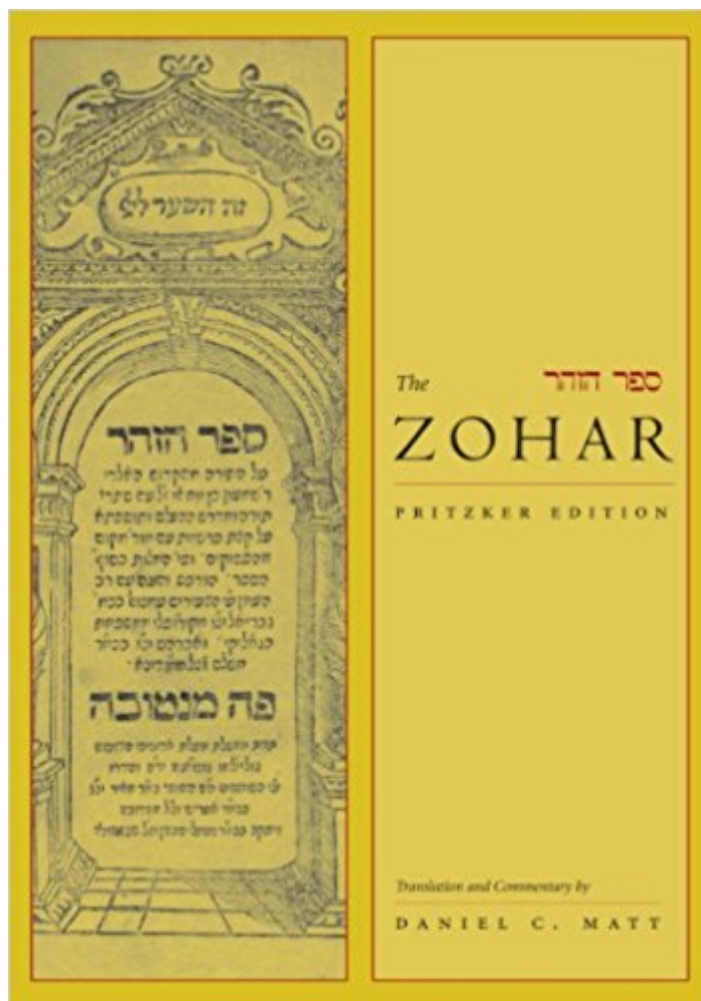


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The Zohar: Pritzker Edition, Volume Eight



Synopsis

Sefer ha-Zohar (The Book of Radiance) has amazed readers ever since it emerged in medieval Spain over seven hundred years ago. Written in lyrical Aramaic, this masterpiece of Kabbalah exceeds the dimensions of a normal book; it is virtually a body of mystical literature, comprising over twenty sections. The bulk of the Zohar consists of mystical interpretation of the Torah, from Genesis through Deuteronomy. This eighth volume of The Zohar: Pritzker Edition consists of commentary on the end of Leviticus and the beginning of Numbers. Its most remarkable section is Idra Rabba—a dramatic narrative, in which Rabbi Shim'on and his Companions gather to explore the deepest secrets of God's nature. There is a sense of emergency here, because due to human misconduct, the world is vulnerable to divine wrath. The mystical heroes seek to restore the balance in the upper worlds—aiming to stimulate a radiant flow from God's aspect of Compassion, which can soothe the irascible divine aspect and thereby save the world. The quest is perilous, and through its intensity three of the Companions tragically perish.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"[T]his is a very serious translation of the Zohar holy, an elaboration that took years of work and research on the part of Daniel C. Matt and his team of several scholars who have spared no effort to give the greatest number information of each passuk, each parashah, bringing reliable sources . . . This fantastic edition of The Zohar not only presents an accurate translation of the text, but also an interpretation with insights, more accessible . . . Brilliant expositions on complex subjects rendered

easy by Daniel C. Matt, his wonderful ability to transmit profound ideas is amazing." (Gilson Sasson Journal Mitzvah)"Matt provides invaluable commentary to put the Zohar into context and explain the almost disconnected paragraphs." (Daniel D. Stuhlman Association of Jewish Libraries)

Daniel C. Matt is a leading authority on Jewish mysticism and translator of the first seven volumes of The Zohar: Pritzker Edition.

Daniel C. Matt has done for the student of ancient literatures what I wish all orientalist could do with their translations - create out of the ashes of history a readable, easily referenced edition of the Zohar. Though other translations and editions exist of value, none have done for the modern scholar and student of the Torah and Zohar, what this work has done. To be more specific, the compendious notes are as valuable as the translation itself! And a must for a well rounded syntopic investigation of this work and its relationship to the Torah and other Talmudic and Sage teachings. Again, I bow politely to Dr. Matt. Excellent work and most welcome to student or mere bibliophile. P.S. Being able to have access to the actual reconstructed Aramaic text is without question most welcome. If you are only now learning of this set of the Zohar - collect the previous yet while ye may!!! - MCH

Reading the Zohar has made my life so different. I have been given so many revelations to my asked questions. Long before I found the Zohar, the Almighty sent me a message that I did not understand. After reading volumes 1-5 and 8 (I skipped six and seven due to monetary problems) I now have the understanding of Almighty God's message. The Zohar is a living guiding light for seekers of the Truth. Because money is an issue, I have not been able to purchase every available Zohar, but I "know" that money will no longer be an issue and I will have the entire collection before the end of the year, I call on the "Book of Genesis" to witness and grant this testimony!

Very heavy reading but well referenced. You will need a knowledgeable Hebrew Scholar to help you to put into proper perspective, unless you are one yourself.

You really should start with Volume One--I spend about 1 year studying each volume. Daniel Matt's footnotes makes it possible to understand this exceptional work on Jewish mysticism.

The Zohar is the pre-eminent work of what most people refer to as Kabbalah. Far too often people

who are interested in Kabbalah are given some new age crap filled with Neo-Platonic or worse dribble. There are far too many people who publish and hold themselves out as a scholar or "practitioners" of Kabbalah, who are nothing more than charlatans. The Zohar is the real thing and it is the basis of mystical Judaism. The Zohar contains a discussion of the nature of G-d, the origin and structure of the universe, the nature of souls, redemption, the relationship of G-d and man. For those affected by Rabbi Cooper's position of G-d as a verb, the Zohar reinforces the idea of the spiritual journey as the most significant aspect of Kabbalah. The practice of Tikkun olam, humanity's shared responsibility to heal, repair and transform the world, flows from [at least according some scholars] the ideas expressed in the Zohar of how it is through the striving of humanity to obtain moral perfection through unity with G-d as expressed by the practice of virtue and by moral perfection, man may increase the outpouring of heavenly grace. Thus we as humans, participate in the redemption of the world through our virtuous actions. This translation will help those who wish to understand the basic concepts of Kabbalah but I caution folks who buy and read these volumes, that it is not easy to wrap one's head around these concepts. Too often people will read and reinterpret what they read in terms of prior experience and cultural identity. It is important you find a reputable scholar or rabbi who will assist you in placing the concepts you read about here in the proper internal context [how they fit together in this work] as well as the external context, [how they fit into the body of Jewish religious thought they are derived from]. One need not be a Jew to read and study these volumes. In fact I encourage anyone who wishes to embark on the study of the Zohar as regardless of your own spiritual path, your experience will be enriched by exposure to the principles found here.

item as described, would buy again

All Volumes are terrific and insightful--this one no more and no less

fascinating

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