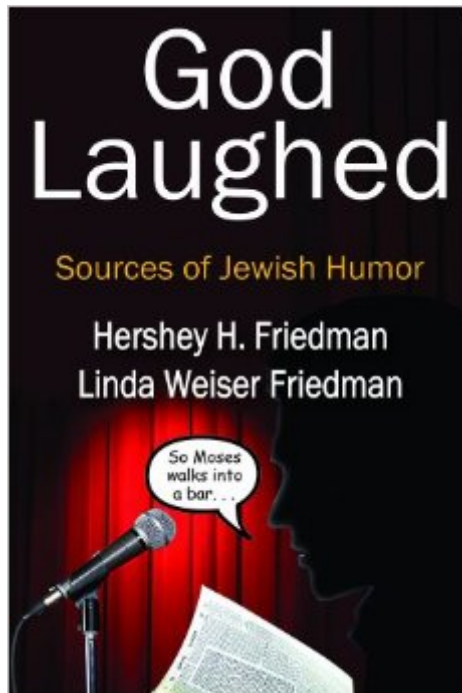


The book was found

# God Laughed: Sources Of Jewish Humor (Jewish Studies)



## Synopsis

Humor has had a profound effect on the way the Jewish people see the world, and has sustained them through millennia of hardships and suffering. *God Laughed* reviews, organizes, and categorizes the humor of the ancient Jewish texts—the Hebrew Bible, the Talmud, and Midrash—in a clear, readable, and accessible manner. These works have influenced the Jewish people in many ways, and all are replete with humor and wit. Inevitably, this oeuvre of Jewish humor has itself influenced generations of comics, as well as genres of humor. The authors use examples of Biblical humor from several broad categories, including irony, sarcasm, wordplay, humorous names, humorous imagery, and humorous situations. Because their primary purpose is not to entertain, but to teach humanity how to live the ideal life, much of the humor in the Talmud and the Midrash has a single purpose: to demonstrate that evil is wrong and even, at times, ludicrous. This may help explain why approximately 1,500 years after its closing, the Talmud is still such a fascinating work. *God Laughed* is the latest addition to Transaction's Jewish Studies series.

## Book Information

Series: Jewish Studies

Hardcover: 366 pages

Publisher: Transaction Publishers (May 1, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1412853761

ISBN-13: 978-1412853767

Product Dimensions: 1 x 5.8 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.4 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars — See all reviews (6 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,246,244 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #123 in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Humor > Theories of Humor #123 in Books > Literature & Fiction > History & Criticism > Genres & Styles > Humor #1037 in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Humor > Comedy

## Customer Reviews

Wow! I wouldn't have thought it possible: a book that's fun, funny, and in the end, a breathtaking window into the depths of one of the world's oldest religions. That's right — this is not just about some recent turns in Jewish ethnic history, whether they run through the Borscht Belt or the LA sets of *Seinfeld* and *Curb* — though it gets there, too. Instead, the authors show that

today's Jewish comics are, in fact, heir to a millennia-old tradition of capturing ultimate (and even mundane) truths with humor, even when that means making fun of God Himself, who, we find out, enjoys a good laugh as much as the rest of us. Of course, this is not a work of earnest piety; the authors treated me to a delicious taste of the wicked ironies that prophets, Talmudists and rabbinic authorities wrought when they tried, with imagination that verged on insanity, to understand the God they so revered. In the end, this book shows just how such irreverence can be religious after all, even as religion is exposed to be, at times, deeply and brilliantly irreverent. A must, must read!!

Erudite, informative, fun. What else could one ask for? I've already half-read it, half skimmed, and will settle down on a rainy day sometime to read it cover-to-cover. Firm impression: Great book.

This is an outstanding and well written publication which is a jewel. I encourage Harvard Alumni friends and colleagues to add this important work to their Ethics library and am 100% in agreement with the following review by Professor Helmreich, *God Laughed* is a brilliant analysis of a fascinating aspect of the Talmud that demonstrates its universality and timeless appeal. The authors have produced a work that is ingenious, witty, and truly original and which will appeal to all those interested in religious studies, Judaica, and intellectual history. • "William Helmreich, City University of New York Graduate Center and City College of New York.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

God Laughed: Sources of Jewish Humor (Jewish Studies) God Has A Sense Of Humor For Heaven's Sake: A Collection of Religious Humor Performing Marginality: Humor, Gender, and Cultural Critique (Humor in Life and Letters Series) The Other in Jewish Thought and History: Constructions of Jewish Culture and Identity (New Perspectives on Jewish Studies) The Religious Thought of Hasidism: Text and Commentary (Sources and Studies in Kabbalah, Hasidism, and Jewish Thought, V. 4) Wholesale Sources: With more than 200 Product Sources for your eBay, , Flea Market and E-Commerce store. International Relations, International Security, and Comparative Politics: A Guide to Reference and Information Sources (Reference Sources in the Social Sciences) I Love God's Sense of Humor; I Just Wish He'd Let Me in on the Joke The Big Book of Jewish Humor The Science of Likability: Charm, Wit, Humor, and the 16 Studies That Show You How To Master Them Same God, Other god: Judaism, Hinduism, and the Problem of Idolatry (Interreligious Studies in Theory and Practice) Jewish Salonica: Between the Ottoman Empire and Modern Greece (Stanford Studies in Jewish History and C) The Making of a Reform Jewish Cantor: Musical Authority, Cultural Investment (A Helen B. Schwartz Book in Jewish Studies) The Jewish

Story Finder: A Guide to 668 Tales Listing Subjects and Sources Fibonacci's Liber Abaci: A Translation into Modern English of Leonardo Pisano's Book of Calculation (Sources and Studies in the History of Mathematics and Physical Sciences) Aviation Humor: Poking Fun At Airplane & Helicopter Pilots 500+ Jokes, Tongue-Twisters, & Fun Facts For Kids! (Corny Humor For The Family) (Volume 1) CARtoons Vol. 1: THREE COMPLETE ISSUES OF THE CLASSIC 1970s AUTOMOTIVE HUMOR MAGAZINE: OVER 200 PAGES OF AUTOMOBILE ANTICS, CRAZY CARS AND HILARIOUS HOT-RODS (MAGAZINE CLASSICS) CARtoons Vol. 2: THREE COMPLETE ISSUES OF THE CLASSIC 1980s AUTOMOTIVE HUMOR MAGAZINE: OVER 180 PAGES OF AUTOMOBILE ANTICS, CRAZY CARS AND HILARIOUS HOT-RODS (MAGAZINE CLASSICS) Caricature Carving from Head to Toe: A Complete Step-by-Step Guide to Capturing Expression and Humor in Wood

[Dmca](#)