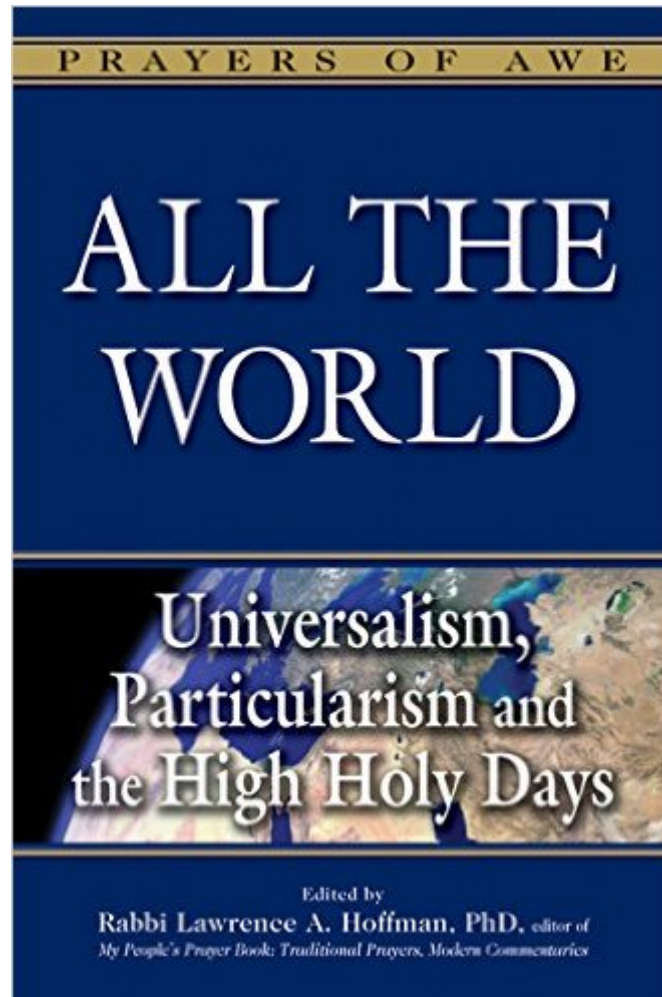


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All The World: Universalism, Particularism And The High Holy Days (Prayers Of Awe)



Synopsis

Why be Jewish? A fascinating dialogue across denominations of the High Holy Days and their message of Jewish purpose beyond mere survival. Almost forty contributors from three continents—men and women, scholars and poets, rabbis and theologians, representing all Jewish denominations and perspectives—examine the tension between Israel as a particular People called by God, and that very calling as intended for a universalist end, furthering God's vision for all the world, not just for Jews alone. This balance of views arises naturally out of the prayers in the High Holy Day liturgy, coupled with insights from philosophy, literature, theology and ethics. This fifth volume in the Prayers of Awe series provides the relevant traditional prayers in the original Hebrew, alongside a new and annotated translation. It explores the question "Why be Jewish?" in a time when universalist commitment to our planet and its people has only grown in importance, even as particularist questions of Jewish continuity have become ever more urgent.

Prayers of Awe: A multi-volume series designed to explore the High Holy Day liturgy and enrich the praying experience for everyone—whether experienced worshipers or guests who encounter Jewish prayer for the very first time.

Contributors: Rabbi Bradley Shavit Artson, DHL; Rabbi Tony Bayfield, CBE, DD; Rabbi Will Berkovitz; Dr. Annette M. Boeckler; Dr. Erica Brown; Rabbi Lawrence A. Englander, CM, DHL, DD; Rabbi Lisa Exler; Rabbi Shoshana Boyd Gelfand; Rabbi Laura Geller; Rabbi Edwin Goldberg, DHL; Rabbi Andrew Goldstein, PhD; Dr. Joel M. Hoffman; Rabbi Lawrence A. Hoffman, PhD; Rabbi Walter Homolka, PhD, DHL; Rabbi Elie Kaunfer, DHL; Rabbi Reuven Kimelman, PhD; Dr. Mark L. Kligman; Rabbi Noa Kushner; Rabbi Daniel Landes; Rabbi Asher Lopatin; Catherine Madsen; Rabbi Jonathan Magonet, PhD; Rabbi Dalia Marx, PhD; Ruth Messinger; Rabbi Charles H. Middleburgh, PhD; Rabbi Jay Henry Moses; Rabbi Rachel Nussbaum; Rabbi Jack Riemer; Rabbi Jeffrey K. Salkin, DMin; Rabbi Marc Saperstein, PhD; Rabbi Dennis C. Sasso, DMin; Rabbi Sandy Eisenberg Sasso, DMin; Rabbi Jonathan P. Slater, DMin; Rabbi David A. Teutsch, PhD; Rabbi Margaret Moers Wenig, DD; Rabbi Daniel G. Zemel; Dr. Wendy Zierler

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Customer Reviews

This is the fifth informative volume edited by Rabbi Lawrence A. Hoffman that focuses on Jewish High Holiday prayers, the holidays of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Many Jews recognize that these prayers are very important because of their history and content, although they know neither. Rabbi Hoffman collected several dozen rabbis and scholars who explain the prayers. The prior books focused on Un'taneh Tokef, Kol Nidre, Ashamnu and Al Chet, and Yizkor. This volume contains articles written by thirty-seven rabbis and scholars of all Jewish denominations, men and women. The book is divided into five parts: universalism and particularism, views from philosophy and literature, the impact of "all the world," the liturgy, and interpretations. Among much else, the chapters discuss why be Jewish, universalism and particularism, the Jewish golden rule, being a "light unto the nations," is there one true religion, hope, repentance, what we can all believe, and one contains some significant High Holiday prayers in the original Hebrew with new translations and explanatory notes. For example, Rabbi Jack Riemer discusses the three Uv'kenen prayers, tells us why they remind him of the three-time repetition of the Beatles song, "Let it be, let it be, let it be," and explains the three-part vision of the prayer: that all the world unite to serve God in love, the Jewish people be restored the dignity it deserves, and wickedness disappear so that the wicked can become good. Dr. Erica Brown focuses on "khol ma'aminim," "everyone believes," and the impact that the list of beliefs has upon congregants with more liberal ideas. Rabbi Andrew Goldstein discusses Israel Zangwill's Victorian rhyme that used to be sung in liberal synagogues in his youth, and tells us why the prayer is no longer recited.

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