



To Pray As A Jew: A Guide To The Prayer Book And The Synagogue Service

By Hayim H. Donin

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Rabbi Donin offers a detailed guide to Jewish prayer which takes the reader through the entire prescribed course of Jewish liturgy, offering historical background, religious teaching, and practical instruction for each element of the service. Why do Jews pray? What is the role of prayer in their lives as moral and ethical beings? From the simplest details of how to comport oneself on entering a synagogue to the most profound and moving comments on the prayers themselves, Rabbi Donin guides the reader through the entire prescribed course of Jewish liturgy, passage by passage, ritual by ritual, in this handsome and indispensable guide to Jewish prayer, unexcelled for beginners as well as the religiously observant.

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

The Jewish prayer book, or *siddur*, remains the standard text from which children in Jewish schools learn to read. Yet many adult Jews are unfamiliar with the *siddur* and are confused by prayer services. Other know the prayer book's Hebrew texts by rote but do not really comprehend them. Writing for both kinds of readers in this classic devotional guide, Rabbi Hayim Halevy Donin reviews the basic shape of a Jewish prayer service and then begins his survey of prayers (all of which are quoted here in both Hebrew and English) with the *Shemoneh Esrei*, the core of every service. One of the most appealing qualities of the book is the author's penchant for reminding readers to be mindful of the practical dimension of prayer life: "Unless prayer is also accompanied by the traits of character and ethical behavior that Judaism demands, prayer is no indication of piety at all. One need only stop to consider that in real life, evil men pray too." --Michael Joseph Gross

From Publishers Weekly

To Pray As a Jew, Rabbi Hayim Halevy Donin's companion to his classic work To Be a Jew, will be reissued in September by Basic Books. The book functions as an accessible guide to the prayer book and the synagogue service, covering every detail of Jewish prayer and ritual. Donin answers such specific questions as: What religious objects are kissed before use? What are the 18 blessings of the Shemoneh Esrei? What are the roles of the gabbaim during the service? This definitive guide to the *siddur*, published just in time for the High Holy Days, will be deeply appreciated by a new generation of readers.

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Review

"A lucid and sensitive guide for those who would like to pray Jewishly but don't know how..." -- *Hadassah Magazine*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

William Gannaway:

As people who live in often the modest era should be revise about what going on or data even knowledge to make all of them keep up with the era that is always change and move ahead. Some of you maybe will certainly update themselves by looking at books. It is a good choice to suit your needs but the problems coming to an individual is you don't know what type you should start with. This To Pray As A Jew: A Guide To The Prayer Book And The Synagogue Service is our recommendation so you keep up with the world. Why, because this book serves what you want and need in this era.

Madeline Wayt:

People live in this new time of lifestyle always attempt to and must have the free time or they will get wide range of stress from both way of life and work. So , whenever we ask do people have spare time, we will say

absolutely yes. People is human not only a robot. Then we ask again, what kind of activity do you have when the spare time coming to an individual of course your answer will probably unlimited right. Then do you try this one, reading ebooks. It can be your alternative throughout spending your spare time, the particular book you have read is definitely *To Pray As A Jew: A Guide To The Prayer Book And The Synagogue Service*.

Sarah Ford:

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