

## **Felix de Mendelssohn**

***".... Many dark emotional forces .... but also a clear consciousness of the same internal psychic structure....." - Freud's Creation and the Jewish Tradition***

Freud's above description of his own sense of Jewish identity, which he says can hardly be put into words, is couched in psychoanalytic terms, wedding the idea of dark unconscious impulse with that of clarity of insight. His life-long struggle to understand the Jewish and the antisemitic climate in which he grew up was marked by this uneasy, sometimes turbulent marriage, of the Rational coming to grips with the Irrational. It defined his own Jewish identity and became the *raison d'être* for his original creation of a new scientific method and his search for an institutional form to develop and transmit it . Freud's own approach toward a "deconstruction" of the Jewish faith in his Moses book is at the same time fraught with questions about the future survival of his "psychoanalytic movement".

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