

Proverbs: Annotated & Explained, Translated and Annotation by
Rabbi Rami Shapiro.
Skylights Illuminations 2011.

Maimonides: Essential Teachings on Jewish Faith and Ethics, The Book of
Knowledge & the Thirteen Principles of Faith. Translation and Annotation
by Rabbi Marc D. Angel, PhD.
Skylights Illuminations, 2012.

The series of great texts, translated and annotated, from Skylights Illuminations, has long been a means of bringing such material to a much wider audience than would be likely to study them in their original language.

In Proverbs, Rami Shapiro engages with this classic of biblical wisdom literature with his customary verve and makes some telling points about some of the pithier sayings; in Maimonides, Marc Angel engages with two of the most important pieces of work by one of the greatest Jews of all time, The Book of Knowledge, dealing with what Maimonides considered to be the main concerns of classical Judaism– the origins of the Torah, ethical behaviour, the issue of idolatry and repentance; and the Thirteen Principles of Faith, Maimonides peerless summation of the essence of Judaism.

Both rabbis elucidate and clarify, Angel with particular skill as he renders some of the complexities of Maimonides' thought into everyday language.

Proverbs and Maimonides are two worthy additions to the Skylight Illuminations canon.

Rabbi Dr Charles H Middleburgh