The present volume honors Rabbi Professor Nehemia Polen, a rare scholar whose religious teachings, spiritual writings, and academic scholarship come together into a sustained project of interpretive imagination and engagement. With intellectual integrity and remarkable religious insight, Polen’s work expands the reach of Torah into an academic quest for ever-broadening depth and connectivity. The essays in this collection, written by students, colleagues, and friends, are a testament to his enduring impact on the scholarly community. The contributions explore a range of historical periods and themes, centering upon the fields dear to Polen’s heart, but they are united by a common thread: each essay is grounded in deeply engaged textual scholarship casting a glance upon the sources that are at once critical and beneficent. As a whole, they seek to give readers a richer sense of the fabric of Jewish interpretation and theology, including the history of Jewish mysticism, the promise and perils of premodern and early modern texts.

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Studies in Jewish Thought and Theology in Honor of Nehemia Polen

Edited by

Ariel Evan Mayse and Arthur Green

Boston
2019
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