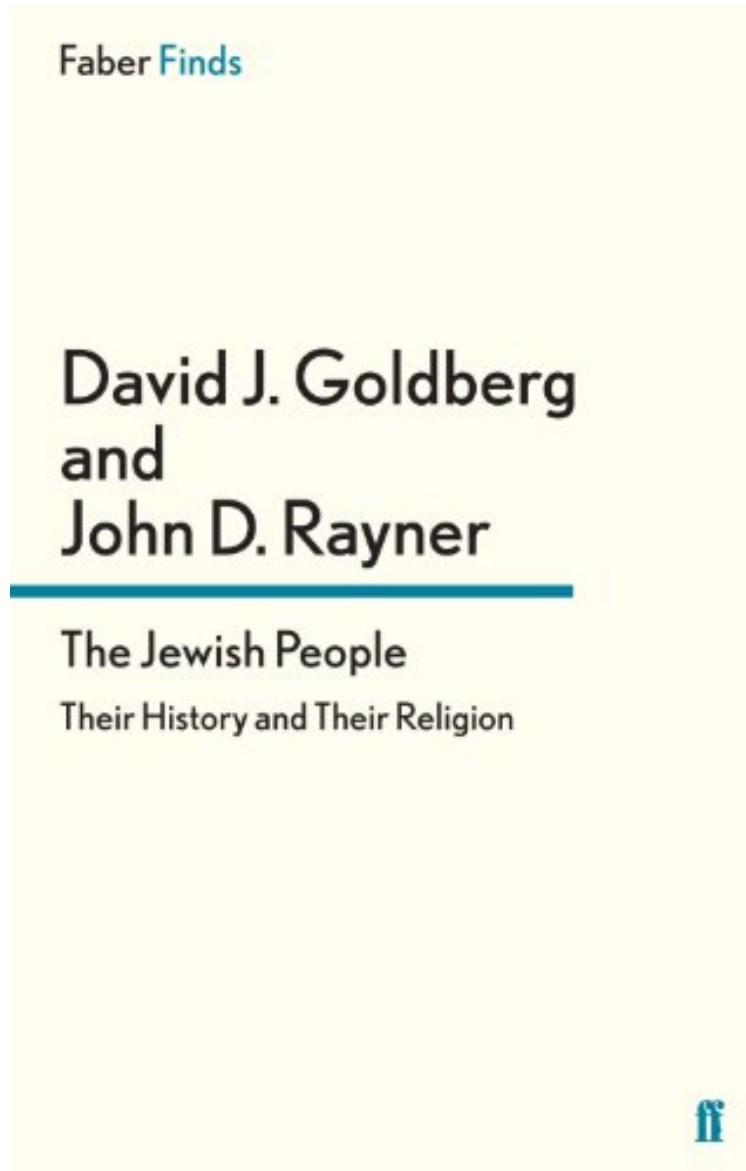


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Von David J. Goldberg, John D Rayner
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Von David J. Goldberg, John D Rayner : The Jewish People: Their History and Their Religion (Faber Finds) (English Edition) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Jewish People: Their History and Their Religion (Faber Finds) (English Edition):

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich.

Comprehensive account of Jewish History and Religion Von Ein Kundel highly recommend this book to anyone that is interested in gaining an insight into the history, practices and literature of the Jewish people. The book is broken down into 4 parts. In Part 1, Rabbis Goldberg and Rayner explain each phase in Jewish history from Abraham to the holocaust. With regards to their analysis of the biblical period, I was very impressed at their genuine concern with true history rather than just relying on scripture to provide the details. When dealing with each period, they refrained from giving painstaking details and rather delivered a good overview. Those wishing to satisfy their curiosity for details are able to consult the bibliography for further reading. In Part 2, the Jewish literature for each period is reviewed including the origin of the Torah and an overview of Rabbinic literature such as the Talmud and beyond. Parts 3 and 4 deal with the theory of Judaism and Jewish practices. These are excellent for those who are being introduced to Judaism for the very first time, or for those who could do with some revision or brushing up on some of the important rituals, laws and festivals. Overall, I must say this book is informative and a pleasure to read and remains an excellent reference book.

Kurzbeschreibung "This handsomely produced and interestingly illustrated volume is two works in one. The first part offers a survey of Jewish history and literature. The second part presents what the preface describes as 'a thematic analysis of the teachings and practices of Judaism.'" Israel Finestein, Jewish Chronicle 'Fluently written, with an admirable fair-mindedness in surveying both history and belief.' A.J. Shermann, Times Literary Supplement 'The intelligent non-expert gets a clear picture of Jewish life, letters and history and it will be an endlessly useful reference book.' Julia Neuberger, Times Educational Supplement 'A wide-ranging account of things Jewish that one can truly recommend to intellectually curious Gentiles, as well as to the majority of modern secularized Jews who know relatively little about their complex tradition.' Louis Marcus, Irish Times From Publishers Weekly For the overwhelming majority of Jews under Roman rule, Jesus of Nazareth was just one more tragic, fallible victim of the struggle against an oppressive regime. In this scholarly history by two London rabbis of the Progressive branch of Judaism, unfolding events are interpreted as they were felt and lived by the Jewish people. Ever since the French Revolution, when Judaism lost its hold as an all-embracing amalgam of faith and behavior, Jews' responses to the modern world have ranged from conversion or assimilation to fervent nationalism. The narrative, alternately brisk and dry, helps explain how a tiny, persecuted, exiled people maintained a distinctive cultural identity and sense of mission. In extensive sections on ethics, belief, literature and worship, the authors take a refreshingly unconventional approach. Reminding us that "Old Testament" is a Christian term alien to Judaism, they reexamine the Jewish Bible's sense of the cosmos as a unitary whole. Their view of Judaism as a set of mitzvot (commandments), a code of conduct that each believer must rediscover, informs this challenging study. Copyright 1987 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Library Journal Two British rabbis have accomplished the nearly impossible by writing a concise, factual, readable history of the Jews and describing the beliefs and practices of Judaism in fewer than 400 pages. The greater part of this book is devoted to a general synopsis of Jewish history from Abraham's time to the 1980s. The remaining three sections describe the literature, theory, and practices of Judaism. (In contrast, Paul Johnson's recent History of the Jews, LJ 3/15/87, is devoted strictly to history.) All the salient facts are here and all schools of Jewish belief objectively treated. A simple but excellent introduction for general readers. Robert A. Silver, Shaker Heights P.L., Ohio Copyright 1988 Reed Business Information, Inc.