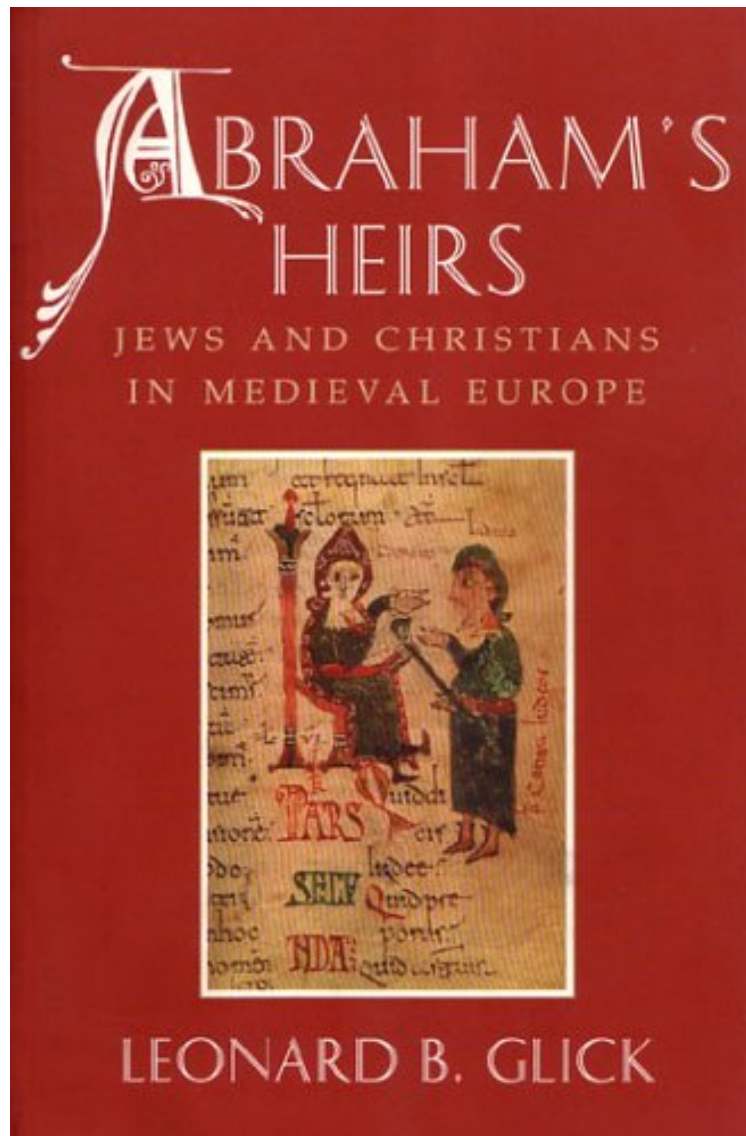


(Free) Abraham's Heirs: Jews and Christians in Medieval Europe

Abraham's Heirs: Jews and Christians in Medieval Europe

Leonard Glick

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Leonard Glick : Abraham's Heirs: Jews and Christians in Medieval Europe before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Abraham's Heirs: Jews and Christians in Medieval Europe:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Interesting readBy JoelPersonally I was looking for more day to day specifics about what life was like for a Jew during this time period. Specifically what daily life might be like. This was less anthropology and more history. It's basically a historical textbook which isn't what I expected based off the blurb.

If you're looking for a history of the Jews in Medieval Europe this is a fantastic book. 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. I was amazed at my own ignorance. By Harvey S. Cohen. I teach religious high school, and I thought I knew something about the history of Jews in medieval Europe. "Abraham's Heirs" has broadened my knowledge and understanding to a degree that is simply astonishing. Like all really good histories, this one combines compelling primary sources with a clear overall structure. A great read. 8 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Great books for Graduate Students and serious Undergrads! By Min Byong Chang. I was assigned Glick's book by my Medieval History professor Dr. Paul Halsall. I opened the book thinking I knew a lot about the experiences of Jews in France and Germany in Medieval Europe; and what I found was that I was wrong. This book is an excellent book about the cultures of the Jews and the Christians, how these two cultures interacted with each other and how Medieval Jewish culture affects the culture of American Jews, who predominately come from these Ashkenazic Jews. The book is divided chronologically and this division works. It shows the downward spiral pattern of Christian and Jewish interaction that finally hit rock bottom with the expulsion of Jews from France and in England. I especially enjoyed reading about the devastating effects of the Crusades on the Jewish communities of the Rhine river region. I was amazed to read that many of the higher Church officials tried to protect their neighbor Jews from the angry and violent mobs. Bishops tried hiding Jews, tried baptizing Jews, and showed real sorrow and guilt when Jews in their communities were harmed. I also found the history of the evolution of Christian thought about the Jews very fascinating. The early Christians, who didn't even know they were Christians, clearly saw themselves as religiously Jewish. By the time of the writing of the Gospel of John, this has changed. The Gospel of John is somewhat anti-Jewish. When the Christians began using "rational thinking," especially with the creation of Universities, they became even more hostile toward the Jews. This book is a definite "must-buy" for any graduate student of European history or any serious undergraduate.

The author of this book recounts the history of the Ashkenazic Jewish experience in medieval western Europe from the 5th to 15th centuries, focusing on interaction between Jews and Christians during this formative period.

From Library Journal. Glick's examination of the social experience of Jews living among Christians in medieval Europe is fascinating. A social historian and anthropologist at Hampshire College, Glick looks at the "ways in which European Jewish culture, identity, and experience were molded in the crucible of western Christendom." He believes modern-day Jewish "cultural psychology" arose from "a patterned set of behavioral dispositions and values, reflecting the historical experience and adaptive strategies of Ashkenazic Jewry" in the Franco-German region. (Glick's account is unique in that he intentionally overlooks Jewish Spain, a popular focus of other scholars.) The Crusades, the Jews' relegation from merchants to moneylenders, and Jewish settlement in and subsequent expulsion from England allow Glick to realize his hypothesis. Glick makes this history come alive. An excellent choice for academic, seminary, and public libraries. ?Kevin M. Roddy, Univ. of Hawaii, Hilo. Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc. About the Author. Leonard B. Glick is professor of anthropology at Hampshire College, Amherst, where he teaches cultural anthropological approaches to religion and ethnicity.