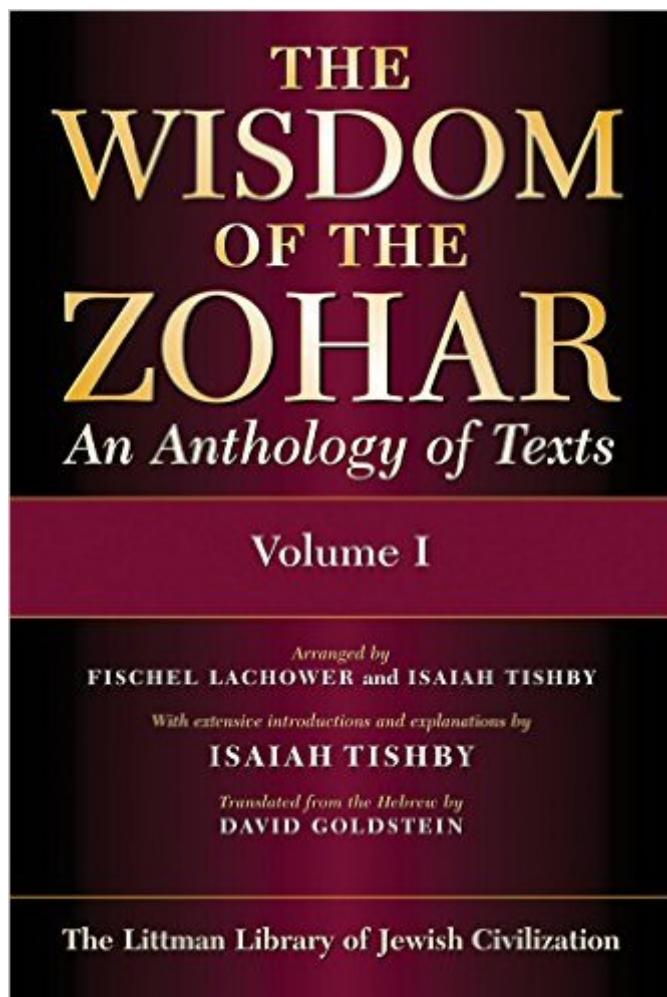


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The Wisdom Of The Zohar: An Anthology Of Texts (3 Volume Set)



Synopsis

This study of Hasidic mysticism and its kabbalistic roots provides an excellent introduction to Hasidism. Methodical in its approach, it discusses the theology, history, and major figures of Hasidism as well as its complex links to kabbalah, Shabbateanism, and post-Shabbatean texts. As such it opens a new window on the religious experience while also making a valuable contribution to the study of the eighteenth century as a key period in the formation of modern Jewry.

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Customer Reviews

In getting any stuff translated into English, one question that arises is "Is this a good translation of the original?" and this is especially important when we intend to read "holy stuff". "The Wisdom of the Zohar" is a set of 3 books (Volumes I, II and III), totalling more than 1500 pages. Isaiah Tishby was awarded the Bialik Prize (1972), the Israel Prize (1979) and the Rothschild Prize (1982) mainly for this work on "The Wisdom of the Zohar". David Goldstein was awarded the Webber Prize (1987) for the translation into English. Numerous footnotes appear corresponding to various verses to clarify the meanings which are not obvious. These I find particularly useful and make things understandable and avoiding misinterpretation on the part of the reader. Volume I covers the historical and literary background of the Zohar (half of the book) and Part I - The Godhead (about En-Sof and the World of Emanation, Sefirot, and Shekkinah). The second book, Volume II comprises Parts II, III, and IV. Part II is about the forces of uncleanness, and activity of such, and also about demons and spirits eg. Lilith, Naamah, etc. Part III is about creation of Worlds and also about

Angels and our natural world. Part IV is about the doctrine of Man (the three souls, body and soul connection, sleep & dreams, and Death). Volume III is the thickest book and comprise Parts V (Sacred Worship) and VI (Practical Life - Morality, Conjugal Life, the Righteous & the Wicked, Repentence). If you are interested in reading the Zohar in English, this is a good translation, and as demystified as it can be...

A "must" for any English speaking serious student of the Zohar. While scholarly, plainly written and easy to read, and free from jargon. The introductory chapters that introduce the Kabbalah and the Zohar are plainly written for those without a background in Hebrew history and linguistics. Captivating and interesting. Hard to put down while reading. Lots of footnotes for the scholars as well. Well worth the purchase price. While it is three volumes, don't be intimidated by the size (nearly 1600 pages). It is a faster read if one skims over the footnotes, indices and appendices. Hint: shop around before buying.

Just what we wanted...an exploratory reference for our study and understanding of Kabbalah. So happy our teacher recommended this Anthology.

i have bought this Zohar set twice. i lost the first one in a divorce lol. this set is a topological index of the zohar. otherwise known as a "Otzer Ha-Zohar". for those wanting an easy to look up reference index to the zohar this is a great start. for those looking for a pristine critical text i would recomend Daniel Matt's Zohar. i have volume 1 - 5 of that and it is the best hands down for a full volume set. the one thing i really wish for this book set is that they would release a digital copy for the Kindle. this would make it a bit easier to search through when i am trying to dig up some information.

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