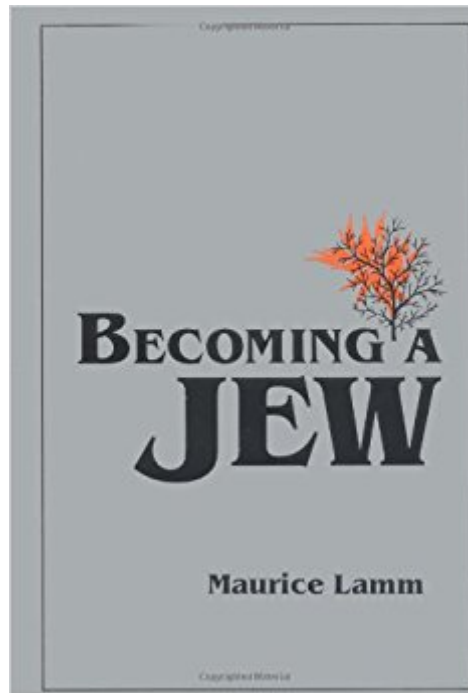




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# Becoming A Jew



## Synopsis

The author of the highly popular *Jewish Way in Death and Mourning* and *Jewish Way in Love and Marriage* offers us a work designed expressly for non-Jews who are contemplating converting, for those who have already converted, and for Jews by birth who wish to gain deeper insight into their heritage. *Becoming a Jew* describes the odyssey of the convert and charts the traditional approach to conversion. Written in a crisp, contemporary style, this volume addresses questions converts frequently have relating to the procedures of conversion. An invaluable contribution.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 462 pages

Publisher: Jonathan David Pub; 1st US -3rd Printing edition (October 1991)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0824603508

ISBN-13: 978-0824603502

Product Dimensions: 1.8 x 6.2 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.8 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 35 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #285,389 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #157 in *Books > Religion & Spirituality > Judaism > Jewish Life*

## Customer Reviews

Lamm details conversion to Judaism as a process, a series of rituals, and as an entrance to a new community and lifestyle. Seventeen converts give moving testimony to the difficulties and blessings of their becoming Jewish. The traditional conversion process is explained, and various aspects of day-to-day Jewish observance and theology are detailed. Discussion of the Jewish year and rites of passage make this book useful for non-Jews wishing to understand Jewish practices, as well as for nonobservant Jews desiring deeper understanding of their heritage. Highly recommended for public libraries. Copyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc.

"Becoming a Jew is a good resource for Jewish educators, those studying basic Judaism, or adult bar/bat mitzvah students. Its use should be accompanied by material written from either a Reform or liberal perspective so that the student has a broad view of the conversion process." --

Compass" After reading Rabbi Maurice Lamm's new book *Becoming a Jew*, a, I was doubly impressed: I was left with a renewed respect for individuals who had willingly thrown in their lot with

the Jewish people, and, after being afforded a glimpse of my own life-long religion through the eyes of those who were drawn to Judaism's teachings from afar, I was reminded of the power Judaism has had to attract converts throughout the ages, even in times of the most extreme persecution. . . .

Becoming a Jew is a book which most Jews, both those born into the Covenant of Abraham and those who later converted, will find most interesting. . . . Many times while reading the book I was moved to tears by Rabbi Lamm's most beautiful and eloquent explanations of Jewish concepts that perhaps I had taken for granted. How grateful I am for having been bestowed access to all these gifts through no act of my own, I thought again and again as I read further. . . . I found Becoming a Jew both informative and inspirational reading which I wholeheartedly recommend without hesitation." -- *Algemeiner Journal*"After reading Rabbi Maurice Lamm's new book *Becoming a Jew*, I was doubly impressed: I was left with a renewed respect for individuals who had willingly thrown in their lot with the Jewish people, and, after being afforded a glimpse of my own life-long religion through the eyes of those who were drawn to Judaism's teachings from afar, I was reminded of the power Judaism has had to attract converts throughout the ages, even in times of the most extreme persecution. . . . Becoming a Jew is a book which most Jews, both those born into the Covenant of Abraham and those who later converted, will find most interesting. . . . Many times while reading the book I was moved to tears by Rabbi Lamm's most beautiful and eloquent explanations of Jewish concepts that perhaps I had taken for granted. How grateful I am for having been bestowed access to all these gifts through no act of my own, I thought again and again as I read further. . . . I found Becoming a Jew both informative and inspirational reading which I wholeheartedly recommend without hesitation." -- *Algemeiner Journal*"An invaluable contribution to any reader seeking an accurate description of Jewish belief, custom, and religious lifestyle." -- *The Bookwatch*"Becoming a Jew is a good resource for Jewish educators, those studying basic Judaism, or adult bar/bat mitzvah students. Its use should be accompanied by material written from either a Reform or liberal perspective so that the student has a broad view of the conversion process." -- *Compass*"Becoming a Jew is primarily directed to non-Jews contemplating conversion and those who have already done so. Rabbi Lamm points out that conversion is much more than a profession of faith. It involves laws and traditions, life cycle events and holidays, ideals and values. This book is excellent for both those born into the Jewish faith and those who have chosen to become Jews." -- *The Jewish Voice*"Becoming a Jew is thorough and simple enough to become a textbook for converts, yet its analysis of little-known halachot makes it an important reference manual for even the long-time convert." -- *The Jerusalem Post*"Highly recommended for public libraries." -- *Library Journal*"Rabbi Maurice Lamm's book *Becoming a Jew* succeeds admirably in addressing the three audiences to

whom it is primarily directed-non-Jews who are contemplating converting, those who have already converted, and Jews by birth who wish to gain a deeper insight into their heritage. But the work is so valuable, so concise in its language and so sensitive in its approach, that I recommend it as well to rabbis, students, recent or potential ba'alei teshuva (born Jews who are returning to the faith) and anyone, Jew or non-Jew, seeking an overview and depth of analysis of Jewish belief and practice."

-- Jewish Press"With the publication of Rabbi Maurice Lamm's *Becoming a Jew*, we now hear loudly and clearly the voice of a spokesman of the Modern Orthodoxy of Yeshiva University. *Becoming a Jew* is an informative and sensitively written book about everything the potential convert, the new convert, and the extended born Jewish family should know about the halakha that governs conversion to Judaism." -- Jewish Spectator

I am a Jew. I am a Jew because I now know the history of my Sephardic (and Ashkenazi) ancestors and I know my nature. But to be formally accepted by the community, I have to go through the conversion process. This book is a fantastic guide to both converts to the Faith of Israel as well as to those who were brought up in a secular lifestyle and now seek to reconnect spiritually with a Jewish community. It is priceless.

The Rabbinical Council of America recommends this book to those who want to convert to Judaism and for good reason. It is an excellent book that lays out very clearly what is expected of a convert. Although, the book is for those converting to Orthodox Judaism it is also, useful for those choosing either conservative or reform.

Still reading; was one of the first books recommended to me when I expressed a desire to convert. A lot of good information presented in here in a very calm and cheerful manner.

I am on my way to becoming a Jew. I have read other books about conversion and this one answers all my questions.

This book is mandatory for anything thinking about becoming a Jew. It is concise, and deals with some themes absent in other sources, as the relationship between the convert and his(her) family. Enjoyable reading, though not forgetting the "technical" aspects of the process. If you want to become a Jew, this is the book to start from.

Very very helpful.

I've purchased other book about conversion but this book is by far the most inclusive. It includes just about everything you would need or like to know about the Jewish people, regulations regarding conversion, and what life is like following a conversion. There is also a handy section that explains the Holidays. It had indeed been helpful and I think it would be useful to anyone wanting to convert or just know more about the people or the process.

It is much better than I expected!

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An Underground Life: Memoirs of a Gay Jew in Nazi Berlin (Living Out: Gay and Lesbian Autobiog)  
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