

The Zohar

The Book Of Radiance

Daniel 12:3 The enlightened will shine like the radiance of the sky. Ke zohar ha rakiya

The Attainment of States Of Paranormal Consciousness

Moses de Leon 13th Century Castile

See also: Catalonia, Province

16th Century

Safed

The Problem of Authentication: Shimon bar Yochai

Earlier Sources

Ezekial

Daniel

Talmud

Heikhalot Literature - 2d - 5th Centuries CE

The Contemporary Scene

We may call the 12th and 13th centuries, centuries of concealment and revelation of Jewish creativity. The rise of esoteric teachings is linked to a crisis, to discontent with the revealed layer of the Torah. Secrecy enables the absorption and integration of new elements because its very existence expands the receptivity of authoritative texts to new meanings by an immeasurable quotient. We may state at the outset that the act of announcing the existence of the esoteric is the beginning of its disclosure....

Moshe Halbertal - Concealment and Revelation: Esotericism In Jewish Thought And Its Philosophical Implications.

Current research on the 12th century religious revival...depicts a burgeoning throughout Europe of new forms of communities with new rules and customs providing new self definitions and articulating new values....Moreover the use of female metaphors by both men and women undoubtedly has roots in the social changes of the period. Both erotic and maternal metaphors became prominent at a time when many spiritual writers have grown up in families...We should also remember that the great increase in groups of religious women and in female followers of wandering preachers heterodox and orthodox was accompanied by male resistance as well as male support....

Carolyn Bynum - Jesus As Mother: Studies In The Spirituality Of The High Middle Ages