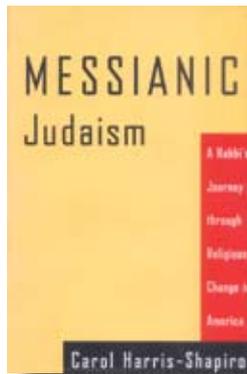




Recent Books

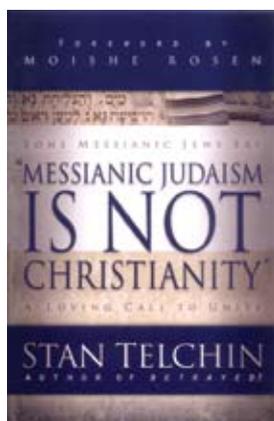


Messianic Judaism: A Rabbi's Journey through Religious Change in America

Carol Harris-Shapiro
Beacon Press, 1999
218 pp., \$26.00

Carol Harris-Shapiro, a rabbi and assistant professor at Temple University, evaluates a community of

Messianic Jews to determine what their presence says about American Jewish identity, religious affiliation, and the emergence of hybrid faiths in a secular society. Through careful examination, Harris-Shapiro asks how Messianic Judaism is organized and how it sustains itself and its adherents. She traces the history of Messianic Judaism from the efforts of evangelical Christians to convert Jews, to the Jesus movement of the sixties, to the establishment of independent Messianic Jewish communities. With critical engagement and compassion the author documents the life of the people living as Messianic Jews. She recounts the everyday life of their community, and reveals their struggle for legitimacy in the eyes of Jews and Christians alike. Surely, this book adds new insights into the varieties of religious life and experience in America.



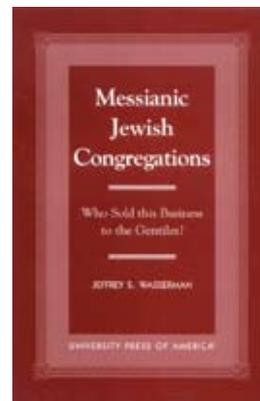
"Messianic Judaism Is Not Christianity": A Loving Call to Unity

Stan Telchin
Chosen Books, 2004
169 pp., \$12.99

Stan Telchin, a Messianic Jew and former pastor, explores in depth the heart and soul of Messianic Judaism. He exposes the

motive behind its creation, its controversial doctrines, and its ineffectiveness in Jewish evangelism.

Messianic Judaism has grown significantly in fewer than four decades. While intended originally to appeal to Jewish people, unexpectedly it appeals also to Gentiles. In his book Telchin addresses the problems of Messianic Judaism with a firm and loving approach, asks the question about God's attitude toward the Jewish people, and shows that God's love for His covenant people will last forever. Telchin offers practical solutions in order to reach Jewish friends and calls for the "undivided heart" in service for God. He reiterates God's intention for the Church to serve as "one new man" and advocates unity among the body of believers.

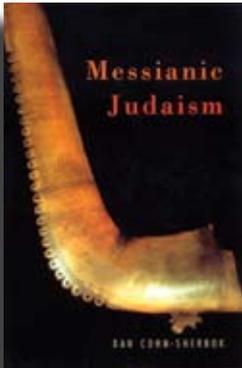


Messianic Jewish Congregations: Who Sold This Business to the Gentiles?

Jeffrey S. Wasserman
University Press of America, 2000
196 pp., \$29.50

Jeffrey S. Wasserman is a lecturer on Comparative Religions at various graduate and undergraduate

institutions in the Chicago area. In *Messianic Jewish Congregations*, he examines the present state of Jewish believers in Jesus in Israel and North America. His information is based on scholarly research, personal interviews, and visits to congregations. Wasserman begins by tracing the history of Jewish leadership in the church. He then analyzes in detail the worship style of Messianic congregations. Two chapters are given to the substance of the surveys, concentrating on fellowship, discipleship, and evangelism. Finally, the book examines the factors that contribute to congregational success in Israel though they do not seem to work in America. The book will interest both Christians and Jews who want to understand the history and presence of Jews in the church.

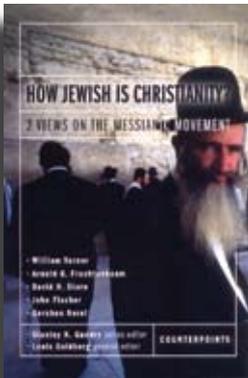


Messianic Judaism

Dan Cohn-Sherbok
Continuum, 2000
234 pp., \$55.00

Who are the Messianic Jews? What do they believe and practice? What is the Jewish community's reaction to Messianic Judaism? In this pioneering study,

Dan Cohn-Sherbok traces the development of the Messianic movement from ancient times to its transformation after World War II. Focusing on the nature of Messianic Judaism today, the volume continues with a detailed examination of Messianic practices, including the celebration of the Sabbath, Passover, Shavuot and Sukkot, festivals of joy, and life-cycle events. The book then goes on to consider the place of Messianic Judaism within the contemporary Jewish community. Messianic Jews contend that they are fulfilled as Jews and that Messianic Judaism is a legitimate interpretation of the Jewish faith; critics, however, argue that Messianic Jews are dangerous and deceptive. In the final section the author confronts this contentious issue and outlines three alternative models for understanding the relationship between Messianic Judaism and the modern Jewish world.



How Jewish Is Christianity?

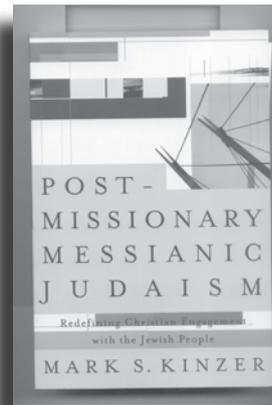
Louis Goldberg, ed.
Zondervan, 2003
208 pp., \$16.99

In this book—*How Jewish Is Christianity?*—non-Jewish contributor and four Jewish believers in Yeshua consider two different view-

points on how Jewish disciples of Jesus can articulate and live out their faith. William Varner argues that the Messianic congregation is not necessary

because all the needs of Jewish believers can be met in the church. Arnold Fruchtenbaum, John Fisher, Gershon Nerel, and Louis Goldberg maintain that Messianic Jews and congregations each have a part within the body of the Messiah as distinct entities, and they discuss different nuances of this view.

This book furnishes each perspective with a forum for presentation, critique, and defense, allowing you to draw your own conclusions. It also offers a perceptive chapter on the future for Messianic Jews and a directory of Messianic movement organizations.



Postmissionary Messianic Judaism

Mark S. Kinzer
Brazos Press, 2005
320 pp., \$29.50

In recent years, a new form of Messianic Judaism has emerged that has the potential to serve as a bridge between

Jews and Christians. Giving voice to this movement, Mark Kinzer makes a case for nonsupersessionist Christianity. He argues that the election of Israel is irrevocable, that Messianic Jews should honor the covenantal obligations of Israel, and that rabbinic Judaism should be viewed as a movement employed by God to preserve the distinctive calling of the Jewish people.

Though this book will be of interest to Jewish readers, it is written primarily for Christians who recognize the need for a constructive relationship to the Jewish people that neither denies the role of Jesus the Messiah nor diminishes the importance of God's covenant with the Jews.