

Hasidic Tales – Annotated and Explained.
Translation and Annotation by Rabbi Rami Shapiro. Skylight Paths 2004.

The Jewish approach to God – A brief introduction for Christians
by Rabbi Neil Gillman. Jewish Lights Publishing 2004.

Keeping faith with the Psalms – Deepen your relationship with god using the
Book of Psalms by Daniel F. Polish. Jewish Lights Publishing 2004.

Hineini in our Lives – Learning how to respond to others through 14 biblical texts
and personal stories ed. By Norman J. Cohen.

The Jewish Dream Book – The key to opening the inner meaning of your dreams
by Vanessa L. Ochs with Elizabeth Ochs. Jewish Lights Publishing 2003.

Jerusalem of Gold – Jewish Stories of the Enchanted City retold
by Howard Schwartz. Jewish Lights Publishing 2004.

These six books from Jewish Lights Publishing are another reminder of the range and breadth of the publications of these publishers who have probably done more to revive Jewish interest in Jewish subjects and issues in America and Europe than anyone else for several decades.

This selection is a pot-pourri of delights. Rami Shapiro translates his favourite Chasidic tales (a boon to any rabbi desperate for a sermon topic come Shabbat) and annotates them clearly and helpfully. Neil Gillman presents the Jewish teachings on God and the Jewish approach to God in a way that will be clarifying to Jews as well as helpful to Christians, and of great benefit in interfaith dialogue groups. Daniel Polish trawls through the inexhaustible depths of the Psalms to present a way of coping with the challenges of life and its conflicts that utilises the Psalms' timeless wisdom and spiritual comfort and courage. Norman J Cohen brings together a variety of texts that illustrate the importance of being there for others and relating to them, as well as gaining control over the needs of the self. Vanessa and Elizabeth Ochs charmingly explore the world of dreams both from a classical Jewish and a modern perspective, adding study sources and ways of response that those with a vivid dream life will find fascinating. And finally, master storyteller Howard Schwartz brings vividly to life eleven wonderful stories centred on Jerusalem that will entrance children of all ages.

Whatever you choose from this eclectic collection you will be well rewarded.

Rabbi Dr Charles H Middleburgh