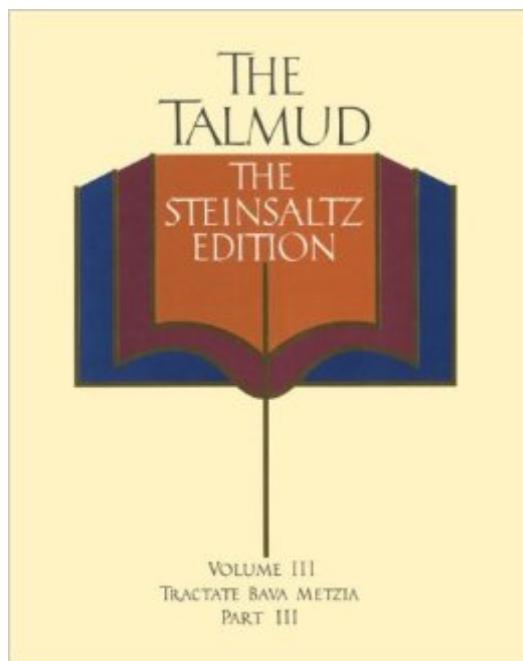


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The Talmud, Vol. 3: Tractate Bava Metzia, Part 3, The Steinsaltz Edition (English And Hebrew Edition)



Synopsis

Volume III examines the realm of business ethics and personal morality and discusses a wide range of commercial transactions and practices.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I like this set for the translation very much, it restores to the English reader the correct translation. What I mean is this. In most modern English translations (including the Soncino) passages that may be seen as offensive to Gentile readers (and there are quite a few) are changed, or escape clauses are added in the footnotes. For example, Sanhedrin 58b 'A heathen (Goy) who keeps a day of rest deserves death.' In the footnotes it is stated, 'deserves death' is not to be taken 'literally.' This is an escape clause, so that when challenged about the racist nature of the Talmud unsuspecting Gentiles can be placated. The original Hebrew does not have these additions, and Adin Steinsaltz has maintained the integrity of the Hebrew text. The problem with this set is that it is not a complete set of the Babylonian Talmud. Random House has only published the first 22 volumes. Although it cannot be proven, many suspect that the printing was stopped because of pressure from the Orthodox Rabbis, who did not want the true nature of Judaism being exposed to non-Hebrew speakers. Because of my own study and knowledge of Judaism I believe this is most likely the case. The other problem with these volumes is their price, while some are not too expensive, because of the limited availability of this set others are very pricey indeed, with used copies of some over \$250 each. All that being said, if you are looking for a really good English translation these Steinsaltz Talmud are the best available.

This edition is perfect if you're not too hot on your Aramaic. It has a clear layout and a good translation. It provides an easy to follow English version with the Hebrew laid out alongside and tries its best to keep the style and order of the original.

I use this along with the Schottenstein edition of the Talmud. Steinsaltz often has very interesting and helpful background information. The interpretations are easy to understand and accessible even if you don't have a lot of Jewish education.

I'm using it in my Talmud class with my Rabbi. It's very nice to have my own copy to take notes in.

Very educational on how it was put together.

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