

(Mobile ebook) Baruch or Benedict: On Some Jewish Aspects of Spinoza's Philosophy (American University Studies)

Baruch or Benedict: On Some Jewish Aspects of Spinoza's Philosophy (American University Studies)

Ze'ev Levy

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Ze'ev Levy : Baruch or Benedict: On Some Jewish Aspects of Spinoza's Philosophy (American University Studies) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Baruch or Benedict: On Some Jewish Aspects of Spinoza's Philosophy (American University Studies):

This book investigates various aspects of the controversial relations between Spinoza's philosophy and his Jewish background. It examines some important trends of medieval Jewish philosophy on the shaping of Spinoza's thought - particularly the impact of Maimonides. The book elucidates the differences between Spinoza and his predecessors in regard to Bible criticism, and dwells extensively on the concepts of Substance and Pantheism. It also discusses Spinoza's views of Judaism and the Jewish people, the relationship between state and religion, and some problems of his Hebrew Grammar.

The telling title of this book fairly summarizes its content - a responsible treatment of the sore and important question of Spinoza's relationships to Judaism. The author, while an admirer of the philosopher, does not hesitate to be critical of him when objective considerations require this. Also, Levy is so widely literate in the history of modern philosophy,

down to date, that he refers frequently to significant consequences, parallels, and philosophical implications of Spinoza's work, and the interested reader can thus always pursue a given topic very productively. Scholar and student will get their attention's worth, and more, out of this book. (Steven S. Schwarzschild, Washington University)