



# The Gods Are Broken!: The Hidden Legacy of Abraham

*Rabbi Jeffrey K. Salkin*

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## The Gods Are Broken!: The Hidden Legacy of Abraham Rabbi Jeffrey K. Salkin

The story of Abraham smashing his father's idols might be the most important Jewish story ever told and the key to how Jews define themselves. In a work at once deeply erudite and wonderfully accessible, Rabbi Jeffrey K. Salkin conducts readers through the life and legacy of this powerful story and explains how it has shaped Jewish consciousness.

Offering a radical view of Jewish existence, *The Gods Are Broken!* views the story of the young Abraham as the primal trauma of Jewish history, one critical to the development of a certain Jewish comfort with rebelliousness and one that, happening in every generation, has helped Jews develop a unique identity. Salkin shows how the story continues to reverberate through the ages, even in its connection to the phenomenon of anti-Semitism.

Salkin's work combining biblical texts, archaeology, rabbinic insights, Hasidic texts (some never before translated), philosophy, history, poetry, contemporary Jewish thought, sociology, and popular culture is nothing less than a journey through two thousand years of Jewish life and intellectual endeavor.

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