



## Maimonides – Between Philosophy and Halakhah: Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik's Lectures on the Guide of the Perplexed

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## Maimonides – Between Philosophy and Halakhah: Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik's Lectures on the Guide of the Perplexed

This is the first and only comprehensive study of the philosophy of Maimonides by the noted 20th-century rabbinic scholar and thinker, Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik. Based on a complete set of notes, taken by Rabbi Gerald (Yaakov) Homnick, on R. Soloveitchik's lectures on Maimonides' *Guide of the Perplexed* at the Bernard Revel Graduate School, and edited by the noted scholar Lawrence Kaplan, this work constitutes a major contribution to our knowledge of both Maimonides and Soloveitchik. In these lectures Soloveitchik emerges as a major commentator on the Guide. In a wide-ranging analysis he eloquently and incisively explores such diverse topics in Maimonides' philosophy as his views on prophecy, the knowledge of and approach to God—normative, intellectual, and experiential; divine knowledge; human ethics and moral excellence; the divine creative act; imitation of God; and the love and fear of God. He also undertakes an extensive and penetrating comparison and contrast of Maimonides' and Aristotle's philosophical views. Over the course of these lectures develops a very profound and challenging overall approach to and interpretation of the Guide's central and critical issue: the relationship between philosophy and divine law. This work sheds a bright light on the thought of both Maimonides and Soloveitchik—two great philosophers and rabbinic scholars.

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