

# Messianism Zionism And Jewish Religious Radicalism

The Controversy of Zion A History of Zionism Why I Am a Zionist Religious Zionism, Jewish Law, and the Morality of War What is the difference between Judaism and Zionism? The impact of religion on political decision-making in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict Sovereign Jews What Is Zionism? Original Sins Anti-Semitism and Anti-Zionism in Historical Perspective Judaism Or Zionism? Judaism Or Jewish Nationalism The Idea of the Jewish State The Challenge of Post-Zionism The Making of Modern Zionism Zionism Forum on the Jewish People, Zionism and Israel Zionism Anti-Zionism and Antisemitism in the Contemporary World Zionism and the Jewish Religion Jews and Zionism Geoffrey Wheatcroft Walter Laqueur Gil Troy Robert Eisen Ruth Schwarz Yaacov Yadgar Richard J. H. Gottheil Benjamin Beit-Hallahmi Jeffrey Herf Elmer Berger Ben Halpern Ephraim Nimni Shlomo Avineri Gary V. Smith Jacob De Haas Robert S. Wistrich Frederick Solomon Spiers Gideon Shimoni

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*Spiers Gideon Shimoni*

after centuries of persecution and contempt european jews were slowly emancipated in the nineteenth century this gave them a chance to become what they were never allowed to be before loyal citizens of the countries where they lived as the nineteenth century wore on however this emancipation proved to be an illusion the hatred once based on religion made way for a new and more insidious form of anti semitism based on race and culture the jew was still a stranger his position the more false and humiliating for his attempt to assimilate this was the jewish question to which at the end of the nineteenth century a drastic solution was proposed in 1896 viennese journalist theodore herzl first coined the term zionism for a movement to found a homeland where jews could live free from his persecution in the controversy of zion wheatcroft shows how zionism proposed as an answer has instead raised many questions he examines in detail the debates over jewish nationalism from the time of herzl through prime minister yitzhak rabin s assassination in 1995 introducing a host of extraordinary characters disraeli and marx the early zionists hess and herzl jewish writers such as karl kraus anti semites such as belloc military zionists such as jabotinsky and noble spirited teachers such as judah magnes today there is a jewish state which is a source of healing pride for millions of jews but also a source of anxiety should they defend the religious zealots and right wing settlers who play an ever larger part in israeli life or is israel increasingly irrelevant to the fabulous success story of the jews of america this engaging and original book illuminates the current conflicts in the middle east and the continuing jewish dilemma

examines the development of zionist thought and its inherent link with the growth of antisemitism in the 19th century argues that while there were clearly other factors antisemitism was a major element in the emergence of zionism discusses the zionist view of antisemitism as the result of the jews anomalous social and economic structure in the diaspora notes the growth of zionist youth movements in germany as a reaction to antisemitic movements points out that the lack of help given to jews during the holocaust gave zionism a great impetus at the end of the second world war however it was also felt that

the idea of a jewish state had lost its raison d etre as a haven for persecuted european jews zionist leaders had anticipated persecutions and expulsions but not mass murder as a solution to the jewish problem discusses theories on antisemitism of major zionist thinkers moses hess max lilienblum leo pinsker max nordau chaim weizmann and ze ev jabolinsky

this study is a pioneering exploration of how rabbis in the religious zionist community in israel constructed a body of jewish law on war it focuses on five leading rabbis in this camp and how they dealt with a number of key moral issues that the waging of war raised

until the present day wide spread confusion regarding the meaning of the terms judaism and zionism persists both inside and outside israel the popular opinion is that the terms are synonyms but this implies the false assumption that anti zionism equals anti semitism as ruth esther schwarz shows the israeli right wing regime uses this dangerous shortcut in order to justify its ongoing colonization of palestine based on the work of israel s new historians schwarz s book aims at deconstructing the mainstream mindset concerning judaism and zionism therefore she analyses the nature of the principal ideological streams and their complex interconnections before and after 1948 she focusses on orthodox judaism religious zionism jewish radical messianism jewish fundamentalism the ideological change of traditional zionism and last but not least the role of christian zionism in the united states keywords judaism zionism israeli palestinian conflict religious zionism nationalism fundamentalism

offers a novel exploration of the relationship between religion and the state in israel the question of jewish sovereignty shapes jewish identity in israel the status of non jews and relations between israeli and diaspora jews yet its consequences remain enigmatic in sovereign jews yaakov yadgar highlights the shortcomings of mainstream discourse and offers a novel explanation of zionist ideology and the israeli polity yadgar argues that secularism s presumed binary pitting religion against politics is illusory he shows that the key to understanding this alleged dichotomy is israel s interest in maintaining its

sovereignty as the nation state of jews this creates a need to mark a majority of the population as jews and to distinguish them from non jews coupled with the failure to formulate a viable alternative national identity either hebrew or israeli it leads the ostensibly secular state to apply a narrow interpretation of jewish religion as a political tool for maintaining a jewish majority this book makes an important contribution to the study of zionist ideology and the relationship between state and religion in israel as the author shows rather convincingly zionism and the state of israel needed the jewish tradition to supply meaning to their political theological project this is a fascinating argument that expands our critical understanding of the ideological foundations of the jewish national movement eran kaplan author of beyond post zionism

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includes statistics

previously published as a special issue of the journal of israeli history this book presents the reflections of historians from israel europe canada and the united states concerning the similarities and differences between anti zionism and anti semitism primarily in europe and the middle east spanning the past century the essays explore the continuum of critique

from early challenges to zionism and they offer criteria to ascertain when criticism with particular policies has and has not coalesced into an ism of anti zionism and anti semitism including studies of england france germany poland the united states iran and israel the volume also examines the elements of continuity and break in european traditions of anti semitism and anti zionism when they diffused to the arab and islamic essential course reading for students of religious history

this volume presents the emerging debate known as post zionism about the future and characteristics of israel its contributors include some of its main protagonists israeli citizens of jewish and palestinian background they explore post zionism s meanings ambiguities and prospects and place it in its political context as israeli society seems to be reaching an ideological crossroads they also put forward criticisms of post zionism and explore its implications for out groups including palestinians israeli women and jewish people living outside israel

an expanded edition of a classic intellectual history of zionism now covering the rise of religious zionism since the 1970s for eighteen centuries pious jews had prayed for the return to jerusalem but only in the revolutionary atmosphere of nineteenth century europe was this yearning transformed into an active political movement zionism in the making of modern zionism the distinguished political scientist shlomo avineri rejects the common view that zionism was solely a reaction to anti semitism and persecution rather he sees it as part of the universal quest for self determination in sharply etched intellectual profiles of zionism s major thinkers from moses hess to theodore herzl and from vladimir jabotinsky to david ben gurion avineri traces the evolution of this quest from its intellectual origins in the early nineteenth century to the establishment of the state of israel in an expansive new epilogue he tracks the changes in israeli society and politics since 1967 which have strengthened the more radical nationalist and religious trends in zionism at the expense of its more liberal strains the result is a book that enables us to understand as perhaps never before one of the truly revolutionary ideas of our time

with its origins in a conference organized by the institute of jewish affairs in london this book asks if a common denominator

can be found between the anti semitism that has existed through the ages and more contemporary forms of anti zionism

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