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Jewish thought is the result of generations grappling to reconcile a monotheistic faith with scriptures that were written in a non-monotheistic world. In the face of challenges from non-Jewish religions and later a secular world, rabbis and theologians offered responses that varied racidally from one another. This talk will survey some ideas, including the image of God, the meaning of religious practice, and what universal message, if any, Judaism has to offer to the world.

Aryeh Amihay is Associate Professor of World History at Shanghai Normal University. He has a PhD in Religion from Princeton University. He has taught at Lawrence University, University of California-Santa Barbara, and the University of Tennessee. His book, "Theory and Practice in Essene Law" was published by Oxford University Press. In 2023 he won the Shanghai Magnolia Award for overseas scholars as part of the 1000 Talents program.

<u>China Crossroads</u> hosts talks on all topics related to China, including business, foreign policy, and other areas as they relate to China, the idea being that China is both already a "crossroads" of the world and itself at a "crossroads" in terms of its future global influence. For more information, contact Frank Tsai at <u>editor@shanghai-review.org</u>.