

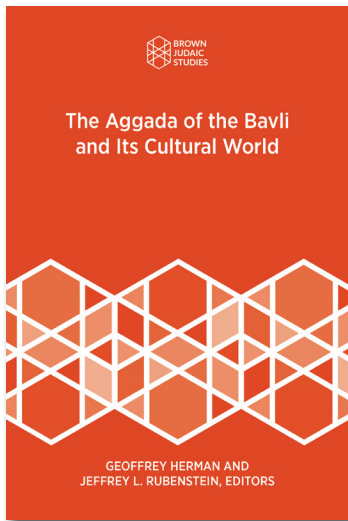


**BROWN
JUDAIC
STUDIES**

The Aggada of the Bavli and Its Cultural World

Geoffrey Herman and Jeffrey L. Rubenstein, editors

**Essays that explore the rich engagement of the Talmud with its
cultural world**



The Babylonian Talmud (Bavli), the great compilation of Jewish law edited in the late Sasanian era (sixth–seventh century CE), also incorporates a great deal of aggada, that is, nonlegal material, including interpretations of the Bible, stories, folk sayings, and prayers. The Talmud’s aggadic traditions often echo conversations with the surrounding cultures of the Persians, Eastern Christians, Manichaeans, Mandaean, and the ancient Babylonians, and others. The essays in this volume analyze Bavli aggada to reveal this rich engagement of the Talmud with its cultural world.

Features:

- A detailed analysis of the different conceptions of martyrdom in the Talmud as opposed to the Eastern Christian martyr accounts
- Illustration of the complex ways rabbinic Judaism absorbed Christian and Zoroastrian theological ideas
- Demonstration of the presence of Persian-Zoroastrian royal and mythological motifs in talmudic sources

August 2018, 430 pages
Brown Judaic Studies 362

Paperback
ISBN 9781946527080 \$56.95
Hardcover
ISBN 9781946527097 \$76.95
eISBN 9781946527103

Geoffrey Herman is a member of the School of Historical Studies at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton. He is the author of *A Prince without a Kingdom* (2012); *Persian Martyr Acts under King Yazdgird I* (2016); and his edited and coedited volumes include *Jews, Christians and Zoroastrians: Religious Dynamics in a Sasanian Context* (2014); and *Sources and Interpretation in Ancient Judaism: Studies for Tal Ilan at Sixty* (2018).

Jeffrey L. Rubenstein is the Skirball Professor of Talmud and Rabbinic Literature in the Department of Hebrew and Judaic Studies of New York University. His books include *Talmudic Stories: Narrative Art, Composition, and Culture* (1999); *The Culture of the Babylonian Talmud* (2003); and *Stories of the Babylonian Talmud* (2010).

PURCHASES, EXAM AND DESK COPIES:

SBL Press Customer Service
P.O. Box 2243, Williston, VT 05495
Phone: 802-864-6185 / 877-725-3334 (toll-free)
Fax: 802-864-7626
Email: sblpressorders@aidcvt.com
Web: www.sbl-site.org/publications

REQUEST REVIEW COPIES FROM:

SBL Press
Heather McMurray, Sales Manager
825 Houston Mill Road, Suite 350, Atlanta, GA 30329
Phone: 404-727-3096
Email: heather.mcmurray@sbl-site.org