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Nota di contenuto	Cover -- Title Page -- Copyright -- Contents -- Abbreviations -- Introduction to the Translation -- Notes on the Translation -- For Further Reading -- Morning Hours or, Lectures on the Existence of God -- Preliminary Remarks -- Part One Epistemic Groundwork, Concerning Truth, Appearance, and Error -- Lecture I What Is Truth? -- Lecture II Cause. Effect. Ground. Power. -- Lecture III Self-Evidence-Immediate Knowledge. Rational Knowledge-Natural Knowledge. -- Lecture IV Truth and Illusion. -- Lecture V Existence. Waking. Dreams. Delusion. -- Lecture VI The Connection of Our Ideas. Idealism. -- Lecture VII Continuation. Quarrel of Idealists with the Dualists. Truth Drive and Approbatio -- Part Two Systematic Exposition of the Concepts Related to the Existence of God -- Lecture VIII Introduction. Importance of the

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### Sommario/riassunto

Moses Mendelssohn (1729-1786) was the central figure in the emancipation of European Jewry. His intellect, judgment, and tact won the admiration and friendship of contemporaries as illustrious as Johann Gottfried Herder, Gotthold Ephraim Lessing, and Immanuel Kant. His enormously influential *Jerusalem* (1783) made the case for religious tolerance, a cause he worked for all his life. *Last Works* includes, for the first time complete and in a single volume, the English translation of *Morning Hours: Lectures on the Existence of God* (1785) and *To the Friends of Lessing* (1786). Bruce Rosenstock has also provided an historical introduction and an extensive philosophical commentary to both texts. At the center of Mendelssohn's last works is his friendship with Lessing. Mendelssohn hoped to show that he, a Torah-observant Jew, and Lessing, Germany's leading dramatist, had forged a life-long friendship that held out the promise of a tolerant and enlightened culture in which religious strife would be a thing of the past. Lessing's death in 1781 was a severe blow to Mendelssohn. Mendelssohn wrote his last two works to commemorate Lessing and to carry on the work to which they had dedicated much of their lives. *Morning Hours* treats a range of major philosophical topics: the nature of truth, the foundations of human knowledge, the basis of our moral and aesthetic powers of judgment, the reality of the external world, and the grounds for a rational faith in a providential deity. It is also a key text for Mendelssohn's readings of Spinoza. In *To the Friends of Lessing*, Mendelssohn attempts to unmask the individual whom he believes to be the real enemy of the enlightened state: the Schwärmer, the religious fanatic who rejects reason in favor of belief in suprarational revelation.

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