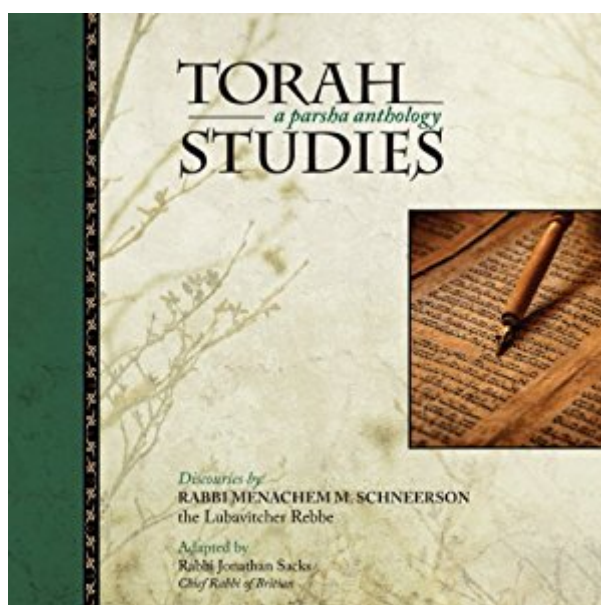


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Torah Studies: A Parsha Anthology



Synopsis

In a paradigm of true leadership, the Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem M. Schneerson, of sainted memory, embraced all issues of import to Jews, Jewish life, and beyond, spurring a Jewish revival that continues to gain momentum even after his passing. Through his incisive and illuminating Torah expositions, the Rebbe inspired an awareness of an attainable higher reality and sparked an enthusiasm for Torah study among scholars and layman alike. The essays collected here are selected from the Rebbe's investigations of the weekly Torah portion. In these studies of our most sacred text, the Rebbe weaves together many centuries of traditional Jewish scholarship, focusing them through the prism of his intense Chassidic spirituality. Time and again the result is a fresh insight into the great themes of Jewish life, themes no less relevant today than in our long and distinguished past. Torah Studies represents only a fragment of the vast body of the Rebbe's teaching. His collected writings and discourses are gathered in more than 200 volumes and constitute an immense legacy to future generations. They include Torah exposition, analysis of Jewish law, Talmudic discourses, explorations of Jewish mysticism and letters of guidance to Jews throughout the world. Rabbi Jonathan Sacks, adapter of this work, is Chief Rabbi of Great Britain.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I loved this book. Assuming that one is familiar with some Hebrew words, and at least know the significance of the Torah, the Talmud, and Kabbalah, this book is mentally and religiously stimulating. The Rebbe does not go into so much detail that one wonders how he got his answers, nor does he cover too much ground, so that one wonders where any connection is. Personally, the

style of this book works for me. If one likes Judaic studies, and likes the style of the Rebbe, then this is a good book for you.

The day I got this book, I opened it up to a random page and the first sentence that my eyes focused on was "The Messiah = Moses + 1". I was absolutely stunned. Now that I've started reading the book from the beginning, I can't wait to get back to that page again. As other reviewers have alluded to, the book doesn't explain everything comprehensively beyond any shadow of a doubt, but it does give one a challenging insight into the rich world of Judaic exegesis. I found that if I persevered with the parts that I didn't immediately understand, I nevertheless eventually reached a piece of wisdom I could readily comprehend despite my beginner level of knowledge in matters of Jewish religion and its literature. I especially appreciated the breakdown on page 24 under the heading The Preservation Of Perfection. If you're reading this review, then this book is for you.

Torah is revealed wisdom and as such it must be revealed or received. We can pass along knowledge but true wisdom must be received. There is a word in the Jewish tradition for the receiving of this revealed wisdom from Torah -- it is Kabbalah. This one book by Rabbi Menachem Schneerson is full of Kabbalah and gems of Torah. Rabbi Schneerson was a master teacher. Teachings such as "faith begins where understanding ends" and "religious life is not a matter of suddenly arriving, but of constantly journeying" are explained from the Jewish wisdom tradition (Kabbalah). The weekly Torah portion doesn't change. We change and can receive from Rabbi Schneerson's inspired teachings. This collection was assembled from teachings toward the end of the Rebbe's life and is filled with wisdom from experience. If I have to name one book of mysticism that inspired me most - it would be this book.

If you are interested in Torah and understanding more, this is a great resource to enrich your Torah studies. Everyone should read this!

These are amazing insights from the Lubavitcher Rebbe. They take you deeper into the meaning of Torah. It is a companion for any Jewish home

I found this book very disappointing. I mentioned this to a rabbi who teaches Jewish Learning Institute Courses and he told me this was not Rabbi Sacks best work and that I should look elsewhere than this book to learn Torah. The purpose of the book appears to be to justify a literal

reading of the Torah by explaining apparent inconsistencies to someone who takes the Torah literally. I found very little in this book that spoke to me or moved me. Like many if not most Jews, see the Pew Survey on American Jews, the connection between Judaism and living a better life is something I don't take for granted. The mechanical exercises in this book did little, maybe nothing, to strengthen that connection.

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