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Isis Unveiled: Vol. I & II



Synopsis

In Isis Unveiled, Blavatsky dismantles every artifice of human thought structures. With one volume on science and another on religion, the full array of ancient and modern wisdom is examined... to unveil the hidden truth of reality. This version has been custom formatted for Kindle and includes an interactive table of contents.

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Customer Reviews

I recommend this edition of "Isis Unveiled" as it has detailed endnotes from the editor that situate key textual references within their nineteenth century context. This edition also has an important historical introduction by its editor Boris de Zirkoff. That being said, it is important to note that these two volumes, purported to be dictated or inspired by disincarnate and incarnate personalities, contain a stunning wealth of historical, mythical, philosophical, and semi-scientific material. Blavatsky wrote the text to resurrect what she called the "Ancient Wisdom" during a period of scientific materialism on the one side and spiritualism, with its claims about the life of the dead, on the other. She wished to situate her theosophical perspective within an older Platonic tradition that would give due place to matter (an inferior but quite real position) and yet to the power of spirit to shape and transform matter. Her fight with Darwin did not entail a simple rejection, but rather left the

field of physical evolution to him (and Wallace), while making room for a prior (temporally and ontologically) involution in which spirit encased itself more and more in matter. In her view, we have reached the deepest level of involution and are now on the cusp of a return back toward the light of spirit from which we have come. She posited an emanationist Platonic cosmology but one that tried, not always successfully, to honor the science of the nineteenth century. Yet she was also a master polemicist and took on the Christian theology of her time, with special hatred reserved for the missionaries working in India.

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