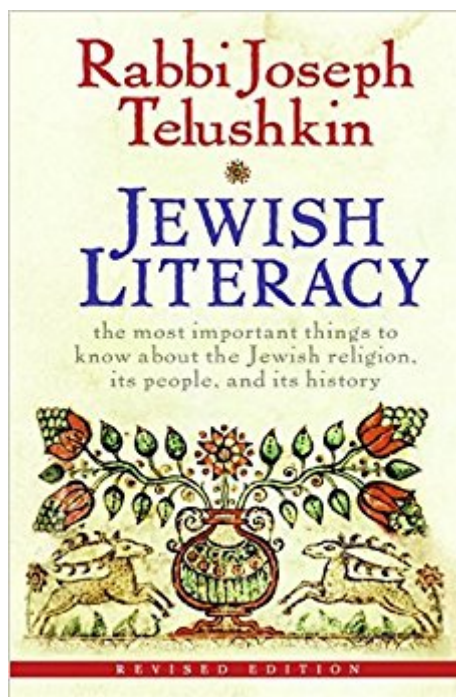




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# Jewish Literacy Revised Ed: The Most Important Things To Know About The Jewish Religion, Its People, And Its History



## Synopsis

What does it mean to be a Jew? How does one begin to answer so extensive a question? In this insightful and completely updated tome, esteemed rabbi and bestselling author Joseph Telushkin helps answer the question of what it means to be a Jew, in the largest sense. Widely recognized as one of the most respected and indispensable reference books on Jewish life, culture, tradition, and religion, *Jewish Literacy* covers every essential aspect of the Jewish people and Judaism. In 352 short and engaging chapters, Rabbi Telushkin discusses everything from the Jewish Bible and Talmud to Jewish notions of ethics to antisemitism and the Holocaust; from the history of Jews around the world to Zionism and the politics of a Jewish state; from the significance of religious traditions and holidays to how they are practiced in daily life. Whether you want to know more about Judaism in general or have specific questions you'd like answered, *Jewish Literacy* is sure to contain the information you need. Rabbi Telushkin's expert knowledge of Judaism makes the updated and revised edition of *Jewish Literacy* an invaluable reference. A comprehensive yet thoroughly accessible resource for anyone interested in learning the fundamentals of Judaism, *Jewish Literacy* is a must for every Jewish home.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 800 pages

Publisher: William Morrow; Revised edition (June 17, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0061374989

ISBN-13: 978-0061374982

Product Dimensions: 6.1 x 2.2 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 260 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #14,471 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #2 in [Books > Religion & Spirituality > Judaism > Jewish Life](#) #7 in [Books > Religion & Spirituality > Judaism > History](#) #8 in [Books > History > World > Religious > Judaism](#)

## Customer Reviews

Joseph Telushkin is a rabbi, scholar, and bestselling author of eighteen books, among them *A Code of Jewish Ethics* and *Words That Hurt, Words That Heal*. His book *Jewish Literacy* is the widest-selling work on the topic of Judaism. He lives with his wife, Dvora, in New York City, and lectures regularly throughout the United States.

It might seem incongruous for a Christian believer to purchase a hefty book about the Jewish faith, but what better way to familiarize oneself with the religion, history, and traditions of the people from whom Jesus came? A ready reference book to both the Old and New Testaments was my goal, and this work fits the bill wonderfully. This book was recommended by one of my students, who is Jewish, since it was her way of better understanding her own faith system. It is a fascinating work in historical, cultural, and spiritual contexts.

This is an excellent overview of Judaism... especially for non-Jews, I think. It gives a broad overview, including several aspects of Judaism, but is not so detailed that it taxes the casual reader. I really enjoyed learning more about this ancient religion & Teluskin did a fine job of giving me just enough information. In fact, Teluskin did such a good job on this book that I ordered another of his books concerning archaeology in the Holy Lands. Highly recommend as an introduction for those needing/wanting to learn more about Judaism.

Rabbi Telushkin is a Modern Orthodox rabbi, who did a great job explaining in easy straightforward short text of important historical, theological, philosophical and cultural changes throughout Jewish history that makes Jewish people what they are. From scriptural mythological events, historical events, exiles, persecution, Jewish Enlightenment, denominational split, the Shoah / the Holocaust, to the State of Israel. He does well to not trying to take a side and expresses certain hopes and concerns the community had, and still have. I think it's a good book for all Jews to have, from Humanistic to Reform to Orthodox.

A book contains major Jewish ideas from past to present. Each topic has a few paragraphs to get anyone familiar with the basics of Judaism.

Understanding Jewish beliefs is fundamental not just for Jews but also for all monotheist religions that derived from this body of philosophical knowledge. Ethical monotheism remains particularly relevant in the 21st century and Rabbi Telushkin continues to make major contributions in all his books with his erudition and easily accessible style. A must read. Check also Jewish Wisdom from the same author.

Very impressive explanation about Judaism. Thank you so much.

He write clearly and explains the most obscure bits of judeasim in a manner almost anyone could understand, without feeling like your being talked down to. I am sure there are others who can explain his brilliance more adequately.

I'm a christian man with a Jewish girlfriend and wanted to know as much as possible about the Jewish life. Joseph Telushkin has taken every aspect of the Bible and explains it not just from the Jewish perspective but from the Christian as well. I have found this book to be the most valuable book in my library of religious studies next to the bible.

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