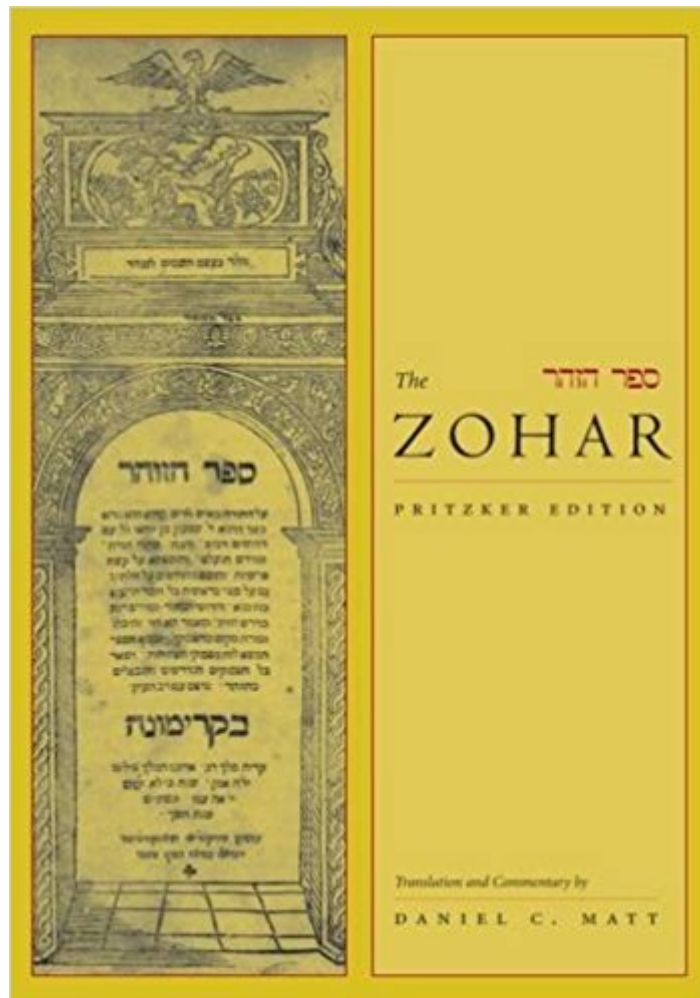


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The Zohar: Pritzker Edition, Volume Nine



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. The ninth volume of The Zohar: Pritzker Edition completes this running commentary on the Torah. Rabbi Shim'on and his Companions explore passages from the middle of the book of Numbers through the end of Deuteronomy. Among the remarkable sections is Rav Metivta, an account of a visionary journey by Rabbi Shim'on and some of the Companions to the Garden of Eden, where they discover secrets of the afterlife. Later in the volume appears the story of the Yanuqa (Child) – a wunderkind-and-enfant-terrible who amazes and teases, challenges and stumps the rabbis. Near the very end of the Zohar on the Torah comes the remarkable section known as Idra Zuta (The Small Assembly). This dramatic narrative describes the last gathering of Rabbi Shim'on and the Companions before his death. Here the master reveals profound mysteries of divine being, and then departs from this world to unite ecstatically with the Divine Feminine, Shekhinah. Before departing, Rabbi Shim'on invites all of the Companions to his wedding celebration above.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Volume 9, ends the sections edited by Daniel C. Matt, the 10th volume comes out later this month!

This is the culmination of a lot of work to bring forth a readable and very well-documented and noted work. Covering the commentary from Numbers 13:1 to Deuteronomy 32, it is 928 pages filled with notes and explanations and references galore! a massive volume that I hope to sink my teeth into very soon. If you have not been collecting the volumes - you had better do so soon. This is a magnificent translation and work.

The 9th of the Series is as good as the rest but how many more to go? Mr. Matt certainly deserves heaps of praise for his herculean efforts. We English speakers are very grateful to have such an accurate and thoughtful translation of a work the content of which is important notwithstanding the lack of certainty of its authorship.

One should really start with Volume 1 and spend months on each volume before moving forward. The Zohar is not for beginners. My recommendation would be to always study a Chumash with excellent commentary before moving onto the mystical side of Judaism. I knowledgeable teacher as a guide is also a tremendous help. Not all Rabbis are knowledgeable on the subject of Kabbalah.

I thoroughly enjoy this translation and presentation of the Zohar. Thank you to the Pritzker Family/Foundation/Publishing Group for this amazing edition. It is a great resource for scholars or for any intelligent reader of the Kabbala and its related texts.

Leviticus seems kind of short... but..when you consider how much was covered in Genesis and Exodus and therefor repeating so therefor cut out..was a great read..most people cant really enjoy studying the words of the bible let alone to read the bible at all. This has been an amazing read so far, but the torah commentary was what I was really interested in to begin with.theres a much simpler truth to all this though, that requires so little explanation, and these in depth explanations are whats derailing the simple truth. Look at the name (YHVH) closely in Paleo-Hebrew, in its oldest form, forwards and backwards, read it as symbols, funny huh? works like hieroglyphics you know.puts a whole new twist on the words of Revelations 10.1 And I saw another mighty angel come down from heaven, clothed with a cloud: and a rainbow was upon his head, and his face was as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire:2 And he had in his hand a little book open: and he set his right foot upon the sea, and his left foot on the earth,3 And cried with a loud voice, as when a lion roareth: and when he had cried, seven thunders uttered their voices.4 And when the seven thunders had uttered their voices, I was about to write: and I heard a voice from heaven saying unto

me, Seal up those things which the seven thunders uttered, and write them not.⁵ And the angel which I saw stand upon the sea and upon the earth lifted up his hand to heaven,⁶ And swore by him that liveth for ever and ever, who created heaven, and the things that therein are, and the earth, and the things that therein are, and the sea, and the things which are therein, that there should be time no longer:⁷ But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, the mystery of God should be finished, as he hath declared to his servants the prophets.⁸ And the voice which I heard from heaven spake unto me again, and said, Go and take the little book which is open in the hand of the angel which standeth upon the sea and upon the earth.⁹ And I went unto the angel, and said unto him, Give me the little book. And he said unto me, Take it, and eat it up; and it shall make thy belly bitter, but it shall be in thy mouth sweet as honey.¹⁰ And I took the little book out of the angel's hand, and ate it up; and it was in my mouth sweet as honey: and as soon as I had eaten it, my belly was bitter. those weren't johns words, those were gods words, john chewed up the Hebrew bible and spat out revelations, much better when you start understanding the symbolisms.

This volume takes you up through the major bulk of the Zohar in English- which consists of a mystical interpretation of the first 5 books of moses up through Deuteronomy. The series is well worth picking up if you're interested in the bible, religion, or spirituality- or just seeking a different interpretation of the bibles first five books.

True scholarship by Prof. Daniel Matt and everyone involved. All these volumes are excellent and should be read and studied by all who seek knowledge of The Zohar and kabbalah.

This is an amazing series with each volume serving as a real illumination of the Zohar in terms of text and annotations.

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