

In Speech And In Silence The Jewish Quest For God

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Explore the profound Jewish quest for God, examining how spiritual connection is forged both through outward speech – in prayer, study, and communal expression – and inward silence – through contemplation and introspection. This journey into Jewish spirituality uncovers the multifaceted paths to finding God in Judaism, highlighting the rich interplay between articulated faith and unspoken reverence that defines a deep divine connection within the tradition.

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In Speech and in Silence

In a series of moving meditations, the author of *The Jewish Spectator* probes the spiritual uses of prayer and looks at a subject as ancient as the tradition that embraces it and as modern as the universal need to connect. "Eloquent and impassioned".--Harold S. Kushner.

In Speech and in Silence

"Blessed be God Who spoke, and the world came into being." In the Jewish tradition, the world is created by words. Judaism ascribes an almost mystical power to language. Indeed, the central sacred object in Judaism is the book, the Torah. Words form a pathway between people and God. And yet, if words are the avenue of spirituality, silence is the destination. Silence signals our connection to the sublime. When we feel so deeply that words fail us, we are as close to God's presence as it is possible for humankind to be. Now, in a deeply moving series of meditations, David Wolpe explores how each of us can use the complexity of language and the simplicity of silence to reach toward God. Writing with the same mastery of sources that so distinguished his first book and with the same beauty of language that made that work a joyful and powerful experience, Rabbi Wolpe brings his compassionate intelligence to bear on a subject as ancient as the tradition that embraces it and as modern as our universal need to connect.

When God is Silent

An enduring classic from award-winning writer Barbara Brown Taylor, exploring how we communicate with a God who often seems silent. Arguing persuasively for simplicity and economy when speaking

of God, it reflects on the eloquence of Jesus' silences and how we can find ways of bringing tired, old language about God back to life.

From Something to Nothing

Jewish mysticism approaches God as no-thing or nothing, reflecting Judaism's traditional identification of God as incorporeal. Whereas technical philosophical language often employed to discuss Jewish mysticism has a tendency to ward off otherwise interested readers, this study sufficiently breaks down the technical language of Jewish mysticism in its various expressions to allow a beginner to benefit from what may otherwise be indescribable and only approached by consideration of what is not rather than what is. Integral to the title, *From Something to Nothing*, is the concept that God cannot be something, because that would be restricting, so God is simply no-thing. Ironically, the conventional religious expression for the biblical notion of creation is "something from nothing", whereas the title of this volume is its precise opposite, which may at first seem to be illogical – creation in reverse. However, in a volume dedicated to various deliberations on magic and mysticism, the ultimate reality may receive expression as nothingness, that is, no-thingness, no quality associated with things. What adds to our difficulty today is that nothingness is inextricably linked with silence. Is silence also an element or indication of an ultimate reality or its absence? Or is it merely the reflection of nothing whatsoever? This is at the heart of modern debates between atheists and believers. Believers feel that even this silence speaks to this ultimate reality, whereas atheists claim that if you cannot show it, then you do not know it. In other words, believers are victims of their own wishful thinking. *From Something to Nothing* memorializes Canadian mystic and scholar Zalman Schachter Shalomi, z"l, engaging in particular aspects that he addressed at some phase of his colourful and erudite life, providing the reader with a broad spectrum of both phenomenological and intellectual topics.

God Was Not in the Fire

Contemporary Jews seeking a path toward spirituality and a renewal of faith will find it in this fresh look at the traditional rituals, prayers, celebrations, and ethical teachings of Judaism. "This book makes its case for returning to one's Jewish roots, for exploring the various paths to God, and living a fuller, richer life".--Sandra Rosenthal Berliner, "The Philadelphia Inquirer".

Conservative Judaism

The Christian life is a journey not just spiritually but also physically and experientially. As global travel becomes more accessible, new opportunities arise for these journeys to be spiritually significant. You may find yourself in historic places where Christian faith shaped entire civilizations. And you may realize that you too are being changed—from a tourist to a pilgrim. Christian George recovers the ancient spiritual practice of pilgrimage, in which travel to sacred sites leads to the transformation of the soul. In engaging narratives of his worldwide voyages, he follows in the footsteps of spiritual pilgrims from across the centuries, from Luther in Wartburg to Spurgeon in England. His travels to landmark places from Iona to Assisi give him not only a better understanding of his Christian heritage, but also of God's inner work in pilgrims throughout history and today. Come with Christian as he breaks bread with Benedictines in Ireland and worships with the Taizé community in France. Experience the transforming power of spiritual pilgrimage. And discover what it means to be a pilgrim as you follow God wherever he leads.

Sacred Travels

The loss of a public voice has implications for both the dominant and the dominated culture.

Speaking Silences

A Step-by-Step Guide for Honoring the Dead and Empowering the Living When someone dies, there are so many questions—from what to do in the moment of grief, to dealing with the practical details of the funeral, to spiritual concerns about the meaning of life and death. This indispensable guide to Jewish mourning and comfort provides traditional and modern insights into every aspect of loss. In a new, easy-to-use format, this classic resource is full of wise advice to help you cope with death and comfort others when they are bereaved. Dr. Ron Wolfson takes you step by step through the mourning process, including the specifics of funeral preparations, preparing the home and family to sit shiva, and visiting the grave. Special sections deal with helping young children grieve, mourning the

death of an infant or child, and more. Wolfson captures the poignant stories of people in all stages of grieving—children, spouses, parents, rabbis, friends, non-Jews—and provides new strategies for reinvigorating and transforming the Jewish ways we mourn, grieve, remember, and carry on with our lives after the death of a loved one.

A Time To Mourn, a Time To Comfort (2nd Edition)

We are taught to study, to learn, and to let ourselves grow Jewishly. But where does being the people of the book get us in the real world? David Wolpe's collection of essays responds to this question by exploring how Jewish values, such as scholarship and compassion, together with Jewish practice, enhance an individual's private and public life. How does Shabbat help deflect us from the pressures of the societal rat-race? How can Jewish learning subdue political unrest? Rabbi Wolpe draws the lessons of this collection from a variety of religious and historical sources, finding the importance of Israel in a Robert Frost poem, the nature of God in the words of Beowulf, and parenting lessons in the fatherly techniques of King David. The essays address diverse topics ranging from assimilation to Zionism to Jewish concepts of life and death. Rabbi Wolpe asks the questions, sometimes profound, sometimes light-hearted, that challenge us to consider how we live as Jews, how our Jewish lives are influenced by our secular surroundings, and how we can develop our Jewish souls by continuing to learn from new sources while remaining open to spiritual growth. Some of these questions include: Is it wrong to admire Kant, Voltaire, and Roald Dahl if they were anti-Semitic? How can we reconcile our American family traditions with our Jewish family traditions? In an evolutionary debate, do God and Steven Pinker stand behind opposite podiums? Do we need such a thing as a Jewish home? A Jewish homeland? Why does Walt Whitman think we should stay awake during the rabbi's sermon? What lessons of aging gracefully can we learn from Rabbi Akiba and Grandma Moses? An ideal gift for teachers, Confirmation students, grads, and new families that join the congregation.

Floating Takes Faith

Mysticism and science: What do they have in common? How can one enlighten the other? By drawing on modern cosmology and ancient Kabbalah, Matt shows how science and religion can together enrich our spiritual awareness and help us recover a sense of wonder and find our place in the universe. Drawing on the insights of physics and Jewish mysticism, Daniel Matt uncovers the sense of wonder and oneness that connects us with the universe and God. He describes in understandable terms the parallels between modern cosmology and ancient Kabbalah. He shows how science and religion together can enrich our spiritual understanding. We "embody the energy" of the big bang, writes Matt. Furthermore, "God is not somewhere else, hidden from us. God is right here hidden from us." To discover the presence of God, Matt draws on both science and theology, fact and belief, and on the truths embodied in Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam and Christianity, as well as Judaism. A rich dialogue between the physical and the spiritual, *God & the Big Bang* takes us on a deeply personal, thoughtful and inspiring journey that helps us find our place in the universe—and the universe in ourselves.

God and the Big Bang, (2nd Edition)

Traditional Jewish libraries often contain a collection of volumes known as the Commentators' Bible. Arranged by weekly Torah portion, these books compile Torah insights created over hundreds of years and in dozens of countries. Such diversity has always been the key to Jewish learning. The Learn Torah With...Annuals represent a series of American Style Commentators' Bibles based on a popular weekly electronic Torah study newsletter. Each Learn Torah With...Annual features commentary from over 100 great Torah teachers representing all ideologies and backgrounds. Their comments on the weekly Torah portions are meshed with the insights of dozens of the thousands who subscribe to, read and contribute (via e-mail or fax) to this dynamic electronic conversation. Edited and collated out of a truly interactive Torah dialogue, these durable volumes are perfect additions to your home or school library.

Learn Torah With... 5755 Torah Annual

In this volume, Nathan T. Lopes Cardozo, highly regarded author and lecturer, examines some of the most controversial topics in Jewish thought and law. Join Rabbi Lopes Cardozo on this journey of discovery as he makes a critical assessment of the Jewish belief system and discovers that the issues he once doubted are really the most profound expressions of Judaic wisdom.

Between Silence and Speech

Jesus the Jewish Theologian establishes Jesus firmly within the context of first-century Judaism and shows how understanding Jesus' Jewishness is crucial for interpreting the New Testament and for understanding the nature of Christian faith. Insights from Jewish literature, archeology, and tradition help modern readers place Jesus within his original context. Particular attention is given to the Jewish roots of Jesus' teaching concerning the kingdom of God.

Jesus the Jewish Theologian

Paul the Jewish Theologian reveals Saul of Tarsus as a man who, though rejected in the synagogue, never truly left Judaism. Author Young disagrees with long held notions that Hellenism was the context which most influenced Paul's communication of the Gospel. This skewed notion has led to widely divergent interpretations of Paul's writings. Only in rightly aligning Paul as rooted in his Jewishness and training as a Pharisee can he be correctly interpreted. Young asserts that Paul's view of the Torah was always positive, and he separates Jesus' mission among the Jews from Paul's call to the Gentiles.

Paul the Jewish Theologian

Like its predecessor, this revised edition of *The Ministry of Music* explores liturgical singing in terms of how it enables the gathered assembly to enter more fully into ritual enactment of the paschal mystery. The "whats" and "how-tos" of music ministry are developed from this perspective. How does communal liturgical singing enable us to participate in and surrender to the paschal mystery? What musical and pastoral choices best enable the singing to fulfill this role? And how does the singing form us in a paschal mystery spirituality that shapes daily Christian living and makes the relationship between liturgy and life more evident? This edition incorporates new understandings of the ministry of liturgical music generated by *Sing to the Lord: Music in Divine Worship (STL)*. New material addresses the underlying theology shaping STL, provides schemas for using both the Proper chants and vernacular songs at the Entrance and Communion, discusses the value of singing the dialogues, and explores silence as a necessary component of music-making and liturgical prayer. The Collegeville Ministry series provides practical, effective help for those serving the parish through various ministries. Brand-new volumes complement the already popular existing volumes that have been completely updated and expanded. The Collegeville Ministry series offers inexpensive, yet comprehensive, training on the various liturgical roles. Each booklet is prepared by a specialist in the field and provides down to earth suggestions for making ministry more meaningful for the ministers and those they serve.

The Ministry of Music

Many Christians today struggle with having a consistent or life-giving quiet time. They are looking for a form of prayer that doesn't make them feel like they're begging God or being judged by him. *The Soul at Rest* is a quiet time companion that introduces "inward disciplines" from throughout Christian history to those who hunger for greater intimacy with God. *The Soul at Rest* is a 40-day guided experience of prayer that puts readers in the presence of God and allows them to enter and enjoy his rest. It guides readers into a rhythm of quiet, contemplative prayer, easing them into God's presence and demonstrating how prayer is not so much a duty as it is a gift. By the time someone finishes *The Soul at Rest*, they'll not only understand prayer better; they'll be engaging in it as a regular rhythm of life.

The Soul at Rest

By a professor at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America.

Man's Quest for God

Spirituality * Judaism * Religion * Ritual and Tradition *The Minyan: A Tapestry of Jewish Life* took over 10 years to complete. Growing out of a personal tragedy, the result is a beautifully crafted and emotionally elevating collection of stories from Jews around the world and across the Jewish spectrum, recounting their life-changing experiences in a minyan -- the gathering of a quorum needed for Jewish worship. On these pages are woven the threads of both famous and lesser-known individuals whose lives were changed by joining with others in study and prayer at critical times in their lives. Drawing upon Biblical and contemporary sources, the author suggests ways to weave such spiritual moments into every person's religious life.

The Minyan

Contains a general introduction to the discipline, featuring classic and pioneering essays that address the history, methods, issues, and exemplary illustrations of research, teaching, and practice Presenting a diverse collection of landmark essays, The Wiley-Blackwell Reader in Practical Theology explores the turn-of-the-century renaissance of practical theology as an academic discipline and shows how the discipline has advanced a steady epistemological insurgency in theology throughout the twentieth- and twenty-first century. The text provides scholars, students, and ministerial professionals with easy access to original seminal sources that represent major milestones, growing edges, and useful classificatory rubrics. A handy, one-volume primer to practical theology, the book: Offers an excellent bird's-eye-view of the discipline's essential foundational contributions Provides significant introductory overview material helpful in guiding both new and experienced readers to practical theology Includes brief overview introductions before each essay to situate the reading and highlight key contributions and occasional limitations Features essay selections that consider race, gender, sexuality, age, and other differences as a critical subtheme The Wiley-Blackwell Reader in Practical Theology is an indispensable resource for students, faculty, and professionals in practical theology and colleagues in related cognate disciplines in theological education and religious studies.

The Wiley Blackwell Reader in Practical Theology

At day's end, quiet your mind and unburden your heart. These peaceful reflections offer wisdom to "sleep on." For each night of the year, an inspiring quote from a Jewish source and a personal reflection on it from an insightful spiritual leader help you to focus on your spiritual life and the lessons your day has offered.

Restful Reflections

This book establishes a new paradigm for CAD, expanding computer tools beyond the technical processes of computer-aided design to include the discussion and negotiation which are a necessary complement to developing design ideas, thus introducing the concept that design is fundamentally a social process.

Recovering Pragmatism's Voice

A record of Joa Bolendas' visions of and conversations with divine spiritual beings.

So that You May be One

This book is a continuation of an earlier work, *Reading Genesis Politically*, the primary focus of which is the first ten chapters of the much larger book of Genesis. The present study begins with chapter eleven of Genesis which introduces the story of the emergence of Abraham, the iconic founder of the Jewish nation and Judaic civilization. As indicated by the title of the present study its primary concern is with the prehistory of ancient Israel. The sole source of information about Israel's national origins is imbedded in the Pentateuch, the five books of the Torah, in which the birth of Israel is portrayed as part of a divine plan for the betterment of mankind. As a result, its prehistory beginning with Abraham and concluding with Moses is necessarily theopolitical in nature, reflecting the critical divine role in its formation. There are of course virtually innumerable studies of the Pentateuchal narratives that address the roles of the Patriarchs in preserving the religious heritage of Abraham until its culmination in the work of Moses. However, there are very few studies that direct attention to the necessarily socio-political aspects of the narratives that establish the basis for the ultimate emergence of a viable but querulous nation out of what the biblical text repeatedly terms "a stiff-necked people," primarily related by common ethnicity as descendants of the Patriarchs, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

Reading the Pentateuch Politically; from Abraham to Moses

More wonderful tales and how to tell them from master storyteller Megan McKenna. A coyote, a woodcutter, a Buddhist Zen master, a boy named Samuel, a Sufi mystic, two men walking to Emmaus all are central characters in stories told by Megan McKenna. As we listen to "Once upon a time," their lives become our lives. We learn from their mistakes and profit from their wisdom. Megan McKenna's stories are drawn from many religious traditions, Hebrew Scriptures, Sufi mysticism, Native American traditions, Eastern religions, and the Christian Gospels. *Keepers of the Story* also offers readers fascinating and helpful information about storytelling itself. In the final chapter, McKenna explores how the storyteller becomes theologian, talking and teaching about God, the Keeper of the Story of us all.

Keepers of the Story

This study considers the relationship between the phenomenon of conscience and the practice of rhetoric as it relates to one of the most controversial issues of our time - euthanasia. The author offers an extensive treatment of Heidegger's and Levinas' philosophical investigations of conscience.

The Call of Conscience

Even a brief comparison with its canonical counterparts demonstrates that the Gospel of Luke is preoccupied with the power of spoken words; still, words alone do not make a language. Just as music without silence collapses into cacophony, so speech without silence signifies nothing: silences are the invisible, inaudible cement that hold the entire edifice together. Though scholars across diverse disciplines have analyzed silence in terms of its contexts, sources, and functions, these insights have barely begun to make inroads in biblical studies. Utilizing conceptual tools from narratology and reader-response criticism, this study is an initial exploration of largely uncharted territory – the various ways that narrative intersections of speech and silences function together rhetorically in Luke's Gospel. Considering speech and silence to be mutually constituted in intricate and inextricable ways, Dinkler demonstrates that attention to both characters' silences and the narrator's silences helps to illuminate plot, characterization, theme, and readerly experience in Luke's Gospel. Focusing on both speech and silence reveals that the Lukan narrator seeks to shape readers into ideal witnesses who use speech and silence in particular ways; Luke can be read as an early Christian proclamation – not only of the gospel message – but also of the proper ways to use speech and silence in light of that message. Thus, we find that speech and silence are significant matters of concern within the Lukan story and that speech and silence are significant tools used in its telling.

Silent Statements

The Veil of Silence concerns you more than you think! You come across it at every turn, whether in your personal life, in your family, in your church or congregation, or in your cities and nations. The Veil of Silence is the reason for inner coldness, loneliness, and the sense of being lost in darkness. Once you break it, you will be able to receive the immeasurable blessing of God and the authority to change your surroundings with His love. Every nation carries its own burden of guilt and trauma that is passed down through the generations, while a Veil of Silence prevents reconciliation, healing, and restoration. The German pastor, theologian, and activist, Jobst Bittner, writes in the light of the experience of German history. Hitler and the Holocaust caused a spiritual eclipse in Germany and covered entire generations with a Veil of Silence. Today, Germany is blessed and the country of "unmerited grace". If Breaking the Veil of Silence was possible in Germany, how much more so in your life, family, and nation? Through a captivating blend of history, theology, and psychology, Jobst Bittner provides a brave, discerning perspective on this Veil of Silence and proves that the weight of history can be lifted. It is a powerful and practical intervention and spiritual guide to reclaim our authority by uprooting all destructive tendencies of covering up the past, uncovering our own family history, rediscovering the Jewish roots of our faith, and moving forward into action. Once the veil is lifted, true healing, restoration, and change can begin.

Breaking the Veil of Silence

In this memoir, Walter Ziffer, a Holocaust survivor born in Czechoslovakia in 1927, recounts his boyhood experiences, the Polish and later German invasions of his hometown, the destruction of his synagogue, his Jewish community's forced move into a ghetto, and his 1942 deportation and ensuing experiences in eight Nazi concentration and slave labor camps. In 1945, Ziffer returned to his hometown, trained as a mechanic and later emigrated to the US where he converted to Christianity, married, graduated

from Vanderbilt University with an engineering degree, worked for General Motors before becoming a Christian minister. He taught and preached in Ohio, France, Washington DC and Belgium. He later returned to Judaism and considers himself a Jewish secular humanist. "The compelling story of an unfolding life carried by an insatiable search for meaning." — Mahan Siler, retired Baptist minister "In Walter Ziffer's beautifully written new book, you will learn of Walter's complex life journey, and you may experience, thanks to his skillfully told story and clearly articulated questions and insights, a sense of his presence, the presence of a great man who finds in his own story lessons important for the rest of us, especially now." —Richard Chess, Director, The Center for Jewish Studies at UNC Asheville "A powerful and unique addition to the literature of the Holocaust. Walter Ziffer's memoir not only recounts his own personal resilience and survival of the camps, but also his own unusual spiritual journey in which he both becomes a Christian minister while retaining his quintessential Jewish identity. This is a learned, well-crafted, and fascinating new dimension to this literature." — Michael Sartisky, President Emeritus, Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities "The Holocaust portion [of this memoir]... is as true and chilling as a parent's last words. His tale-telling prowess makes as strong a mental impression as it makes a factual one." — Rob Neufeld, Asheville Citizen-Times

Confronting the Silence: A Holocaust Survivor's Search for God

This book explores the ideology of Jewish identity not on the land but in texts of the modern classical heritage. this book also takes us into the minds of two major literary figures.

The Silence of Heaven

"All beginnings require that you unlock new doors."--Rabbi Nachman of Bratslav In this short and inspiring text, Rabbi David J. Wolpe addresses all who seek to enlarge the spiritual side of their lives. For those considering a return to the faith of their forebears, for those drawn to conversion, Why Be Jewish? is a learned, graceful, and welcoming introduction beckoning readers into the heart of this venerable and enduring religion.

Why Be Jewish?

Millions of people around the world are engaged in sports and games. This volume studies the ways in which engagement is performed in popular culture. We do not just watch football - we perform by being a fan. NBA players do not simply run up and down the court. Instead, on and off the court they perform certain roles, many informed by hip hop culture. Such performances are rhetorical: they manage attitudes, behaviors, and predispositions, influencing the distribution of power. Competitive hot dog eaters, bull riding, and Mexican wrestlers are some of the other sports and games covered by the contributors. The book is unique in bringing together the three themes of sports and games, performance, and the rhetoric of popular culture, and is relevant for both scholarly use and classroom adoption in courses ranging from sport and society, rhetoric, composition, persuasion and argument, and popular culture.

Sporting Rhetoric

Contemporary theology, and Jewish theology in particular, Michael Fishbane asserts, now lies fallow, beset by strong critiques from within and without. For Jewish reality, a coherent and wide-ranging response in thoroughly modern terms is needed. Sacred Attunement is Fishbane's attempt to renew Jewish theology for our time, in the larger context of modern and postmodern challenges to theology and theological thought in the broadest sense. The first part of the book regrounds theology in this setting and opens up new pathways through nature, art, and the theological dimension as a whole. In the second section, Fishbane introduces his hermeneutical theology—one grounded in the interpretation of scripture as a distinctly Jewish practice. The third section focuses on modes of self-cultivation for awakening and sustaining a covenant theology. The final section takes up questions of scripture, authority, belief, despair, and obligation as theological topics in their own right. The first full-scale Jewish theology in America since Abraham J. Heschel's *God in Search of Man* and the first comprehensive Jewish philosophical theology since Franz Rosenzweig's *Star of Redemption*, *Sacred Attunement* is a work of uncommon personal integrity and originality from one of the most distinguished scholars of Judaica in our time.

Sacred Attunement

A study of the life and work of "the Maggid"—a major figure in the mystical thought of early Hasidism Enshrined in Jewish memory simply as "the Maggid" (preacher), Rabbi Dov Ber Friedman of Mezritsh (1704-1772) played a critical role in the formation of Hasidism, the movement of mystical renewal that became one of the most important and successful forces in modern Jewish life. In *Speaking Infinities*, Ariel Evan Mayse turns to the homilies of the Maggid to explore the place of words in mystical experience. He argues that the Maggid's theory of language is the key to unpacking his abstract mystical theology as well as his teachings on the devotional life and religious practice. Mayse shows how Dov Ber's vision of language emerges from his encounters with Ba'al Shem Tov (the BeSHT), the founder of Hasidic Judaism, whose teaching put forward a vision of radical divine immanence. Taking the BeSHT's notion of God's immanence as a kind of linguistic vitality echoing in the cosmos, Dov Ber developed a theory of language in which all human tongues, even in their mundane forms, have the potential to become sacred when returned to their divine source. Analyzing homilies and theological meditations on language, Mayse demonstrates that Dov Ber was an innovative thinker and contends that, in many respects, it was Dov Ber, rather than the BeSHT, who was the true founder of Hasidism as it took root, and the foremost shaper of its early theology. *Speaking Infinities* offers an exploration of this introspective mystic's life, gleaned from scattered anecdotes, legends, and historical sources, distinguishing the historical personage from the figure that emerges from the composite array of textual and oral traditions that have shaped the memory of the Maggid and his legacy.

Speaking Infinities

Our memory of the Holocaust fades quickly. Once again, day after day Jews are forced to face fear, violence, and intimidation. Antisemitism and Jew hatred exist in almost every country, in every city – worldwide. It is not enough to say "Never Again" to the Holocaust, if we want to prevent Jew hatred from turning violent and antisemitic defamation from spreading. Once again we have the choice to become passive accessories and incur guilt through our silence just like our forefathers. If you break your silence, you raise your voice and become light! This book continues the thoughts of the book "Breaking the Veil of Silence". It will touch you personally, inspire, and help you to make a difference with very practical steps.

Raise Your Voice and be a Light

In silence my heart saw what my eyes could not see, my heart heard what my ears could not hear and my heart spoke what my lips could not speak. In silence I was able to enter a special room in Gods heart, a quiet room, a weeping room. In this room I found Jesus holding a heart in His hands, the heart of a young woman, a heart which had been broken. He was weeping over that broken heart. He was feeling the hearts hurt and loneliness. He wept over that wounded heart longing so much to heal the wound that tore it apart, but this young woman would not seek his comfort. I saw Him pick up another heart, a heart of wounded veteran. That heart was cold and barren and I watched his tear drops just roll off that hardened heart. I could sense He was wishing that each tear would somehow penetrate that heart, but this brave warrior would not open it to Him to allow the tears of His Savior to enter and soften his heart. As He picked up another broken heart I reached out to Him and touched His nail pierced hand and instantly I felt His sorrow and pain, the anguish felt by each heart and I too wept. All four of us wept. It was in this quiet, weeping room that I saw my own hearts desire. It was to not have a flourishing ministry, books published, or to even experience a healing of my body, it was only to seek and search for these hearts and let them know that there is a Savior weeping for them, longing to enter their wounded heart to allow His tears , His nailed pierced hands heal those wounds.

Hebrew Word Study

Fully one-third of Jesus' words in the Synoptic Gospels occur in parables. It could be said that knowing the parables is essential for understanding the person of Christ. In this work, Brad Young displays his unique perspective as a scholar steeped in both Jewish and Christian studies. While parables have timeless messages, reinterpretations in new contexts throughout the centuries have distorted the original meanings and undermined the essence of what Jesus intended for his initial listeners. Young examines the parables that best illustrate the parallels between the rabbinic and Gospel parables. He challenges readers to remember that first-century Judaism was not merely the backdrop for Jesus' teachings but the very stage from which Jesus delivered the message of the kingdom. Jesus' ethics and theology can be properly understood only in the light of first-century Jewish teachings. Young focuses on the historical development and theological significance of parables in both traditions and

examines five theological subjects that are dealt with in parables: prayer, grace, reconciliation, calling, and sovereignty.

American Bookseller

A mix of thematic essays, reference entries, and primary source documents covering the role of religion in American history and life from the colonial era to the present. Often controversial, religion has been an important force in shaping American culture. Religious convictions strongly influenced colonial and state governments as well as the United States as a new republic. Religious teachings, values, and practices deeply affected political structures and policies, economic ideology and practice, educational institutions and instruction, social norms and customs, marriage, and family life. By analyzing religion's interaction with American culture and prominent religious leaders and ideologies, this reference helps readers to better understand many fascinating, often controversial, religious leaders, ideas, events, and topics. The work is organized in three volumes devoted to particular periods. Volume one includes a chronology highlighting key events related to religion in American history and an introduction that overviews religion in America during the period covered by the volume, and roughly 10 essays that explore significant themes. These essays are followed by approximately 120 alphabetically arranged reference entries providing objective, fundamental information about topics related to religion in America. Each volume presents nearly 50 primary source documents, each introduced by a contextualizing headnote. A selected, general bibliography closes volume three.

The Parables

Sicker presents a personal attempt to come to grips with the awesome question, Where was God at Auschwitz? and with it some of the related central issues of Jewish thought and belief. There is a tendency among many writers of contemporary work of theology to argue that the very fact of the Holocaust invalidates traditional Jewish theory and that its long-held ideas about God must therefore be revised radically. However, Jewish thinkers have long asked the equivalent of this troubling question, albeit in reference to other places and times in Israel's history and have offered possible answers, just as we do today. The big difference between then and now is not the enormity of the Holocaust, but the readiness of earlier thinkers to search for meaning without almost cavalierly discarding traditionally cherished ideas and beliefs. The author argues that modern advocates of radical theological revision actually have little to add to our understanding of the ways of God and even less to a meaningful Judaic perspective on the universe and the relationship between man and God. A second concern is the contemporary argument that because there is no universally accepted theology of Judaism, one is not bound by any particular conception of God, whether of biblical or rabbinic origin. Jewish theology has thus come to be viewed essentially as an equal opportunity field of intellectual endeavor, an approach Sicker considers fundamentally and fatally flawed. Traditional non-dogmatic thought does not require radical revision. What is required is a sympathetic understanding of the theological assumptions and ideas of the past coupled with a sincere and respectful attempt to reformulate them in terms more attuned to the modern temper.

American Religious History [3 volumes]

Between Man and God