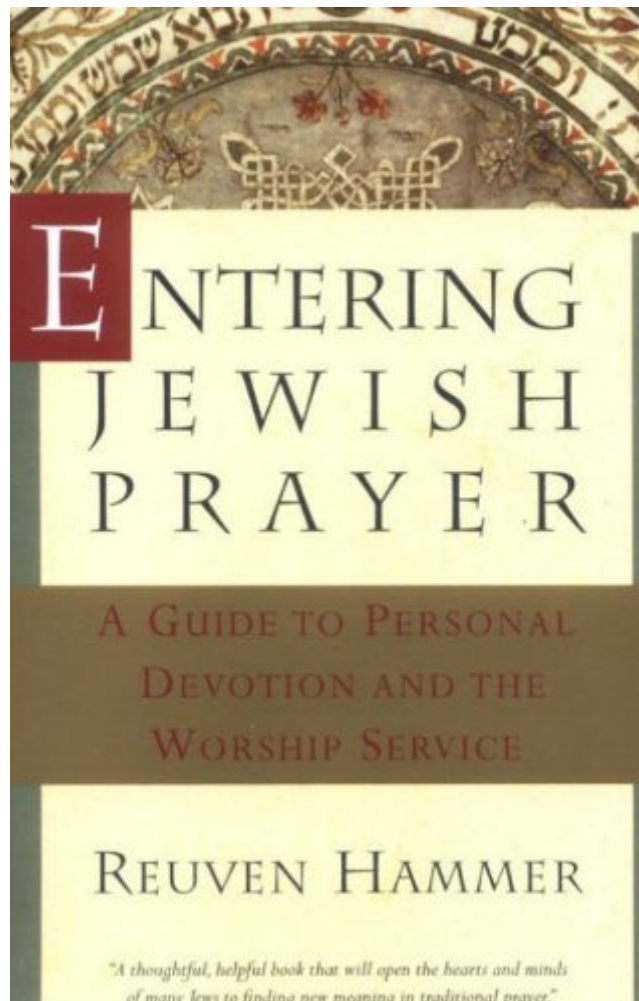


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# Entering Jewish Prayer: A Guide To Personal Devotion And The Worship Service



## Synopsis

This engaging and informative book provides an introduction to the liturgy of the Siddur--the Jewish prayerbook. More than a "how-to" guide, this resource deals with basic issues for the modern worshiper, the historical compilation of the Siddur, and much more. From the Hardcover edition.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This is much more than a "how-to" guide; Rabbi Hammer here deals with the basic issues in prayer, the historical compilation of the Siddur, and the orchestration of the daily, Sabbath, and festival prayers. The themes of special prayers, such as the Blessing After Meals and the Kaddish are explained lucidly. This book makes one aware of the essential experience of making prayer a vital part of one's life. A nice feature is that it explains differences between the liturgy of each of the Jewish movements prayerbooks.

The Siddur is a precious, age-old resource of Jewish spirituality, and the prayer service is an anchor for Jewish community. But it is complex. Rabbi Hammer helps us find our way, historically and in the

synagogue services of today. A good companion book is MINDING THE TEMPLE OF THE SOUL, which adds meditations and movements you can do in your own home. With these, you can enrich your prayer life, your community life, and your relationship to God.

Reuven Hammer does a wonderful job explaining away about traditional Jewish prayer. He goes into depth and detail to explain how the synagogue service works. This is a definite read for any person who is just starting to rediscovers their Jewish heritage.

Even if you have been attending synagogue for years, this book will give you a greater understanding of the meaning of the entire service....and for someone less experienced it will be ever more helpful.

This is a useful book, which discusses many interesting concepts, but is far from comprehensive. I have done extensive study previously concerning both Shabbat and High Holy Day services, and this book did add to my knowledge, however, why the discussion in the book was interesting, there was a real limit to what the book brought to the discussion, compared to what a person well versed in Jewish Prayer would have already known and discussed previously. I would recommend the book more for those who haven't done much prior study of the subject.

This book is an incredible resource for those looking to derive meaning from the Jewish prayer tradition. It has helped me in my own personal practice of prayer by giving me historical context for the prayers I am saying, and by elucidating the structure of the service. This is definitely worth the read for anyone interested in Jewish prayer, or even prayer in general!

For beginners to prayer who were brought up without any education or for the simply curious who would like to learn the structure of Jewish prayer this book is an excellent primer. It explains both the history of the prayer service and its structure. It also delineates between the service between the various denominations. If you have never understood a seder this is a great place to start.

For those interested in the development and significance of the central prayers in the Jewish liturgy there is no better place to start than Entering Jewish Prayer. Rabbi Hammer's presentation is consistently lucid. Embracing his insights has deepened the act of prayer for me. The historic context he shares, provides resonance to the myriad inflections of meaning embedded in the siddur

- particularly the Sh'ma, the Amida, and Tachanun.

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