MIXED FEELINGS AND VEXED PASSIONS



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MIXED FEELINGS AND VEXED PASSIONS

Exploring Emotions in Biblical Literature

Edited by
F. Scott Spencer





Atlanta

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Preface

On a last minute whim at the 2011 Annual Meeting of the Society of Biblical Literature, I decided to pop into a session devoted to Matthew Schlimm's new book, *From Fratricide to Forgiveness: The Language and Ethics of Anger in Genesis* (Eisenbrauns, 2011). I was late, but I got there in time to hear some of Matt's response to the panel reviewers and to participate in the wider discussion with the audience. It was not a huge group, but we had a fruitful exchange of ideas.

I was drawn to the session not so much to learn more about Genesis (I work primarily in the New Testament), but to hear what Matt and other scholars were thinking about emotions (anger in this case) in the Bible. For a few years I had been nosing around in the burgeoning literature on emotions in a broad range of fields in the humanities and sciences. Emotions were clearly running hot across academia. My interest particularly caught fire in reading Martha Nussbaum's magisterial *Upheavals of Thought: The Intelligence of Emotions* (Cambridge University Press, 2001). Though Nussbaum is a philosopher, not a biblical scholar, her grounding in classical literature and thoughtful engagement with a breathtaking array of ethical, legal, and religious ideas (she holds appointments in the University of Chicago Law School and Divinity School as well as the Philosophy department) warmed my biblical heart and made me wonder how this surge of research and reflection on emotions might impact biblical studies.

So in that Society of Biblical Literature session six years ago, I posed to Matt some question to this effect, dropping Nussbaum's name in the process and off-handedly suggesting we might benefit from more of these sessions—even a working group devoted to investigating emotions in the Bible. I spoke as a fool, but Matt politely affirmed my Nussbaum reference and agreed that the time was ripe for further work in this whole emotion area. I briefly spoke to Matt after the session (we knew nothing of each

other before), congratulated him on his book (I immediately went to the exhibit hall and bought it), and half-joked that I might be in touch about this "starting a new group" thing.

Of course, a lot of things are said at these heady Society of Biblical Literature meetings in the heat of the moment (yes, even biblical scholars are emotional beings). But in fact I did email Matt soon after the meeting, and we began to set the wheels in motion to propose a new Bible and Emotion unit to the Society of Biblical Literature Program Committee. In the Spring of 2012 we were approved as a three-year consultation (we have since been extended as an official group). As cochairs, Matt and I were joined by a wonderful team of Hebrew Bible/Old Testament and New Testament scholars on the initial Steering Committee: Bill Arnold, Jacq Lapsley, Ellen van Wolde, and David Fredrickson. Soon, for various reasons, Bill gave way to Deena Grant and Ellen to David Bosworth. It's been a joy and honor to work with all of these brilliant women and men. By salutary design, the work of the Society of Biblical Literature is a collaborative effort.

As it happened, our first Society of Biblical Literature meeting in November 2012 was in Chicago, and Nussbaum graciously consented to headline our inaugural panel on "Assessing the 'Utility' of the Work of Martha C. Nussbaum for the Study of the Bible and Emotion." We also had an open session of five papers on a variety of emotion topics across the biblical canon. We have continued this two-session (papers and panel) annual pattern and look forward to many more years of productive study. Response has been most encouraging, both in terms of attendance and in the number of proposals submitted.

The present volume of essays evidences the beginning and early gelling of this vibrant inquiry into emotions in biblical literature, including not only expanded versions of Society of Biblical Literature papers, but also several fresh contributions by an international team of scholars. All of these essays engage deeply with both ancient and modern contexts, including interdisciplinary soundings into emotions, both theoretical and evidentiary, to provide incisive case studies of "passions" ranging from joy, happiness, and trust to grief, hate, and disgust.

I am grateful for each contributor and what I have learned from them. Thanks, too, goes to the Society of Biblical Literature Resources in Biblical Study general editors, Marvin Sweeney and Tom Thatcher, who provided guidance and encouragement throughout the project. And a special shout out to Nicole Tilford, Production Manager at SBL Press, for her remarkable organizational skills and expert shepherding of this work to publication.

This volume represents a stimulating sample of first digs into the emotional terrain of the Bible, a "ground-breaking" of a new field of study, but by no means the finished product. Much work remains to be done, but we "feel" pretty good about these initial probes and where they might lead us.



Abbreviations

Primary Sources

1 Esd 1 Esdras

1 Glor. Dio Chrysostom, De gloria i (Or. 66)

3 Kgdms 3 Kingdoms 4 Macc 4 Maccabees

4 Regn. Dio Chrysostom, De regno iv (Or. 4)

Aen. Virgil, Aeneid

Aff. dig. Galen, De propriorum animi cuiuslibet affectuum

dignotione et cura

Ag. Aeschylus, Agamemnon

Ag. Ber. Aggadat Bereshit Agr. Philo, De agricultura

Am. Ovid, Amores

Amat. Plutarch, Amatorius

Amic. mult. Plutarch, *De amicorum multitudine*

Anab. Arrian, Anabasis; Epictetus, Anabasis; Xenophon,

Anabasis

Ant. Josephus, Jewish Antiquities

Anth. Gr. Anthologia Graeca

Argon. Apollonius of Rhodes, Argonautica

Augustine, De Trinitate
Buc. Calpurnius Siculus, Bucolicae

Cat. Min. Plutarch, Cato Minor

Chaer. Chariton, De Chaerea et Callirhoe

Compunct. Dem. John Chrysostom, Ad Demetrium de compunctione

Cons. ux. Plutarch, Consolatio ad uxorem
Cor Plutarch, Marcius Coriolanus

Crat. Plato, Cratylus

Cyr. Xenophon, Cyropaedia

Daphn. Longus, Daphnis et Chloe

De an. Aristotle, De anima

Deipn. Athenaeus, Deipnosophistae Dial. mort. Lucian, Dialogi mortuorum

Diatr. Epictetus, Diatribai

Diss. Musonius Rufus, Dissertationum a Lucio Digesta-

rum Reliquiae

Dysk. Menander, Dyskolos Ecl. Stobaeus, Eclogae

Ep. Anacharis, Epistulae; Basil of Caesarea, Epistulae;

Horace, *Epistulae*; Philostratus, *Epistulae*; Seneca, *Epistulae morales*; Theodoros Kyzikos, *Epistulae*

Epitaph. Adon. Bion, Epitaphius Adonis
Epitr. Menander, Epitrepontes
Eth. nic. Aristotle, Ethica nicomachea

Flor. Stobaeus, Florilegium Fr. Charondas, Fragmenta;

Perictione, Fragmenta; Pindar, Fragmenta; Sappho,

Fragmenta; Timaeus, Fragmenta

Garr. Plutarch, De garrulitate

Gen. Rab. Genesis Rabbah
Gorg. Plato, Gorgias
Hel. Gorgias, Helena
Her. Ovid, Heroides

Her. Leand. Musaeus, De Herone et Leandro

Hist. Herodotus, Historiae; Nymphis, Historia

Hymn. Dian. Callimachus, Hymnus in Dianam

Id. Theocritus, *Idylls*

Iph. aul.Euripides, Iphigenia aulidensisIph. taur.Euripides, Iphigenia taurica

Ir. Philodemus, De ira Ira Seneca, De ira

Jdt Judith

Jul. Suetonius, Divus Julius

Leg. Philo, Legum allegoriae; Plato, Leges

Legat. Philo, Legatio ad Gaium

Leuc. Clit. Achilles Tatius, Leucippe et Clitophon

Lib. phil. sect. Arius Didymus, Liber de philosophorum sectis

Marc. Tertullian, Contra Marcellum

Meg. Megillah

Mem.Xenophon, MemorabiliaMetaph.Aristotle, MetaphysicsMis.Julian, Misopogon

Morb. sacr. Hippocrates, De morbo sacro Mut. Philo, De mutatione nominum Noct. Att. Aulus Gellius, Noctes Atticae

Onom. Pollux, Onomasticon
Op. Hesiod, Opera et dies
Orest. Euripides, Orestes
Paen. Ambrose, De paenitentia
[Pass.] Andronicus, De passionibus

Pers. Aeschylus, Persae Phaed. Plato, Phaedrus

Princ. Epicurus, Principal Doctrines

[Probl.] Aristotle, Problemata

Prov. Alex. Plutarch, De proverbiis Alexandrinorum

Psych. Prudentius, Psychomachia

Purg.Dante, PurgatorioResp.Plato, RespublicaRhet.Aristotle, Rhetorica

Sanh. Sanhedrin

Sir Sirach/Ecclesiasticus

Spec. Philo, De specialibus legibus

Stoic. rep. Plutarch, De Stoicorum repugnantiis

Sum. theol. Aquinas, Summa theologiae

Suppl. Euripides, Supplices

Symp. Plato, Symposium; Xenophon, Symposium

Ta'an. Ta'anit
Tanh. Tanhuma

Theb. Statius, Thebaid

Tranq. an. Plutarch, De tranquillitate animi

Trin. Augustine, De Trinitate Var. Hist. Aelian, Varia historia

Ven. Dio Chrysostom, Venator (Or. 7)
Virt. Dio Chrysostom, De virtute (Or. 8)

Virt. prof. Plutarch, Quomodo quis suos in virtute sentiat pro-

fectus

Vit. Mos. Gregory of Nyssa, De vita Mosis

ABBREVIATIONS

Vit. Phil. Diogenes Laertius, Vitae philosophorum

Wis Wisdom of Solomon

Yebam. Yebamot

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Secondary Resources

AB The Anchor Bible

ABD Freedman, David Noel, ed. Anchor Bible Dictionary.

6 vols. New York: Doubleday, 1992.

ADEBull Association of Departments of English Bulletin

AEL Lichtheim, Miriam. Ancient Egyptian Literature. 3

vols. Berkeley: University of California Press, 1971-

1980.

AHD Attachment and Human Development

AIL Ancient Israel and Its Literature
AIPh Annuaire de l'Institut de Philologie et d'Histoire

Orientales et Slaves

AnBib Analecta Biblica

ANF Ante-Nicene Fathers

AOTC Abingdon Old Testament Commentaries

AOTS Augsburg Old Testament Studies

AP American Psychologist

ATLAMS American Theological Library Association Mono-

graph Series

AusJP Australasian Journal of Philosophy

AUSTR American University Studies, Series 7: Theology

and Religion

BBS Behavioral and Brain Sciences

BC Brain and Cognition

BDB

BCT The Bible and Critical Theory

BDAG Danker, Frederick W., Walter Bauer, William F.

Arndt, and F. Wilbur Gingrich. *Greek-English Lexi*con of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature. 3rd ed. Chicago: University of Chicago

Press, 2000. (Danker-Bauer-Arndt-Gingrich)

Brown, Francis, S. R. Driver, and Charles A. Briggs. A Hebrew and English Lexicon of the Old Testament.

Oxford: Clarendon, 1907.

BECNT Baker Exegetical Commentary on the New Testa-

men

BETL Bibliotheca Ephemeridum theologicarum Lovani-

ensium

Bib Biblica

BibInt Biblical Interpretation

BibInt Biblical Interpretation Series

BibOr Biblica et Orientalia

BICSSup Bulletin of the Institute of Classical Studies Supple-

ment

BJDP The British Journal of Developmental Psychology
BJSUCSD Biblical and Judaic Studies from the University of

California, San Diego

BLPH La Palabra (Hispanoamérica)
BMC Bryn Mawr Commentaries
BMW Bible in the Modern World

BRP Brill Research Perspectives in Biblical Interpretation

Buc. Calpurnius Siculus, Bucolics

BZ Biblische Zeitschrift

BZAW Beihefte zur Zeitschrift für die alttestamentliche

Wissenschaft

CAS Clarendon Aristotle Series

CBNT Commentaire biblique, Nouveau Testament

CBQ Catholic Biblical Quarterly

CBQMS Catholic Biblical Quarterly Monograph Series

CC Continental Commentaries

CC Cultural Critique
CE Cognition and Emotion
CEB Common English Bible

CEI Conferenza Episcopale Italiana
CHE Chronicle of Higher Education

CI Critical Inquiry
CIF Classical Inter/Faces
CM Clinical Medicine
CogL Cognitive Linguistics

CON Current Opinion in Neurobiology

ConBNT Coniectanea Neotestamentica or Coniectanea

Biblica: New Testament Series

COS Hallo, William W., and K. Lawson Younger Jr., eds.

The Context of Scripture. 4 vols. Leiden: Brill, 1997–

2016.

CQS Companion to the Qumran Scrolls

CR The Classical Review

CSCP Cornell Studies in Classical Philology

Di Dialogue
DS Death Studies
EBib Etudes Bibliques
EBib Etudes Bibliques

ECL Early Christianity and Its Literature

EER Early European Research
EH Emotions in History

EHB Evolution and Human Behavior
EJSP European Journal of Social Psychology

EJud Neusner, Jacob, Alan J. Avery-Peck, and William

Scott Green, eds. The Encyclopedia of Judaism. 2nd

ed. 5 vols. Leiden: Brill, 2005.

EKKNT Evangelisch-katholischer Kommentar zum Neuen

Testament

EmotRev Emotion Review
Enc Encounter

EncJud Skolnik, Fred, and Michael Berenbaum, eds.

Encyclopedia Judaica. 2nd ed. 22 vols. Detroit: Mac-

millan Reference USA, 2007.

ER Jones, Lindsay, ed. Encyclopedia of Religion. 2nd ed.

15 vols. Detroit: Macmillan Reference USA, 2005

ERE Hastings, James, ed. Encyclopedia of Religion and

Ethics. 13 vols. New York: Scribner's Sons, 1908-

1927. Repr., 7 vols. 1951.

ETMP Ethical Theory and Moral Practice

FB Forschung zur Bibel

FCB Feminist Companion to the Bible FOTL Forms of the Old Testament Literature

GNB Gute Nachricht Bibel

GPBS Global Perspectives on Biblical Scholarship
GPIR Group Processes and Intergroup Relations

HALOT Koehler, Ludwig, Walter Baumgartner, and Johann J. Stamm. *The Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the*

Old Testament. Translated and edited under the supervision of Mervyn E. J. Richardson. 4 vols.

Leiden: Brill, 1994-1999.

HBM Hebrew Bible Monographs

HBT Horizons in Biblical Theology

HCS Health, Culture and Society

HDR Harvard Dissertations in Religion HNT Handbuch zum Neuen Testament

HRR Human Rights Review

HThKAT Herders Theologischer Kommentar zum Alten Tes-

tament

HThKNT Herders Theologischer Kommentar zum Neuen

Testament

HTR Harvard Theological Review

IBC Interpretation: A Bible Commentary for Teaching

and Preaching

ICC International Critical Commentary

ICS Illinois Classical Studies

IDB Buttrick, George A., ed. The Interpreter's Dictionary

of the Bible. 4 vols. New York: Abingdon, 1962.

Int Interpretation

JAAR Journal of the American Academy of Religion

JAJ Journal of Ancient Judaism

JANER Journal of Ancient Near Eastern Religions JAOS Journal of the American Oriental Society

JAPsJournal of Abnormal PsychologyJBEJournal of Business EthicsJBLJournal of Biblical Literature

JCPP Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry JEP Journal of Experimental Psychology

JFSR Journal of Feminist Studies in Religion

JHebS Journal of Hebrew Scriptures

JLRS Journal of Law, Religion and State

JLT Journal of Literature and Theology

JNES Journal of Near Eastern Studies

JNSL Journal of Northwest Semitic Languages

JPS Jewish Publication Society
JPs The Journal of Philosophy

JPSBC Jewish Publication Society Bible Commentary

JPSP Journal of Personality and Social Psychology

JR Journal of Religion

JSNT Journal for the Study of the New Testament

JSNTSup Journal for the Study of the New Testament Supple-

ment Series

JSOT Journal for the Study of the Old Testament

JSOTSup Journal for the Study of the Old Testament Supple-

ment Series

JTI Journal of Theological Interpretation

JTPP Journal of Theoretical and Philosophical Psychology Kinema Kinema: A Journal for Film and Audiovisual Media

KJV King James Version
LBLA La Biblia de las Américas
LCL Loeb Classical Library

LHBOTS The Library of the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament

Studies

LNTS Library of New Testament Studies

LSG Louis Segond Bible

LSJ Liddell, Henry George, Robert Scott, and Henry

Stuart Jones. *A Greek English Lexicon*. 9th ed. with revised supplement. Oxford: Clarendon, 1996.

LXX Septuagint

MBE Mind, Brain, and Education

MoTh Modern Theology

NA²⁸ Novum Testamentum Graece, Nestle-Aland, 28th ed.

NAB New American Bible

NAC New American Commentary
NASB New American Standard Bible

NBR Neuroscience and Biobehavioral Reviews

NBS Nouvelle Bible Second

NCBC New Cambridge Bible Commentary

Neot Neotestamentica

NETS Pietersma, Albert, and Benjamin G. Wright, eds.

A New English Translation of the Septuagint. New

York: Oxford University Press, 2007.

Next Wave Next Wave: New Directions in Women's Studies NIGTC New International Greek Testament Commentary

NIV New International Version

NJPS Tanakh: The Holy Scriptures: The New JPS Transla-

tion according to the Traditional Hebrew Text

NLH New Literary History NovT Novum Testamentum

NovTSup Supplements to Novum Testamentum

NR The Italian Nuova Riveduta
NRSV New Revised Standard Version

NSIN Norton Series on Interpersonal Neurobiology

NSyHL The New Synthese Historical Library

NThT Nieuw Theologisch Tijdschrift

NTS New Testament Studies

NVI Nueva Versión Internacional
OBO Orbis Biblicus et Orientalis
OBT Overtures to Biblical Theology
OLB Orte und Landschaften der Bibel

OTL Old Testament Library

OTM Oxford Theological Monographs

OTS Old Testament Studies

PBA Proceedings of the British Academy for the Promoting

of Historical, Philosophical, and Philological Studies

PCI Post-contemporary Interventions

PDV La Bible Parole de Vie

PG Migne, Jacques-Paul, ed. Patrologia Graeca [=

Patrologiae Cursus Completus: Series Graeca]. 162

vols. Paris, 1857–1886.

Phil Philosophy

PMLA Proceedings of the Modern Language Association

PRSt Perspectives in Religious Studies

PsBull Psychological Bulletin

PSPA Publications of the Society for Psychological

Anthropology

PsRev Psychological Review

PTRSLB Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of

London, Series B (Biological Sciences)

RAC Klauser, Theodor, et al. Reallexikon für Antike und

Christentum. Stuttgart: Hiersemann, 1950-.

RBS Resources for Biblical Study

REB Revised English Bible

RMCS Routledge Monographs in Classical Studies

RNBC Readings: A New Biblical Commentary

RRCMS Routledge Research in Cultural and Media Studies

SANT Studien zum Alten und Neuen Testaments SAOC Studies in Ancient Oriental Civilization

SBLDS Society of Biblical Literature Dissertation Series SBLMS Society of Biblical Literature Monograph Series

SBT Studies in Biblical Theology

SC Sources chrétiennes

SCE Self-Conscious Emotions theory

ScEs Science et esprit SemeiaSt Semeia Studies

SESI Studies in Emotion and Social Interaction

SHE Studia Historiae Ecclesiasticae

SLTHS Siphrut: Literature and Theology of the Hebrew

Scriptures

SNTS Studiorum Novi Testamenti Societas

SPQSocial Psychology QuarterlySRSBStudi e ricerche: Sezione biblicaSSISocial Science InformationSSNStudia Semitica Neerlandica

SSSA Stockholm Studies in Social Anthropology

ST Studia Theologica

StBibLit Studies in Biblical Literature

STDI Studies of the Texts of the Desert of Judah

SubBi Subsidia biblica

SVF Arnim, Hans Friedrich August von. Stoicorum

Veterum Fragmenta. 4 vols. Leipzig: Teubne, 1903-

1924.

SymS Symposium Series

TCS Trends in Cognitive Sciences

TDOT Botterweck, G. Johannes, and Helmer Ringgren,

eds. Theological Dictionary of the Old Testament.

Translated by John T. Willis et al. 8 vols. Grand

Rapids: Eerdmans, 1974–2006.

THL Theory and History of Literature
TIN Theory and Interpretation of Narrative

TLA Traducción en Lenguaje Actual

TLOT Jenni, Ernst, ed., with assistance from Claus Westermann. Theological Lexicon of the Old Testament.

Translated by Mark E. Biddle. 3 vols. Peabody, MA:

Hendrickson, 1997.

TOB Traduction Œcuménique de la Bible

TrGF Snell, Bruno, Richard Kannich, and Stefan Radt,

eds. Tragicorum graecorum fragmenta. 2 vols. Göt-

tingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 1971-2004.

TTC Transdisciplinary Theological Colloquia

TynBul Tyndale Bulletin

UBS The Greek New Testament, United Bible Societies,

5th ed.

USQR Union Seminary Quarterly Review

VT Vetus Testamentum

VTSup Supplements to Vetus Testamentum

Vulg. Vulgate

WBC Word Biblical Commentary
WCD The Works of Charles Darwin

WMANT Wissenschaftliche Monographien zum Alten und

Neuen Testament

YCS Yale Classical Studies

ZAW Zeitschrift für die alttestamentliche Wissenschaft

