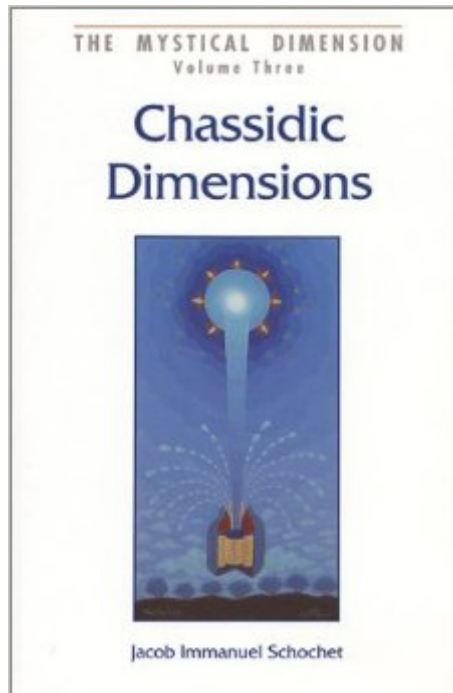


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Chassidic Dimensions: Themes In Chassidic Thought And Practice (Mystical Dimension, Vol. 3)



Synopsis

Jewish mysticism has long fascinated and intrigued scholars and truth-seekers of every kind. Kabbalah, the esoteric wisdom of Judaism, and chasidism, its more accessible modern counterpart, have been the subject of endless study and research. An authentic and scholarly English text that draws upon the full spectrum of traditional Jewish sources is a most valuable addition to this study. In this three-volume series, Rabbi Schochet, presents a sweeping survey of the major themes and concepts found in kabbalah and chasidism, and show how the exoteric and esoteric aspects of Torah complement each other in a manner analogous to body and soul of one entity. Volume Three: Chassidic Dimensions - Certain ideas and concepts - like that of universal Ahavat Yisroel, brotherly love, the figure of the Rebbe-Tzaddik, and the idea of a "joyful disposition," are so strongly identified with chasidic thought that many do not realize that they derive wholly from Talmud, Midrash and other classic traditions.

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"Chassidic Dimensions" presents a masterful exposition of sometimes difficult and oftentimes misunderstood subjects. The author is a masterful teacher able to clarify esoteric topics in easily understood language, rendering them easily accessible to the modern reader. Basic Chassidic themes, like the concept of the tzadik (the Chassidic leaders and "wonder-rabbis"), the emphasis on joy, the emphasis on the Divine component in humans, the tension between mysticism and legalism, and the well-known outreach work of the Lubavitch movement, are illuminated and made

comprehendable even to people far removed from mystical attachment. The extensive footnotes and explanations covering the whole range of Jewish scholarship, with careful annotations, are an absolute delight, as are the detailed indices. This book is an absolute must for anyone interested in Jewish philosophy, theology and mysticism.

Rabbi Schochet is an excellent writer who is expert in Chassidic thought. The book complements the other books he wrote.

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