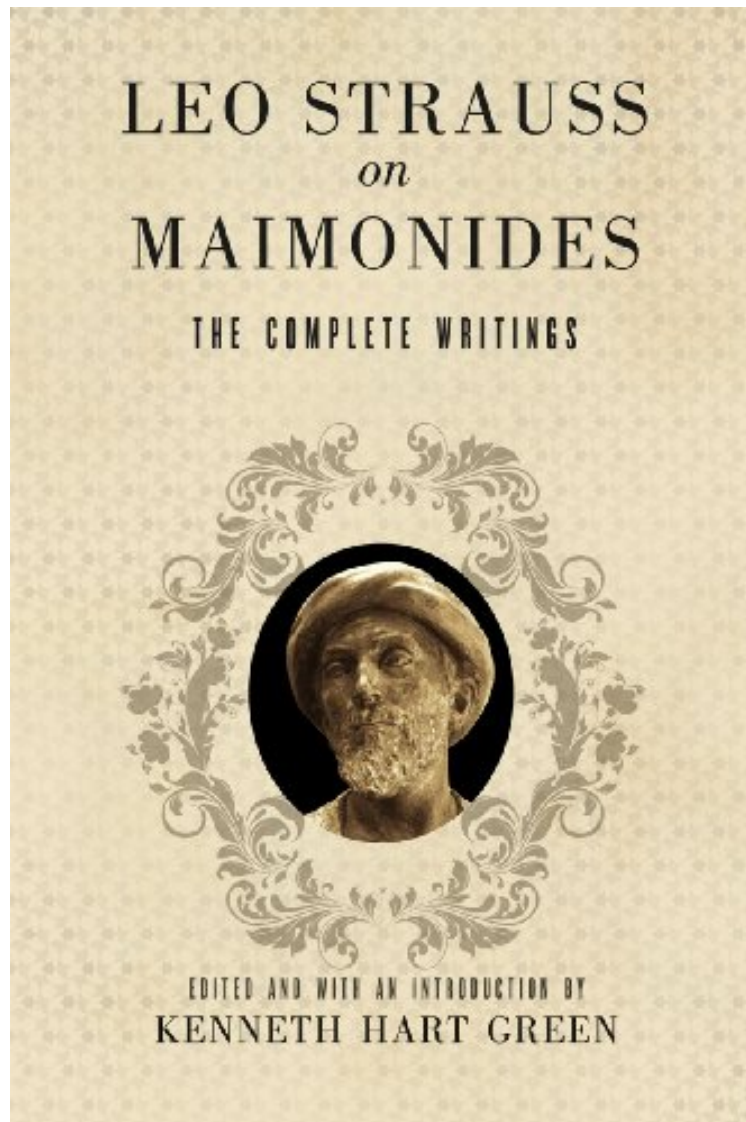


[PDF] Leo Strauss on Maimonides: The Complete Writings

Leo Strauss on Maimonides: The Complete Writings

Leo Strauss

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Leo Strauss : Leo Strauss on Maimonides: The Complete Writings before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Leo Strauss on Maimonides: The Complete Writings:

16 of 16 people found the following review helpful. Leo Strauss on Maimonides By George Greene Kenneth Hart Green's introductory essay and his editorship of Leo Strauss on Maimonides are works of love. They should be treated as such for one can see the care that Professor Green has taken to bring this work to fruition. In this work, Professor Green has shown convincingly that Leo Strauss became who he is through his continuous engagement with Maimonides as a thinker par excellence. By placing almost all of these writings in chronological order with his helpful

notes, one may with patience see how Leo Strauss learned from Maimonides and rediscovered the art of esoteric writing in its multidimensions. We see a mind, slowly with painstaking effort, reinvigorate the tension between Athens and Jerusalem so that one may test what is the one thing needful: a life of pious devotion to God or the way of the philosopher in its classic form. Restated, what is the best way of life? Leo Strauss sums up this work best in a lecture, "When engaging in the study of the philosophy of the past, he must know that he embarks on a journey whose end is completely hidden from him: he is not likely to return to the shore of his time as the same man who left it." By editing this book, Ken Green has made this difficult task easier and I thank him for it. It is an enduring monument of a life of the mind. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Challenging By Words are Journeys very intense

Leo Strauss is widely recognized as one of the foremost interpreters of Maimonides. His studies of the medieval Jewish philosopher led to his rediscovery of esotericism and deepened his sense that the tension between reason and revelation was central to modern political thought. His writings throughout the twentieth century were chiefly responsible for restoring Maimonides as a philosophical thinker of the first rank. Yet, to appreciate the extent of Strauss's contribution to the scholarship on Maimonides, one has traditionally had to seek out essays he published separately spanning almost fifty years.

It is to the enduring credit of Leo Strauss that he effected a radical reconsideration of Maimonides. To be sure, philosophers have engaged Maimonides over the centuries, but none reached down so deep into his *modus operandi*. Strauss made clear the strategies pursued by Maimonides in his effort to convey discrete messages to different audiences, and that newly regained awareness of how Maimonides wrote and hence needed to be read gave rise to renewed vigorous debate.