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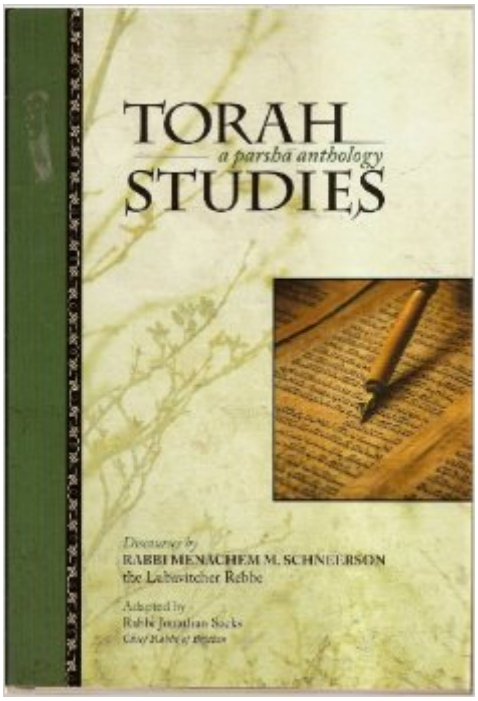
Torah Studies



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Synopsis

A Torah discourse of the Lubavitcher Rebbe usually revolves around a question, sometimes seemingly microscopictension serving as a point of departure for the Rebbes discussion. To hear or read such a discussion is to embark on a journey in which we are challenged and forced to move, and at the end stand far from where we began. Here, Rabbi Jonathan Sacks, Chief Rabbi of Great Britain, serves as guide to that journey, elucidating the question in each discourse and explaining its context. In this collection of lucid adaptations of the Rebbes talks on the weekly Torah readings and Jewish holidays, each question is not only resolved but also revealed to be the starting point of a major spiritual search, a journey to the inner sanctum of Torah. With descriptive introductions to each chapter and extensive indexes, Torah Studies is an important gateway to the Rebbes teaching and legacy.

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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 it's 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 Jewsih 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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