



Human Nature & Jewish Thought: Judaism's Case for Why Persons Matter (Library of Jewish Ideas)

By Alan L. Mittleman

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) 

Human Nature & Jewish Thought: Judaism's Case for Why Persons Matter (Library of Jewish Ideas) By Alan L. Mittleman

This book explores one of the great questions of our time: How can we preserve our sense of what it means to be a person while at the same time accepting what science tells us to be true?namely, that human nature is continuous with the rest of nature? What, in other words, does it mean to be a person in a world of things? Alan Mittleman shows how the Jewish tradition provides rich ways of understanding human nature and personhood that preserve human dignity and distinction in a world of neuroscience, evolutionary biology, biotechnology, and pervasive scientism. These ancient resources can speak to Jewish, non-Jewish, and secular readers alike.

Science may tell us what we are, Mittleman says, but it cannot tell us who we are, how we should live, or why we matter. Traditional Jewish thought, in open-minded dialogue with contemporary scientific perspectives, can help us answer these questions. Mittleman shows how, using sources ranging across the Jewish tradition, from the Hebrew Bible and the Talmud to more than a millennium of Jewish philosophy. Among the many subjects the book addresses are sexuality, birth and death, violence and evil, moral agency, and politics and economics. Throughout, Mittleman demonstrates how Jewish tradition brings new perspectives to?and challenges many current assumptions about?these central aspects of human nature.

A study of human nature in Jewish thought and an original contribution to Jewish philosophy, this is a book for anyone interested in what it means to be human in a scientific age.

 [Download Human Nature & Jewish Thought: Judaism's Case ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Human Nature & Jewish Thought: Judaism's Ca ...pdf](#)

Human Nature & Jewish Thought: Judaism's Case for Why Persons Matter (Library of Jewish Ideas)

By Alan L. Mittleman

Human Nature & Jewish Thought: Judaism's Case for Why Persons Matter (Library of Jewish Ideas)

By Alan L. Mittleman

This book explores one of the great questions of our time: How can we preserve our sense of what it means to be a person while at the same time accepting what science tells us to be true?namely, that human nature is continuous with the rest of nature? What, in other words, does it mean to be a person in a world of things? Alan Mittleman shows how the Jewish tradition provides rich ways of understanding human nature and personhood that preserve human dignity and distinction in a world of neuroscience, evolutionary biology, biotechnology, and pervasive scientism. These ancient resources can speak to Jewish, non-Jewish, and secular readers alike.

Science may tell us what we are, Mittleman says, but it cannot tell us who we are, how we should live, or why we matter. Traditional Jewish thought, in open-minded dialogue with contemporary scientific perspectives, can help us answer these questions. Mittleman shows how, using sources ranging across the Jewish tradition, from the Hebrew Bible and the Talmud to more than a millennium of Jewish philosophy. Among the many subjects the book addresses are sexuality, birth and death, violence and evil, moral agency, and politics and economics. Throughout, Mittleman demonstrates how Jewish tradition brings new perspectives to?and challenges many current assumptions about?these central aspects of human nature.

A study of human nature in Jewish thought and an original contribution to Jewish philosophy, this is a book for anyone interested in what it means to be human in a scientific age.

Human Nature & Jewish Thought: Judaism's Case for Why Persons Matter (Library of Jewish Ideas)

By Alan L. Mittleman Bibliography

- Rank: #1501642 in Books
- Published on: 2015-04-27
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.00" h x .90" w x 5.60" l, .0 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 232 pages



[Download Human Nature & Jewish Thought: Judaism's Case ...pdf](#)



[Read Online Human Nature & Jewish Thought: Judaism's Ca ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online Human Nature & Jewish Thought: Judaism's Case for Why Persons Matter (Library of Jewish Ideas) By Alan L. Mittleman

Editorial Review

Review

"This concise and accessible exploration of personhood and its moral and spiritual implications will appeal to religious and secular thinkers, Jewish or otherwise."--**Publisher's Weekly**

"Though this content is dense, Mittleman conveys it with astonishing vivacity and nearly no philosophical jargon, producing a compelling, cogent rejoinder to the New Atheists that saves the baby--science--while dumping the bathwater--scientism--of antimetaphysical debates."--**Booklist**

"Every so often . . . a book comes along which deals with an important philosophical concept and is written in a style that is at once academically rigorous and accessible to the non-philosophers among us. *Human Nature & Jewish Thought* is such a volume, thanks to Alan L. Mittleman's lucid writing and clear articulation of his positions."--**Jewish Book Council**

"[P]rovocative and compelling. . . . This deeply insightful and readable volume exemplifies how, even in a scientific age, religious writings--in this case, the sources of Judaism--have much to add to contemporary philosophical and scientific debate."--**Choice**

"Mittleman presents an erudite and elegant brief for human dignity. . . . This passionate and evocative book illustrates some of the challenges confronting projects to introduce Jewish texts into Western philosophical discourse."--**Julie E. Cooper, Review of Politics**

"[An] excellent new book."--**Dr. Erica Brown, Jewish World Review**

From the Back Cover

"This book is lucid, deeply erudite, and significant. In bringing Jewish sources into conversation with contemporary scientific claims about human nature, Alan Mittleman makes a strong and lively argument for the enduring centrality of human dignity, the profound possibilities of human life, and the importance of considering Jewish voices in ongoing debates about human nature. Anyone interested in Jewish thought, what it means to be human, or both, will benefit and learn a great deal from this wonderful work."--**Leora F. Batnitzky, Princeton University**

"*Human Nature & Jewish Thought* is a personal, humane, and nuanced defense of the importance of our moral lives to what it means to be a human being, a defense that does complete justice to recent philosophical and scientific contributions yet is marked by a firm control of classical, medieval, and contemporary Jewish sources. Alan Mittleman writes with grace and intelligence. This is a wonderful example of how to write Jewishly and philosophically about central puzzles and problems that face us all."--**Michael L. Morgan, University of Toronto**

"An eloquent, tightly written, and insightful reflection on the meaning of being human, Alan Mittleman's book bridges the gap between traditional Jewish accounts of human nature and contemporary philosophy, science, and social theory. His philosophically informed defense of personhood is an important contribution to the debate about human dignity in our technological age."--**Hava Tirosh-Samuelson, Arizona State University**

"Alan Mittleman, an outstanding contributor to philosophically serious Jewish thought, builds a solid structure of deeply spiritual but always open-eyed reflections. He invites readers on an intellectual journey that confronts and deflates many idols of the age with reasoned argument informed by Jewish tradition, without appeal to authority or blind, reactive romanticism."--**Lenn Goodman, Vanderbilt University**

"This timely and readable work connects biblical and rabbinic thought with enduring questions concerning human nature, highlighting the substantial contemporary relevance of those traditions of thought. *Human Nature & Jewish Thought* explains how ideas with an ancient anchoring remain strongly relevant to reflection on human self-understanding and to values integral to leading distinctively human lives."--
Jonathan Jacobs, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, CUNY

About the Author

Alan L. Mittleman is professor of modern Jewish thought at the Jewish Theological Seminary. His books include *A Short History of Jewish Ethics* and *Hope in a Democratic Age*.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Thomas Llanos:

In this 21st one hundred year, people become competitive in every single way. By being competitive at this point, people have do something to make these survives, being in the middle of the particular crowded place and notice simply by surrounding. One thing that often many people have underestimated the idea for a while is reading. Yep, by reading a book your ability to survive improve then having chance to endure than other is high. For you personally who want to start reading some sort of book, we give you this particular *Human Nature & Jewish Thought: Judaism's Case for Why Persons Matter* (Library of Jewish Ideas) book as starter and daily reading guide. Why, because this book is more than just a book.

Paul Cockrell:

In this period globalization it is important to someone to get information. The information will make you to definitely understand the condition of the world. The condition of the world makes the information easier to share. You can find a lot of referrals to get information example: internet, newspapers, book, and soon. You will observe that now, a lot of publisher which print many kinds of book. Typically the book that recommended for your requirements is *Human Nature & Jewish Thought: Judaism's Case for Why Persons Matter* (Library of Jewish Ideas) this guide consist a lot of the information from the condition of this world now. This specific book was represented how can the world has grown up. The dialect styles that writer make usage of to explain it is easy to understand. The actual writer made some research when he makes this book. Here is why this book ideal all of you.

Nancy Maxfield:

Don't be worry when you are afraid that this book will probably filled the space in your house, you could have it in e-book approach, more simple and reachable. This kind of *Human Nature & Jewish Thought: Judaism's Case for Why Persons Matter* (Library of Jewish Ideas) can give you a lot of pals because by you

considering this one book you have factor that they don't and make anyone more like an interesting person. This kind of book can be one of one step for you to get success. This guide offer you information that maybe your friend doesn't realize, by knowing more than other make you to be great folks. So , why hesitate? Let's have Human Nature & Jewish Thought: Judaism's Case for Why Persons Matter (Library of Jewish Ideas).

Sabrina Crockett:

A lot of publication has printed but it is unique. You can get it by internet on social media. You can choose the best book for you, science, amusing, novel, or whatever by searching from it. It is called of book Human Nature & Jewish Thought: Judaism's Case for Why Persons Matter (Library of Jewish Ideas). You can add your knowledge by it. Without making the printed book, it could add your knowledge and make you happier to read. It is most significant that, you must aware about reserve. It can bring you from one place to other place.

**Download and Read Online Human Nature & Jewish Thought:
Judaism's Case for Why Persons Matter (Library of Jewish Ideas)
By Alan L. Mittleman #MFE4RIVSLH3**

Read Human Nature & Jewish Thought: Judaism's Case for Why Persons Matter (Library of Jewish Ideas) By Alan L. Mittleman for online ebook

Human Nature & Jewish Thought: Judaism's Case for Why Persons Matter (Library of Jewish Ideas) By Alan L. Mittleman Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read Human Nature & Jewish Thought: Judaism's Case for Why Persons Matter (Library of Jewish Ideas) By Alan L. Mittleman books to read online.

Online Human Nature & Jewish Thought: Judaism's Case for Why Persons Matter (Library of Jewish Ideas) By Alan L. Mittleman ebook PDF download

Human Nature & Jewish Thought: Judaism's Case for Why Persons Matter (Library of Jewish Ideas) By Alan L. Mittleman Doc

Human Nature & Jewish Thought: Judaism's Case for Why Persons Matter (Library of Jewish Ideas) By Alan L. Mittleman MobiPocket

Human Nature & Jewish Thought: Judaism's Case for Why Persons Matter (Library of Jewish Ideas) By Alan L. Mittleman EPub

MFE4RIVSLH3: Human Nature & Jewish Thought: Judaism's Case for Why Persons Matter (Library of Jewish Ideas) By Alan L. Mittleman