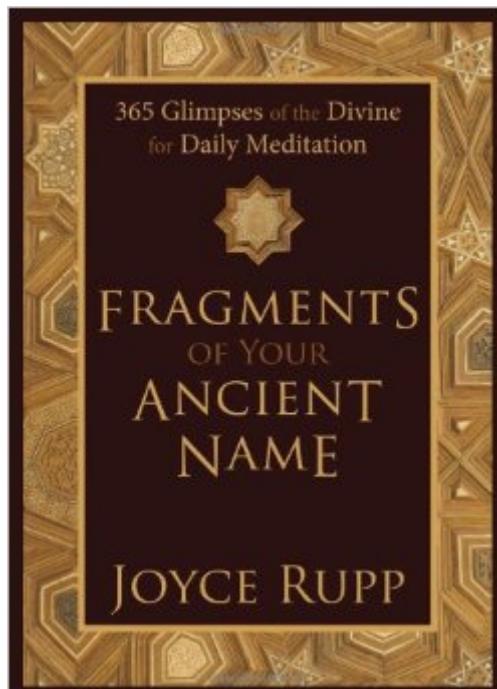


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# **Fragments Of Your Ancient Name: 365 Glimpses Of The Divine For Daily Meditation**



## **Synopsis**

With over one million books sold in her career, Joyce Rupp presents her newest undertaking: a unique collection of daily meditations that draw from Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Hindu, and other sources, offering wisdom and insight about the God who is beyond all names. Bestselling author Joyce Rupp once again proves herself a wise and gentle spiritual midwife, drawing forth 365 names of God from the world's spiritual treasury. *Fragments of Your Ancient Name*--whose title comes from a poem by German mystic Rainer Maria Rilke--assembles a remarkable collection of reflections for each day of the year. This unique and profound devotional will heighten awareness of the many names by which God is known around the world. Whether drawing from the Psalms, Sufi saints, Hindu poets, Native American rituals, contemporary writers, or the Christian gospels, Rupp stirs the imagination and the heart to discover a new dimension of God. Each name is explored in a ten-line poetic meditation and is complemented by a simple sentence that serves as a reminder of the name of God throughout the day.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Litanies, or the repeating of various names of Jesus or Mary, as a form of prayer has a long tradition in the Catholic Church. In "Fragments of Your Ancient Name," Joyce Rupp explores 365 names for God - one for each day of the year. We can never fully name God - He is a reality beyond our understanding. "The names that humans provide to portray this sacred essence contain only a hint of the one who stirs within the heart and life of each created being. . . [yet] each glimpse allows us a

step further on the bridge uniting us with this eternal goodness."Rupp reaches both within and outside of her own Judeo-Christian background for the source of these names. As she states, "I learned not to be afraid that the names used by other religions might take away from my own relationship with God. . .If we can open our minds and hearts, we may well find that the varied attributes of divinity expand our vision of who 'God' is and draw us deeper into relationship with the Holy One." Therefore, within these pages one will find familiar names such as "Father" and "Abba" and "Blessed Trinity" along with unfamiliar titles such as "Shakti" and "The Clement." There are also many less traditional names for God. For example, "Mother of the Weary," "Deep Well," and "Tear-Wiper" are all included. Each day features a name for God, the source of that name, a reflection, and a task for the day relating to the given aspect of God. This book need not be used in chronological order, however. One could simply open the book and find a page that speaks to the reader at that moment. No doubt some will become favorites and be referred to again and again."Fragments of Your Ancient Name" will challenge readers to expand how they think about, and name, God. It is a wonderful source of inspiration.

Once again, Joyce Rupp has produced an outstanding book to deepen one's spiritual life. I am always confident when I buy anything she writes that I will be blessed....this book definitely fits that category. After enduring the phrase "Father, God" a zillion times, I now have 364 more names that I can call upon when I want to invoke the Divine....and I'm sure I'll share this book with some of my friends and family who seem to only see God as Male and a Father. The 10 phrase prayer for each name is perfect for using a Chaplet of prayer beads with each day's offering.

Joyce Rupp's words are constant companions in my spiritual life. This beautiful book is the beginning to each day.

While I very much love the idea behind this book, Rupp's handling of it is flawed. Specifically, Rupp's consistent phobia of transcendence sabotages her entire project and is especially jarring when she "includes" names of transcendence only in the next breath to reject or rob them of their meaning. Her meditation for January 31st is a perfect example where she "includes" the Name "Holy One" only to flat out deny its meaning. I know I can't be the only one who takes great comfort and strength from meditating on the One who is both utterly beyond my human comprehension AND closer to me than my own breath. Transcendence is at least as much a quality of the Divine as Immanence, and Rupp's work suffers from her rejection of it. I was really hoping to find a book of

meditations that spans as much as humanly possible the Names of the Divine. Unfortunately this isn't it.

This is a beautiful little book of reflections that are ideal for busy people. Each page is a simple thought for the day. I haven't gone through a year with it yet, but the daily reflections I have read have brought both insight and inspiration to my days so far. I'm looking forward to the next several months.

This is my second copy of Fragment of Your Ancient Name. I read, reread and re-reread my original copy so many times, it's falling apart. I so wish Joyce Rupp would write a new year long devotional book. She is so inspired and inspiring.

This book contains meditative ten-line poems that explore the various aspects or "names" of God. Drawn from several religious traditions, the prayer-poems are lovely, intimate, and profound. Their simplicity helps make the experience of the loving Divine Presence immediate and personal. This is a book to keep on the night stand, within easy reach.

Drawing from texts across ages and traditions, Joyce Rupp has used these names of God as a starting point for beautiful, poetic reflections that are succinct and soul-searching. The concluding daily mantra is a perfect summary of the power of the name to transform the mindful reader.

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