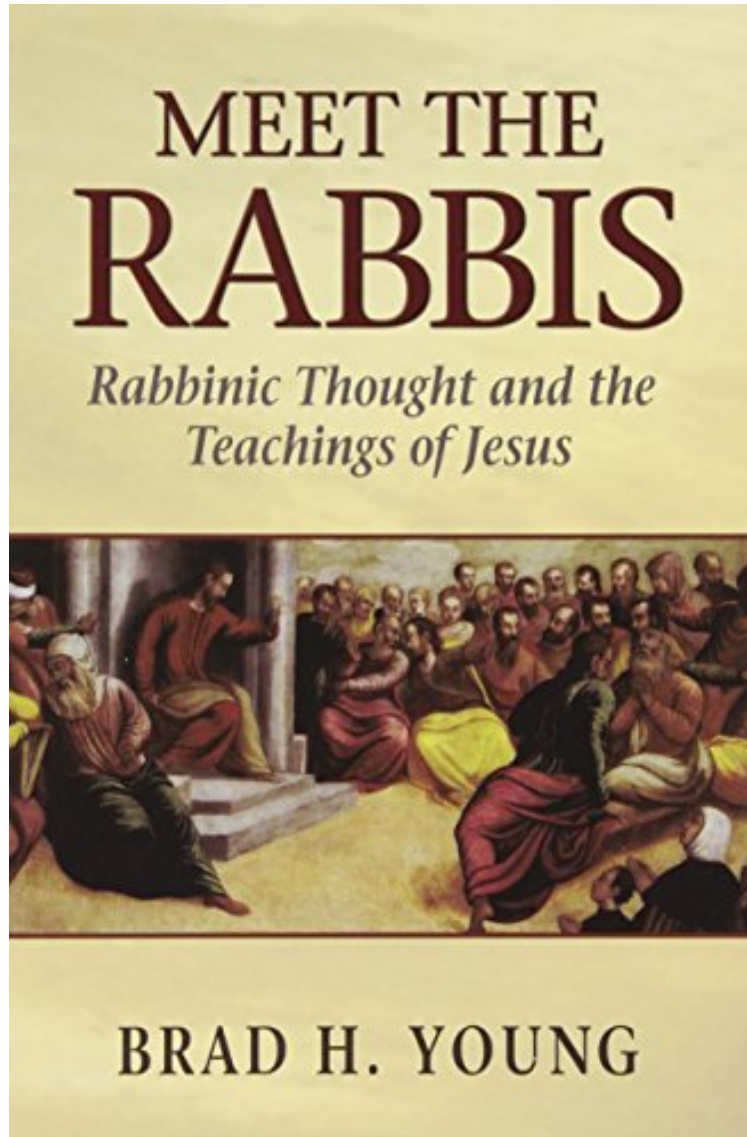


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Meet the Rabbis: Rabbinic Thought and the Teachings of Jesus

Brad H. Young

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#698139 in Books Brad H Young 2007-06-01 2007-06-01 Original language: English PDF # 1 9.00 x .67 x 6.001, 1.06 #File Name: 0801048184256 pages Meet the Rabbis Rabbinic Thought and the Teachings of Jesus | File size: 35.Mb

Brad H. Young : Meet the Rabbis: Rabbinic Thought and the Teachings of Jesus before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Meet the Rabbis: Rabbinic Thought and the Teachings of Jesus:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Superb Introduction to the Rabbis for Christians By Edward J. Vasicek "Meet the Rabbis" is a great introduction and primer to the Rabbis whose wisdom is recorded in the Talmud

(including an introduction and explanation of the Mishnah and Talmud themselves) and the Jewish way of thinking in general. Wish this work had been out decades ago! Brad Young's material is aimed primarily toward Christian leaders, teachers, or serious students of Scripture (particularly the teachings of Jesus). Yet the work can be comprehended by the average layman. The book is broken down into 4 main sections: (1) Introduction to Rabbinic Thought, (2) Introduction to Rabbinic Literature, (3) Introduction to the Rabbis, and (4) Study Helps. Highlights include a parallel column section comparing some of Jesus' teachings from the Sermon on the Mount to quotations from the Rabbis in the Talmud (many of which can be traced back to rabbis who taught just before or during the ministry of Jesus). Here is just one interesting tidbit: Did you know that the Rabbi Gamaliel (the First) -- the man who encouraged the Sanhedrin to release the apostles in Acts 5, and the man under whom Saul of Tarsus was mentored -- Gamaliel was a descendent of David and the grandson of Hillel, the great rabbi whose teachings resemble those of Jesus? This book is well worth the read. Young writes in such a way that you may not be sure where he stands on things, but I think he does so intentionally to accommodate a broad audience. I would suggest this as good collateral reading for a Biblical hermeneutics class or a class on the Life of Christ. As a pastor, books like this help me as an interpreter and teacher. Really good stuff.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Influential
By Grant Sowter
Excellent. It's demanding and I had to re-read some sections to make sure I got it but so helpful. His series in pretty sure are going to have a significant influence on churches going forward
1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Being Phair to the Pharisees
By D. E. WARD
This book is intended to introduce evangelical Christians to the founders of rabbinic Judaism and their writings. There is an emphasis on the large amount of common ground between the teachings of Jesus--e.g., the Sermon on the Mount--and those of the rabbis. Since the rabbis were the successors of the Pharisees that we encounter in the Gospels, this means that Jesus and the Pharisees shared quite a bit in common. Included is an English translation of Pirke Avot, the most famous tractate of the Mishnah, with extensive footnotes indicating New Testament parallels. I think that this chapter alone is worth the price of the book. This book has been criticized on two counts. In citing rabbinic parallels to the New Testament, Young pays little attention to the possible dates of the parallels, some of which come from several centuries after Jesus. And in stressing the things that Jesus and the Pharisees had in common, Young tends to understate their real differences--e.g., in regard to the Oral Torah of the Pharisees. But given the anti-Judaism that is still all too prevalent in Christianity, I can't fault Young for overcompensating a bit. He has an important message that all Christians would benefit from hearing.

Meet the Rabbis explains to the reader how rabbinic thought was relevant to Jesus and the New Testament world, and hence should be relevant to those people today who read the New Testament. In this sense, rabbinic thought is relevant to every aspect of modern life. Rabbinic literature explores the meaning of living life to its fullest, in right relationship with God and humanity. However, many Christians are not aware of rabbinic thought and literature. Indeed, most individuals in the Western world today, regardless of whether they are Christians, atheists, agnostics, secular community leaders, or some other religious and political persuasions, are more knowledgeable of Jesus' ethical teachings in the Sermon on the Mount than the Ethics of the Fathers in a Jewish prayer book. The author seeks to introduce the reader to the world of Torah learning. It is within this world that the authentic cultural background of Jesus' teachings in ancient Judaism is revealed. Young uses parts of the New Testament, especially the Sermon on the Mount, as a springboard for probing rabbinic method. The book is an introduction to rabbinic thought and literature and has three main sections in its layout: Introduction to Rabbinic Thought, Introduction to Rabbinic Literature, and Meet the Rabbis, a biographical description of influential Rabbis from Talmudic sources.

About the Author
Brad H. Young (PhD, Hebrew University) studied under David Flusser and is the author of *Jesus and His Jewish Parables* and *The Jewish Background to the Lord's Prayer*. He is the president and founder of the Gospel Research Foundation, which is committed to exploring the Jewish roots of the Christian faith, and is on the editorial board of the *Compendia Rerum Iudaicarum ad Novum Testamentum*. He is a faculty member of the Graduate School of Theology and Missions at Oral Roberts University, serving as professor of biblical literature in Judeo-Christian studies.