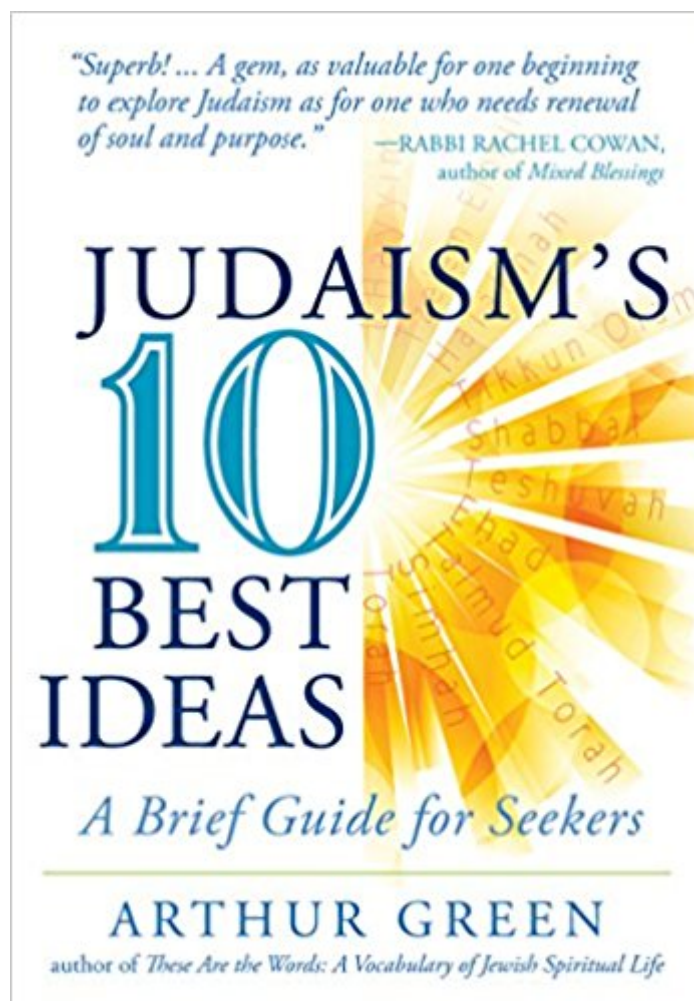


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Judaism's Ten Best Ideas: A Brief Guide For Seekers



Synopsis

A welcoming introduction to the most important ideas in Judaism. In an age of fluid identity, many people are honestly asking the question "Why be Jewish?" What in this religious and ethnic legacy is worth preserving? Does Judaism have something unique to offer a contemporary seeker free to choose a way of life and a system of values? Here is the answer of a leading spiritual teacher who has faced these questions in conversation with generations of students. With warmth, humor, personal and rabbinic stories and down-to-earth explanations, Arthur Green presents the ideas in Judaism that kept him loyal to the tradition passed on to him. The result is an enticing look into timeless Jewish wisdom that will encourage you to explore further and search out the riches of Judaism for yourself.

Book Information

Paperback: 112 pages

Publisher: Jewish Lights; 1 edition (September 8, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1580238033

ISBN-13: 978-1580238038

Product Dimensions: 4.5 x 0.3 x 2.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 0.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 29 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #47,729 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #5 in [Books > Religion & Spirituality > Judaism > Kabbalah & Mysticism](#) #7 in [Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Religious Studies > Judaism](#) #10 in [Books > Religion & Spirituality > Judaism > Theology](#)

Customer Reviews

"Superb! ... A gem, as valuable for one beginning to explore Judaism as for one who needs renewal of soul and purpose." *—Rabbi Rachel Cowan, author, Mixed Blessings* "Depth, wisdom, humanity [and] scholarship [from] the greatest living interpreter of Judaism.... I look forward to teaching this book to a generation of spiritual seekers searching for a soulful Judaism." *—Rabbi Edward Feinstein, author, The Chutzpah Imperative: Empowering Today's Jews for a Life That Matters; senior rabbi, Valley Beth Shalom* "Translates core ideas of Jewish tradition with twenty-first-century eyes, making them both accessible and compelling. This is the book I will give not only to people beginning their Jewish journeys but also to serious students of Judaism." *—Rabbi Laura Geller, senior rabbi, Temple Emanuel of Beverly Hills*

Hills – “Profound wisdom in a simple format.... Offer[s] readers easy access to Judaism’s most novel ideas.” – Dr. Kerry M. Olitzky, executive director, Jewish Outreach Institute; author, *Introducing My Faith and My Community: The Jewish Outreach Institute Guide for a Christian in a Jewish Interfaith Relationship* – “Fresh and insightful.... An important read for all Jews, non-Orthodox and Orthodox alike.... This is a unifying book that can bring all those who love Judaism, Torah, mitzvot and God together – all sharing in common the deepest ideas and desires for this world.” – Rabbi Asher Lopatin, president, Yeshivat Chovevei Torah Rabbinical School

Arthur Green, PhD, is recognized as one of the world’s preeminent authorities on Jewish thought and spirituality. He is the Irving Brudnick professor of philosophy and religion at Hebrew College and rector of the Rabbinical School, which he founded in 2004. Professor emeritus at Brandeis University, he also taught at the University of Pennsylvania and the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College, where he served as dean and president. Dr. Green is author of several books including *Judaism’s Ten Best Ideas: A Brief Guide for Seekers*; *Ehyeh: A Kabbalah for Tomorrow*; *Seek My Face: A Jewish Mystical Theology*; *Your Word Is Fire: The Hasidic Masters on Contemplative Prayer* and *Tormented Master: The Life and Spiritual Quest of Rabbi Nahman of Bratslav* (all Jewish Lights). He is also author of *Radical Judaism* (Yale University Press) and coauthor of *Speaking Torah: Spiritual Teachings from around the Maggid’s Table*. He is long associated with the Havurah movement and a neo-Hasidic approach to Judaism.

This is a wonderful summary of the most important tenets of Judaism. It is easy to read and presents the beliefs in a way that is compelling and reflective of the depth and beauty of the faith, without going into too much detail on practices. This is a must read for non-jews wishing to understand what Judaism is all about. It is also a good choice for Jews whose faith could use a little boost.

Arthur Green has an ability to distill down key ideas and here his fresh takes on essential ideas is welcome. In some sense, this is almost more for non-Jews or converts, but Green’s style keeps it engaging nonetheless. My only complaint is that this avoids some of the harder issues of Jewish faith, but that criticism seems to be asking the book to be a different book. For those who want an overview of religious judaism, this is a good place to start.

This little book is a gem. The Jews have so much to offer Christians such as myself.

I found this book to be most insightful for me as a non-Jew.

Dr. Green is a great scholar, his *Tormented Master* is forever one of my favorite biographies. The ten best ideas are a bit on the "schwach" side. However for those who know little or nothing about Judaism it's a good introduction.

Dr. Green has authored the perfect introduction for seekers wishing to explore the fundamentals of Judaism. I commend this book to my fellow Christians who too wish to understand the basic tenets of their religious heritage.

Gave this to a friend considering becoming a "Jew By Choice" as an introduction to some of the important ideas in the realm of Judaism.

Very small and quick read. I have it as a bathroom reader. Also good for just having around the house, especially if you have non-Jewish visitors.

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