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Jewish Identity in Modern Times: Leo Baeck and German Protestantism (Hardback)

By Walter Homolka

Berghahn Books, Incorporated, United States, 1995. Hardback. Condition: New. Reprint. Language: English . Brand New Book. There is no doubt about Baeck s contribution to Jewish theology in the twentieth century: it has been significant. Without ever departing completely from the ancient wellsprings of orthodoxy, he was a studious observer of the intellectual currents of his time and ambience; under the influence of liberal Jewish theology, he drew on and reworked those currents, weaving them into his own theological thought. A special aspect of Baeck s work is that he remained in critical confrontation with Christianity throughout his life, acting as a kind of builder of bridges between the two faiths. (From the Introduction.) It is on this aspect that the author focuses his study in which he examines Leo Baeck s critical evaluation of Martin Luther and Protestantism. At the same time Homolka shows how close the intellectual links between liberal Christian and liberal Jewish theology had become before the Holocaust: both sides attempted a new definition of the essence of their faiths and were searching for a new identity in an increasingly pluralistic and secular society.



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