



November 2018, 354 pages
**Early Judaism and Its
Literature 48**

Paperback \$49.95
ISBN 9781628372311
Hardcover \$64.95
ISBN 9780884143437
eISBN 9780884143444

Empire and Gender in LXX Esther

Meredith J. Stone

**A new perspective on essential aspects of Esther's plot and characters
for students and scholars**

Empire and Gender in LXX Esther foregrounds and highlights empire as the central lens in this provocative new reading of Esther. This book provides a unique synchronic reading of LXX Esther with the Additions, allowing the presence and negotiation of imperial power to be further illuminated throughout the story's plot. Stone explores and demonstrates how performances of gender are inextricably intertwined with the exertion and negotiation of imperial power portrayed in LXX Esther and offers examples of connections to the range of imperial power experienced by Jewish people during the late Second Temple period.

Features:

- An exploration of the tenets and methodology of imperial-critical approaches
- Focused attention to the final form of LXX Esther
- Construction of early audiences for LXX Esther in first-century BCE Ptolemaic Alexandria and Hasmonean Judea

Meredith J. Stone is Assistant Professor of Scripture and Ministry at Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene, Texas. She has authored journal articles and book essays and is an award-winning contributor to *The Baptist Standard*.

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