

Jewish Theology and World Religions,  
edited by Alon Goshen-Gottstein and Eugene Korn.  
The Littman Library of Jewish Civilisation 2012.

The genesis of this book was a meeting at the University of Scranton in 2005. Twenty five scholars of a number of disciplines in Jewish studies came together to consider how Jews interact with members of other faiths, and deal with the theological challenges that may result from such interaction.

Following a preface by Eugene Korn and an opening chapter by Alon Goshen Gottstein, the book is divided into three main parts: Philosophical Perspectives on Jewish Pluralism; Judaism and the Other; Judaism and World Religions. The chapters that are the sub-headings of these sections are written by some eminent Jewish scholars from Israeli, American, Polish and French universities and each is an impeccable piece of scholarship.

Like many who come to such a book as this, I chose first to read the chapters that interested me the most and then to look at others; providing the reader reads the preface and introduction before diving in this works very well. The choice of which chapters are the most important will always be subjective, and mine are no less so! For me, *The Banished Brother: Islam in Jewish Thought and Faith* by Paul B. Fenton of the Sorbonne and *Encountering Hinduism: Thinking Through Avodah Zarah* by Alon Goshen-Gottstein of the Elijah Interfaith Institute in Jerusalem are the stand out papers.

This is a book that will repay multiple visits to its pages and should be studied and read by anyone engaged with, or planning to engage with, interfaith study and relationships.

Rabbi Dr Charles H Middleburgh