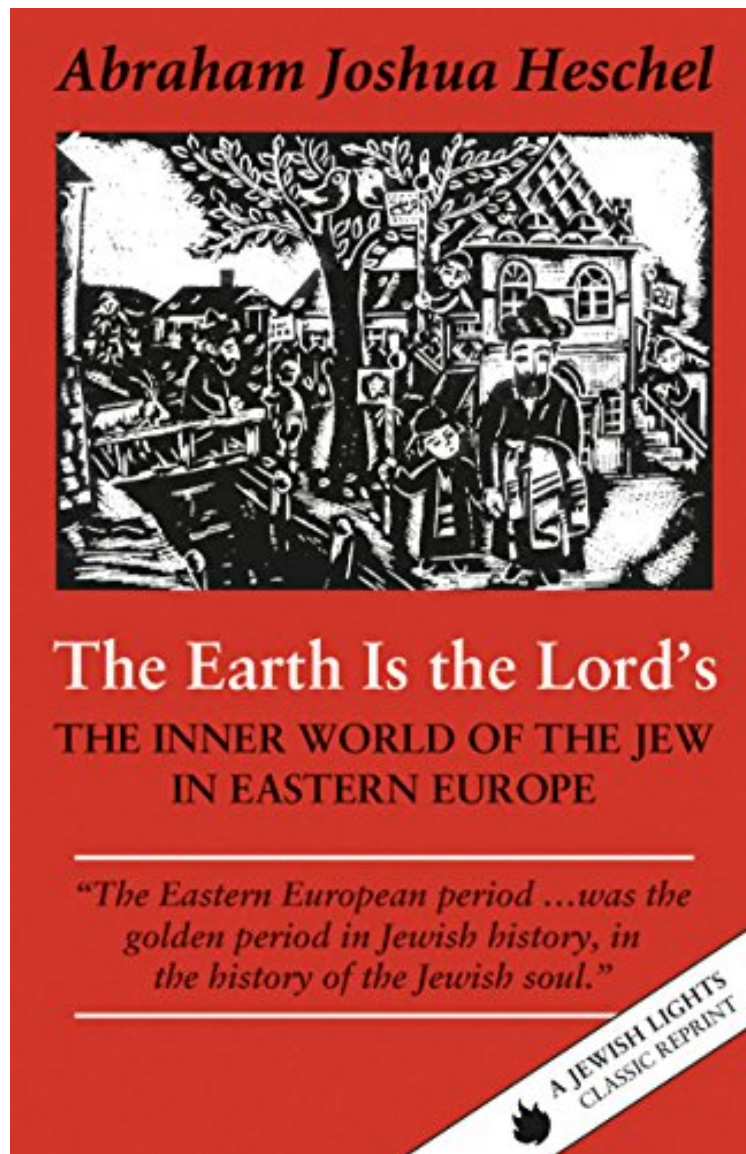


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## The Earth Is the Lord's: The Inner World of the Jew in Eastern Europe (Jewish Lights Classic Reprint)

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Abraham Joshua Heschel : The Earth Is the Lord's: The Inner World of the Jew in Eastern Europe (Jewish Lights Classic Reprint) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Earth Is the Lord's: The Inner World of the Jew in Eastern Europe (Jewish Lights Classic Reprint):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Heart-Warming Meditations Upon the Past By Masada36 Much like the first book I recommended on .com (Reb Arthur Green's, "Your Word is Fire," in my Listmania List on Neo-Hasidism), this is an inspirational work from the late great Reb Heschel. While not written in a way that is directly related to prayer or pray-ing, this work may inspire your head and your heart to such a means. Beautiful expressions of the "golden era" of hasidism's past. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A classic By Matthew Gindin This is the first book published by Rabbi Heschel after he escaped from Europe, "a brand plucked from the fire" in his words. It is a beautiful evocation of Ashkenazi spirituality before the Holocaust and a good introduction to R' Heschel's "depth theology" as well. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A gentle, informative book By Chuck Delightfully light reading! Can a history book be called such? Yes! It's as if one were sitting with an elderly Rabbi and letting him guide you through a short yet informative personal history of the Jew in Eastern Europe. It is tender and spiritual. If you want to sit with a Rabbi and have him give you a delightful walk through history, this is the book for you. It is not long and drawn out and you can muse over the woodcarving illustrations at each chapter. It's a pleasant peek into the past which is still relevant today. Any person who loves Jewish History would do a disservice to themselves if they don't read this book.

Powerfully and beautifully portrays a bygone Jewish culture. The story about the life of the Jews in Eastern Europe which has come to an end in our days is what I have tried to tell in this essay. I have not talked about their books, their art or institutions, but about their daily life, about their habits and customs, about their attitudes toward the basic things in life, about the scale of values which directed their aspirations. "In this period our people attained the highest degree of inwardness. It was the golden period in Jewish history, in the history of the Jewish soul." from *The Earth Is the Lord's*

.com *The Earth Is the Lord's* by Abraham Joshua Heschel is a story about the daily life of Jews in Eastern Europe before the 20th century. "I have not talked about their books, their art or institutions," Heschel writes in the book's preface, "but about their ... customs, about their attitudes toward the basic things in life, about the scale of values which directed their aspirations." Spare, elegant woodcut illustrations by Ilya Schor complement Heschel's text, deepening its preoccupation with intangibles. (One chapter, for example, describes an indelibly Jewish trait, "The Sigh.") The parallelisms of Heschel's prose are mesmerizing: "Pagans exalt sacred things, the Prophets extol sacred deeds;" "The stone is broken, but the words are alive." There are stories of a seraph in a synagogue, of scholars closing their books and wandering away from home in self-imposed exile, of a rabbi who spent days staring at the same page of the Talmud. ("I feel so good here," he said, "why should I go elsewhere?") The facts of each vignette are suffused with purpose so that when Heschel states his book's reason for being, it seems the most natural thing in the world: "Loyal to the presence of the ultimate in the common, we may be able to make it clear that man is more than man, that in doing the finite he may perceive the infinite." --Michael Joseph Gross From *Library Journal* This thin 1949 volume focuses on the daily life of the Eastern European Jew during the Ashkenazic period. Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc. "Dr. Heschel re-creates the mind and character of a whole people and of an entire era. Not only Jews, but all who regard the culture of the inner life as important will find this book moving and meaningful." Virginia Kirkus Dr. Heschel admirably succeeds in conveying much of the inner content and the glory of traditional Jewish culture as it grew and throbbed in the towns and villages of Central and Eastern Europe. In few and eloquent pages the world can learn what it has lost. Marvin Lowenthal, *New York Herald Tribune* Book I do not know of any work in which the spiritual life of Eastern European Jewry is portrayed with such complete understanding and thorough appreciation. Dr. Louis Finkelstein There are few books in English that plunge us so deeply into the depths of Jewish reality. Irving Kristol, *Commentary*