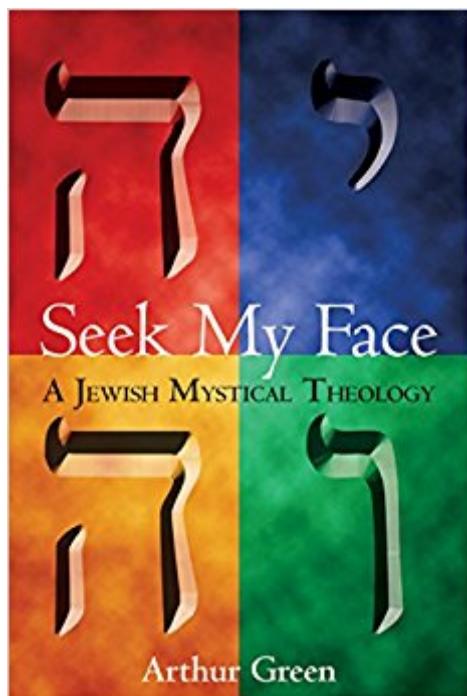


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# Seek My Face: A Jewish Mystical Theology



## Synopsis

The new Jewish spirituality lies somewhere between God's elusive presence in our world and our search for authentic language to describe it. Personal journeys seldom have a clear beginning, and they rarely have a definite end. If there is an end to our journey, surely it is one that leads to some measure of wisdom, and thence back to its own beginning. But somewhere along the way, we come to realize that we must know where we have been going, why we have been going. Most of all, we come to understand as best we can the One who sends us on our way. *From the Introduction* Rabbi Arthur Green leads us on a journey of discovery to seek God, the world, and ourselves. One of the most influential Jewish thinkers of our time, Green has created a roadmap of meaning for our lives in the light of Jewish mysticism, using the Hebrew letters that make up the divine name: Yod-Reality at the beginning. God as the oneness of being at the outset, before it unfolds into our universe. Heh-Creation and God's presence in the world. A renewed faith in God as Creator has powerful implications for us today. Vav-Revelation, the central faith claim of Judaism and the claim it makes on our lives. Heh-Redemption and our return to God through the life of Torah and by participating in the ongoing repair of the world. A personal and honest framework of understanding for the seeker, this revised and updated edition of a classic sheds new light on our search for the divine presence in our everyday lives.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Arthur Green, PhD, is recognized as one of the world's preeminent authorities on Jewish thought

and spirituality. He is the Irving Brudnick professor of philosophy and religion at Hebrew College and rector of the Rabbinical School, which he founded in 2004. Professor emeritus at Brandeis University, he also taught at the University of Pennsylvania and the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College, where he served as dean and president. Dr. Green is author of several books including *Judaism's Ten Best Ideas: A Brief Guide for Seekers*; *Ehyeh: A Kabbalah for Tomorrow*; *Seek My Face: A Jewish Mystical Theology*; *Your Word Is Fire: The Hasidic Masters on Contemplative Prayer* and *Tormented Master: The Life and Spiritual Quest of Rabbi Nahman of Bratslav* (all Jewish Lights). He is also author of *Radical Judaism* (Yale University Press) and coauthor of *Speaking Torah: Spiritual Teachings from around the Maggid's Table*. He is long associated with the Havurah movement and a neo-Hasidic approach to Judaism.

I tried to give this book a good chance and carefully read the beginning chapters, but was disappointed and felt that the author was not clear in explaining his ideas. Green is very knowledgeable. I read other essays and books he wrote that were more coherent. Jewish mystical theology needs a foundation that this book lacked. I would not recommend this book.

Arthur Green is one of my favorite leaders in Kabalah. His books are based on traditional mysticism, not a New Age Quick Fix Self-Help type of Judaism. I found this book appealing because each chapter is very short, dealing with one, simple idea that is not dependent on previous chapters. It's a great book to read at bedtime; a brief essay, written clearly that opens your mind to many "ah-ha" moments. Great choice for all levels interested in Kabalah.

There is something to talk about on every page. Then you realize that there is even more to delve into under the surface. Highly recommended.

Great reading and insight into spirituality and theology. I am more grounded by reading Arthur Green, and more able to see the big picture.

While the imagery and text itself is heavy, especially for one seeking to convert to Judaism, Green is fully able to give the reader a good primer into centuries (if not millenia) of Jewish mystical thought and discussion.

As a liberal Jew I have searched for an articulation of Jewish theology that I can recommend to

people. This work by Rabbi Green is one of the best such articulations of progressive Jewish theology that I have come across and is easily accessible to lay people. I highly recommend it!

Rabbi Amy Bernstein

Rabbi Art Green gives us a theology that is compelling and utterly relevant in the 21st century.

Reb Green has been a Godsend to me in my search for a closer, more personal relationship with my God, His world and my role in bringing His kingdom to my daily life.

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