

**A RABBI'S IMPRESSIONS OF THE  
OBERAMMERGAU PASSION PLAY;  
BEING A SERIES OF SIX LECTURES.  
WITH THREE SUPPLEMENTAL  
CHAPTERS BEARING ON THE SUBJECT**

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A rabbi's impressions of the Oberammergau passion play; being a series of six lectures. With three supplemental chapters bearing on the subject by Joseph Krauskopf

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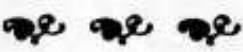
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**JOSEPH KRAUSKOPF**

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BY

*Rabbi Joseph Krauskopf, D.D.*

PHILADELPHIA

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*Eighth Edition.*

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*To My Wife,*

BY WHOSE SUGGESTION I WITNESSED  
THE PASSION PLAY AT OBERAMMERGAU, AND  
BY WHOSE ENCOURAGEMENT I GAVE  
UTTERANCE TO THE THOUGHTS EXPRESSED  
WITHIN THESE PAGES,

*I dedicate this volume with affection  
and appreciation.*



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## Foreword

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ORIGINALLY but one lecture on the *Oberammergau Passion Play* was contemplated by the author. Developing his subject, he found himself obliged, in justice to his theme, to make of the one lecture three. The widespread interest which the treatment of the subject awakened, and the keen desire of large audiences, and of a yet larger reading public—both of Jews and non-Jews—to hear and read more and more of a *Rabbi's Impressions* of that unique presentation of the gospel story of Christ's Passion at Oberammergau, not only changed the three lectures into six, not only exhausted two large pamphlet issues of them, but has also necessitated this new edition, supplemented by a number of chapters, which bear on the subject, and which throw additional light on the question discussed.

But the great demand for these lectures is not the only reason for their issuance in book-form. They would have been delivered

## *Foreword*

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from the pulpit of the Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel, even if no interest in them had been evinced, and they would have been issued in printed form, even if no one had shown a desire to peruse them. The discourses would have been obliged to create that interest, no matter how difficult the task, no matter how slow the progress. The *Oberammergau Passion Play* has made clear that there are falsehoods enacted and taught that must be uprooted, and that there are truths suppressed that must be brought to light, and given the widest publicity, if the Jew is to be spared further suffering, and if the Christian is to be saved from further wrong-doing against Israel.

This is the purpose of this book. It is issued for the Jew and for the non-Jew, with love for both, in the spirit of truth, in the interest of peace. It is believed that the book contains a possibility of reuniting in Jesus, the man, those who have been separated in Jesus, the Christ. It is believed that with such an end as a possibility, the book may at least be found deserving of a thoughtful perusal.