Book Recommendations.

MEET THE RABIS

Rabbinic Thought and the Teachings of Jesus



BRAD H. YOUNG

What does Jesus' Sermon on the Mount have in common with the ancient literature of the Jewish rabbis? Much more than most Jewish and Christian people often realize! Jesus was addressed as rabbi, as were the most devout teachers in the synagogues of his day. Despite the common values and Scriptures shared by these two great religions, many Christians have little knowledge of the great Jewish rabbis who wrote from the time of Jesus and the writing of the New Testament in the first century to the completion of the Talmud in the seventh century. Young believes this ignorance of the important literature and religious leaders of that period has caused an unnecessary division between the adherents of both religions.

"Brad H. Young has published *Jesus the Jewish Theologian* and *The Parables*; now, he continues to illustrate how rabbinics is essential for understanding the New Testament documents and elucidates the historical Jesus. Moreover, *Meet the Rabbis* is an engagingly written introduction to rabbinic thought, literature, and the lives of the most influential rabbis. Young proves how rabbinics helps to clarify the origins of Christianity. The rabbis come to life, providing insights into how to live, being faithful to God and the needy among us. He succeeds in illustrating how Jewish thought clarifies the theology of the Sermon on the Mount. This is a must read for everyone interested in Judaism and Christian origins."

—James H. Charlesworth, George L. Collord Professor of New Testament Language and Literature, Princeton University

Brad H. Young is Professor of Biblical Studies in the Graduate School of Theology at Oral Roberts University. In addition to his well-known research on the life of Jesus, he has devoted much of his energies to Jewish-Christian interfaith dialogue. He is the author of many books including *Paul the Jewish Theologian, Jesus the Jewish Theologian,* and *The Parables: Jewish Tradition and Christian Interpretation.*

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Over design by Sarah J. Slattery

JESUS THE JEWISH THEOLOGIAN



BRAD H. YOUNG

Forewords by
Marvin R. Wilson and Rabbi David Wolpe

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, archaeology, 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.

"... this book illuminates anew how Jewish Jesus was. That should come as no surprise to Jews or to Christians, although it often does. Jesus grew from the soil of his people. In reading this book I was struck again and again with how Jesus' teachings were paralleled in my own tradition.... Dr. Young's book is not intended to diminish Jesus' teaching, but to show its roots."

-Rabbi David Wolpe University of Judaism, Los Angeles

"Dr. Young . . . permits the words of Jesus to glisten within their own Semitic setting. . . . [He] has done his readers a great service in introducing them to Jewish theological thought. . . . What emerges, however, is not "Jesus the Jewish theologian" in any Western, systematic sense. Rather, in Jesus, Dr. Young presents an Eastern or Semitic theologian, one who employs a living, vibrant theology. . . . "

—Marvin R. Wilson Gordon College

BRAD H. YOUNG, Ph.D. Hebrew University, studied under David Flusser and is the author of Jesus and His Jewish Parables and The Jewish Background to the Lord's Prayer. He is the president and founder of the Gospel Research Foundation, which is committed to exploring the Jewish roots of the Christian faith, and is on the editorial board of the Compendia Rerum Iudaicarum ad Novum Testamentum.

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