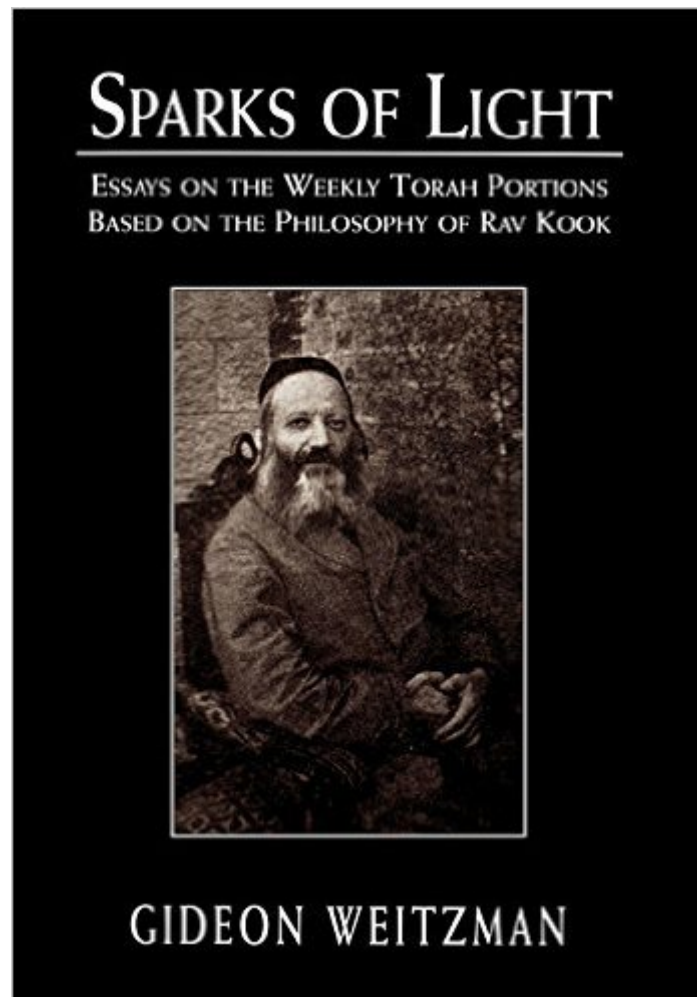


The book was found

Sparks Of Light: Essays On The Weekly Torah Portions Based On The Philosophy Of Rav Kook



Synopsis

The author writes: "Rabbi Avraham Yitzhak HaCohen Kook (5635-5695/1865-1935) was one of the greatest Jewish leaders of recent history. He was steeped in Jewish knowledge of all kinds, a master of halacha, Talmud, and Jewish philosophy, and he also had a good knowledge of the general philosophy and science of his day." Rav Kook was also a prolific writer and complex thinker who developed a system of understanding the events that were happening to the Jewish people. It was a time of change, Herzl convened the Zionist Congress in Basel, irreligious Zionists were moving to Israel and establishing settlements and kibbutzim. There was a negative reaction from many religious leaders to the young men and women. Darwin's theory and Freud's new science were gaining popularity and many Jews were drawn further away from a traditional lifestyle. Rav Kook was able to perceive the inner yearnings that accompanied these revolutionary changes. They represented a deep yearning within these young Jews for morality, equality, and justice. They realized that the world was not static but evolved and moved in a positive direction. Rav Kook embraced both Zionism and the young irreligious Zionists. He developed a philosophy that was based on the kabbalistic concept of fusion. The world appears divided; there is a break between heaven and earth, physical and spiritual, politics and religion. But at the heart of it all, everything is fused into a cohesive unit. This is true for the individual, the nation, and all of existence. Rav Kook set about publicizing his theories and spreading his teachings to young thinkers, both religious and secular. This represents the bulk of his voluminous writings. Rav Kook never wrote a book of commentary on the Torah, but he did create a lens through which we can perceive and better understand the Torah. That is the basis for this book.

Book Information

Hardcover: 360 pages

Publisher: Jason Aronson, Inc. (September 1, 1999)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0765760800

ISBN-13: 978-0765760807

Product Dimensions: 6.4 x 1.3 x 9.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.5 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (1 customer review)

Best Sellers Rank: #2,638,691 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #60 in [Books > Religion & Spirituality > Judaism > Movements > Conservative](#) #102 in [Books > Religion & Spirituality >](#)

Customer Reviews

This book is fantastic. Each essay is preceded by a series of related quotations from Rav Kook's works, but the essays at first glance seem more to be all-around excellent summaries and insights into key issues of that parsha, rather than anything especially "Kook-ish". If essays based on Rav Kook and "plain" essays are indistinguishable, perhaps this is proof that Rav Kook represented Judaism at perhaps its best. Actually, upon further reading of this book, one realizes that these essays do contain the uniqueness of Rav Kook's thoughts. The book uses Rav Kook's adaption of the Kabbalistic idea of fusion, which says that the apparent divide between spiritual and physical is actually nonexistent. Thus, these essays on the parsha demonstrate, using this concept of fusion developed from the Kabbalah by Rav Kook, how our physical lives and our spiritual lives are to be unified and work with each other rather than against. This concept is so integral to Judaism (as opposed to Christianity and Buddhism's emphasis on ascetism etc.), however, that I was not at first aware that this book was anything more than an ordinary, albeit excellent, book of essays on the parsha. Upon further investigation, however, I realized that one should bill this book as a book of essays on the parsha that use the philosophy of Rav Kook to illuminate a crucial aspect of Torah and Judaism in a new but normative manner, so normative that one barely realizes its uniqueness.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Sparks of Light: Essays on the Weekly Torah Portions Based on the Philosophy of Rav Kook
The Women's Torah Commentary: New Insights from Women Rabbis on the 54 Weekly Torah Portions
Voices of Torah: A Treasury of Rabbinic Gleanings on the Weekly Portions, Holidays and Special Shabbatot
REBBE NACHMAN'S TORAH: NUMBERS - DEUTERONOMY - Breslov Insights into the Weekly Torah Reading
Discourses of Rav Yosef Dov Halevi Soloveitchik on the Weekly Parashah:
Darosh Darash Yosef Summary of See Me: Novel By Nicholas Sparks -- Full Summary & More!
(See Me: A Full Summary -- Hardcover, Summary, Paperback, Sparks, Audiobook Audible)
Kook: What Surfing Taught Me About Love, Life, and Catching the Perfect Wave
A Torah Commentary for Our Times: Exodus and Leviticus (Torah Commentary for Our Times)
Unlocking the Secret of the Erev Rav Essays That Will Get You into Medical School (Essays That Will Get You Into...Series) [Second Edition] (Barron's Essays That Will Get You Into Medical School)
The End of Comparative Philosophy and the Task of Comparative Thinking: Heidegger, Derrida, and Daoism (SUNY Series in Chinese Philosophy and Culture) ... Chinese Philosophy and Culture (Paperback))
The Hungry

Girl Diet: Big Portions. Big Results. Drop 10 Pounds in 4 Weeks Walking For Weight Loss (Pictures Included): How I Lost 230 Pounds By Staying Focused On Losing 10% Of My Weight At a Time and Controlling My Portions The Garments of Torah: Essays in Biblical Hermeneutics (Indiana Studies in Biblical Literature) Home Based Business Escape Plan: How To Make \$10,000 Per Month With Your Own Part-Time, Online Lifestyle Business: Home Based Business Ideas (Home Based Business Opportunities) Icy Sparks Yoga Sparks: 108 Easy Practices for Stress Relief in a Minute or Less Become the Woman of Your Dreams! (Interactive Gender Transformation Feminization Erotica) (Aurora Sparks Interactive Erotica Book 1) Sparks and Taylor's Nursing Diagnosis Reference Manual 9th edition Sparks and Taylor's Nursing Diagnosis Pocket Guide

[Dmca](#)