



Our Father Abraham: Jewish Roots of the Christian Faith

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Although the roots of Christianity run deep into Hebrew soil, many Christians are regrettably uninformed about the rich Hebrew heritage of the church. This volume delineates the link between Judaism and Christianity, between the Old and the New Testament, and calls Christians to reexamine their Hebrew roots so as to effect a more authentically biblical lifestyle.

As an introduction to the world of Hebrew thought, *Our Father Abraham* is biblical, historical, and cultural in nature. At the same time, the writing is personal and passionate, reflecting Marvin Wilson's own spiritual pilgrimage and his extensive dialogue with Jews. The book (1) develops a historical perspective on the Jewish origins of the church, (2) sets forth the importance and nature of Hebrew thought, (3) discusses how the church can become more attuned to the Hebraic mind-set of Scripture, and (4) offers practical suggestions for interaction between Jews and Christians.

The study questions at the end of each chapter enhance the book's usefulness as a text and also make it suitable for Bible-study and discussion groups. All Christians--and Jews too--will profit from Wilson's sensible treatments of biblical texts, his thorough understanding of both the Christian and the Jewish faith, and his honest historical analysis of the general failure of the Christian church to acknowledge and understand its relation to Judaism.

Our Father Abraham: Jewish Roots of the Christian Faith Details

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From Reader Review Our Father Abraham: Jewish Roots of the Christian Faith for online ebook

Paul says

This is the book that triggered my interest in studying more about the Jewish roots of Christianity. Dr. Wilson is one of the pioneering scholars of the Messianic Jewish movement, and this is his most famous book. It's a bit academic in style, but definitely readable. This is a great place to start if you have only been exposed to Gentile teachers.

Danny says

Amazing insight into the roots of the Christian faith. Couldn't recommend it more highly.

Brigitte says

Bob and I are reading this together .. Out loud .. Many hard to pronounce words .. Very good , for us it takes 3 :Bob, I , and Ruach hakodesh aka holy spirit ... Some language for advanced students .. Marvin Wilson often uses words that are not often used in conversation.. Good to see there is oodles to get introduced to . Context very thoughtfully researched .. Footnotes ..for additional verification. We we continue the task .. Chapter by chapter.. Studying ... With the direction of our Father G-D. Thank you , bb
This is one we keep going back to Questions at the end of each chapter very helpful..... To make sure u understood ...like a quiz ... Great book for the advanced students in class.

Matthew John says

This book can be fairly dense at times, but it fascinatingly illuminates, as it's subtitle attests, the "Jewish roots of the Christian faith." The author points out, in ways that make you want to trust him, that perhaps Western Christianity isn't necessarily what it ought to be. That perhaps we Christians should all be a little bit more Jewish -- in how we approach the Scriptures and how we think about truth and faith.

All in all, this book is a great read for anyone who wants truly to study the Christian faith.

Bob says

This book is excellent, Scripturally based, is written with compassion, authority and reveals how the roots of Christianity run deep into "Hebrew soil", showing the Hebrew heritage of the Christian Church to be rich and extensive. This is a must read and is a very good primer which should encourage the reader to read more from men such as David Baron, Adolph Saphir, and Alfred Edersheim. The book describes at the outset how this heritage has been largely unexplored and ignored by Christian seminaries, colleges and other educational institutions.

Jesus did speak from "within Judaism" and never abandoned His "ancestral faith". The book also describes how a prime facet of Old Testament/Jewish thought was the promise and fulfillment of Biblical prophecy in relation to the coming Messiah. Something which the earliest Christians, themselves Jews, found resolved in the person of Jesus Christ.

One of the problems in the book is that there is almost no difference in meaning made between "Jewish thought" and "Biblical thought". The Book also fought the departure of Christianity from its biblical roots, and this is true, but failed to realize that Rabbinic Judaism also departed from the faith of Father Abraham who rejoiced to see the day of the Lord Jesus. As always we should think as we read and study.

Overall this book is extremely helpful for those who desire to study and think deeply about Scripture.

Concise Reader says

Not worth reading.

This was a frustrating book to read. The author tries to make the case that the Church has forgotten its Jewish roots and that this has been a source of many problems the church is experiencing. He doesn't really attempt to persuade the reader by working through the pros and cons of various arguments. There is hardly any arguments at all. Mostly, his conclusions are presented as self-evident, supported with quotes from the authors he agrees with. There is very little interaction with views he doesn't agree with. The lack of rigor aside, there is just not much insight here. His chapter on where the Church went wrong states that the Church doesn't really know how to live the life to the fullest on this earth as well as a community. I think there are better books that address these points.

Lisa Johnson says

Title: Our Father Abraham (Jewish Roots of the Christian Faith)

Author: Marvin Wilson

Pages: 395

Year: 1990

Publisher: Eerdmans

My rating: 4 out of 5 stars.

In the journey of discovering the Jewish roots of my Christian faith, I have read many books. Some were very helpful and other books weren't for various reasons. However, Our Father Abraham is a gem because the author takes great pains to explain various topics in a way that can be easily comprehended while also leaving the reader wanting more. At the end of each chapter, there are discussion questions that give people an opportunity to cement the information learned while also exploring the topic in the Bible. Other books may have a few discussion questions, but the author here gives each chapter over 20 questions. Plus, at the end of the book, there are footnotes that point to other sources for further study and contemplation.

What makes reading the book enjoyable is, of course, the material and having an opportunity to discuss the material with a friend. If you have never tried doing this with a nonfiction book, I hope you will as it helped me remember what I read and clarified some points of the material I had trouble digesting.

While the book is not a recent work, don't let that put you off from reading it. I am not sure how much Messianic Judaism has changed since the book was published, but I look at some of the material as being helpful to understand the subject at the time. The most recent chapter I read helped me understand the way

Hebrews view education and how other cultures do as well. Plus, it helped me see how that influences the society I live in.

The book will remain on my shelf in the hopes that my progeny will read it and find the information helpful plus spur them on to seek more understanding and growth in their faith.

Dana says

outstanding foundation for our faith..

Debbie says

This book was written about 30 years ago and is academic in tone, so I prefer the more recent books I've read on the Jewish roots of the Christian faith. Still, I found this worth reading. When speaking about Christian beliefs, the author would state an extreme view found in Protestant or Catholic Christianity and state it like it was the common Christian belief. This meant that he was often arguing against things my church doesn't actually believe. But, anyway, he feels that Christians ought to be more Jewish if they're going to follow Jesus' teaching correctly.

So he educates the reader about the Jewish mindset on topics like marriage and the family, valuing the aged, the land of Israel, education, worship, and the Passover. He also provided a brief history about how Christianity started to reject the Jewish heritage of their Jewish Jesus. He talked about how the Christian church got biblical teachings wrong because of this and urges Christians to learn more about the Jewish faith by getting to know Jews today.

Denise says

Great review of Christianity's Jewish roots. Also gives good insights into the way the biblical writers thought about truth and Scripture.

Hope says

This is the most important book for believers to read. It covers a broad variety of topics. Here are some of them: A new People: Abraham's Spiritual Children, Church and Synagogue in the light of History, Understanding Hebrew thought, Jewish heritage and the Church, Toward Restoring Jewish Roots. I can't stress enough that you should read it. I've read it at least 3 times. It contains study questions at the end of each chapter that help enhance learning.

Tammy Martin says

A STAPLE IN YOUR THEOLOGY LIBRARY- but not just for scholars. For all readers.

A most informative book.
Very deep, lots of information.

Marianne Ogden says

I bought two copies of this book so I could share one with friends. This book taught me so much, and it put an historic context on my faith.

Carrie Ann says

The integrity of this book is high. I highly recommend it.

Sean says

If you want to understand the Jewish roots to the Christian faith look no further.
