

ARMENIAN APOCRYPHA
RELATING TO ANGELS AND
BIBLICAL HEROES

SBL Press

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ARMENIAN APOCRYPHA
RELATING TO ANGELS AND
BIBLICAL HEROES

BY

MICHAEL E. STONE

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Dedicated to my colleagues, the members of the Association Internationale des Études Arméniennes, without whose scholarly devotion and personal friendship my journey would have been far less interesting and enjoyable.

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PREFACE AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This book presents a further collection of Armenian apocryphal texts, all provided with and drawn from previously unknown manuscript witnesses and nearly all published for the first time. The transmission of biblical and Second Temple period apocryphal traditions from antiquity and their reshaping and function in the communities that nurtured them, forms a significant aspect of their study. I hope that readers and scholars will be as fascinated as I am by the dynamic and responsive forms that such traditions exhibit in Armenian culture.

This book was written under the Israel Science Foundation's personal research grant no. 314/13. Without the support of ISF this book would most likely not have been written. I also acknowledge here the help given to me by several research assistants, primarily Tomer Doitch, whose painstaking assistance contributed much to the documentation of biblical sources of the tradition. Vered Hillel complemented Tomer's work on the difficult text no. 2.7 and my own work on the Jannes and Mambres tradition (4.10). Asya Bereznyak wrote the excursus on the Cainite Lamech (3.8). For the support and for the logistical assistance of Shmuel Rausnitz, my deepest thanks. Prof. Betsy Halpern-Amaru kindly read text 2.7 and helped enrich its annotation.

I express my profound thanks to the Matenadaran, Institute of Ancient Manuscripts in Erevan, Armenia. The vast majority of manuscript texts edited here are drawn from that library by permission. Its directors, the late Sen Arevshatyan and its present director Hrach Tamrazian, could not have been more helpful both in granting me free access to the collection and in providing images of the manuscript texts. Dr. Geörg Tēr-Vardanean, Curator of Manuscripts in the Matenadaran, and his Department made my work there immeasurably easier. I also express my thanks to His Beatitude, Patriarch Mesrob II of Constantinople for permission to publish the short extracts from Galata manuscript 154; to the editors of *Le Muséon* for permission to publish an extract from Yacoubian 2003, 45–46. The late Archbishop Norayr Bogharian gave me permission to publish the angelological text from Jerusalem, Armenian Patriarchate J1398 (3.1).

SIGNS

{ }	corruption in text
< >	editor's correction, emendation, or conjecture
[]	editor's remarks
()	additions by the editor for smoothness of style
##/	mark sequential line numbers or section numbers

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ABBREVIATIONS

AE	the Great Armenian Era, calculated from 551 CE.
AM	anno mundi, i.e., years since creation
ANB	Ačarıyan, H. Հայոց Անձանունների Բառարան (<i>Dictionary of Armenian Proper Names</i>). Beirut: Sevan Press, 1972
H Arm	the corpus number of Sinai Armenian inscriptions
Arm	(in textual discussions) indicates the Armenian version of the Bible
Bedrossian	Matthias Bedrossian, <i>New Dictionary Armenian-English</i> . Beirut: Librairie du Liban, 1985
BL	British Library
ca.	approximately
chap.	chapter
et al.	<i>et aliilalaiae</i>
EJL	Early Judaism and Its Literature
Exod. Rab.	Midrash Exodus Rabba
fol., fols.	folio, folios
Gen. Rab.	Midrash Genesis Rabba. <i>Bereschit Rabba</i> . Edited by J. Theodor and C. Albeck. Berlin: Akademie Verlag, 1929
hmt	<i>homoeoteleuton</i>
Horovitz-Rabin	Horovitz, H. S., and I. A. Rabin. <i>Mechilta d'Rabbi Ishmael cum variis lectionibus et Adnotationibus</i> . Repr. Jerusalem: Bamberg-er & Wahrman, 1969
HTR	<i>Harvard Theological Review</i>
IDB	Interpreters Dictionary of the Bible
l. ll.	line, lines
JTS	<i>Journal of Theological Studies</i>
LXX	Septuagint or Greek Bible
MH	Մատենադրույթի շարք (Classical Armenian Authors); series cited by volume number
MT	Masoretic Text or Hebrew Bible
NBHL	Նոր բարձիրք հայկազեան լեզուի (New Dictionary of the Armenian Language)
NRSV	New Revised Standard Version
OG	Old Greek

OnaV	Onmoastic Sacra Text Type V
p.m., s.m.	p.m., <i>prima manu</i> , text written by the original scribe; s.m., <i>secunda manu</i> , text written by a second hand
PVTG	Pseudepigrapha Veteris Testamenti Graece
REArm	<i>Revue des études arméniennes</i>
RSV	Revised Standard Version
Stone and Hillel, “Index,” no. ##	Indicates the number of the variant in the “Index of Variants” in Michael E. Stone in collaboration with Vered Hillel, <i>The Armenian Version of the Testaments of the Twelve Patriarchs: Edition, Apparatus, Translation and Commentary</i> . Hebrew University Armenian Series 11. Leuven: Peeters, 2012
Sus	Susanna
s.v.	<i>sub vocem</i>
SVTP	Studia in Veteris Testamenti Pseudepigrapha
Th	Theodotion
UPATS	University of Pennsylvania Armenian Texts and Studies

POINTS OF PROCEDURE

The following procedures have been observed:

I have used the standard English forms of the names in the translation unless the Armenian spelling is very deviant, in which instances I transliterate it in parentheses, using the system of *REArm*.

In citations from Psalms, I have given the Masoretic number and if the LXX and Arm differ, I give their number.

Often, where Armenian has coordinated participles or a participle and a finite verb conjoined by “and,” I have rendered into appropriate English, without noting the addition or omission of եւ “and.”

Իրբեւ is sometimes rendered “after.”

When Armenian numerals are used in the text, I use English numerals in the translation.

Manuscripts are referred to using a sigil for the library in accordance with the system of Association Internationale des Etudes arméniennes; see Bernard Coulie, “Liste des sigles utilisés pour désigner les manuscrits,” inavailable in.pdf format on the web site of the *Association internationale des études arméniennes*.

“and throughout x/y” in variants indicates an orthographic variant that is consistent throughout the manuscript being cited.

“preferable” in variants indicates that this reading is better than that preserved in the text.

MANUSCRIPTS PUBLISHED IN THIS BOOK

Ms Number	Foliation	Title of Work
Galata 154	p. 302	The Ten Plagues of Egypt
Galata 154	p. 303	What Are the Dimensions of the Ark?
J1398	pp. 1-3	Angelology Text 2
M266	90v-91r	Ranks of the Angels
M268	150v	The Ten Plagues of Egypt
M268	150v-151r	Names of the Jewels of Aaron's Ephod
M268	151r	The Seven Punishments of Cain
M268	312r	Names of the Angels
M268	312r-313r	The Praise of Angels
M512	86r-90r	Years and Names of the Forefathers in Order
M537	230v-231r	Names of the Angels
M537	231v-232r	Praise of the Angels
M537	237v	The Ten Plagues of Egypt
M605	25v	The Ten Plagues of Egypt
M682	7r	Praise of the Angels
M682	7r-8r	Questions concerning Angels
M682	7d	Concerning the Tower 2
M682	8v-9r	The Ten Plagues of Egypt and Jannes and Mambres
M682	96r	This Is the History of the Discourse (Word)
M724	178r-180r	Stories of the Prophets Asaph and Nathan
M10320	77v-79r	Concerning the Twelve Hours of the Night
M10720	4v-5r	The Twelve Gifts Lost by Adam
M10320	79r-79v	Ranks of the Angels Who Rebelled
M10320	84v-86v	Concerning the Knowledge of the Times
M10320	87r-87v	Concerning the Twelve Hours of the Night
M1654A	189v-193v	Questions and Answers from the Holy Books
M1665	182v-198v	Memorial of the Forefathers Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob
M2001B	243r	Concerning the Names of the Twenty-Four Hours of the Day and Night
M2001B	243r-243v	Angelology Text 2
M2036	13r	Concerning the Names of the Twenty-Four Hours of the Day and Night
M2036	220r	Concerning Millennia I

M2036	220r, 273r	Concerning the Periods
M2111	219v	Joseph and Jacob: An Allegory
M2111	229v	Joseph and Jacob: An Allegory
M2111	230r–231r	Short History of the Holy Forefathers
M2126	96r–96v	Question concerning the Archangels
M2158	266r	The Ten Plagues of Egypt
M2182	347r–349v	History of the Forefathers to Abraham and Their Years
M2182	350r–350v	The Twelve Gifts Lost by Adam
M2188	242v–243v	Concerning the Fifteen Signs of the Judgement, Recension III
M2188	244r	The Ten Plagues of Egypt
M2242	330r–349v	Third Story of Joseph
M2245	114v	Question Concerning the Archangels
M2245	114v–115r	Fall of the Angels
M2245	116r	Fall of the Angels II
M2245	271r–272r	Generations from Adam to Christ
M4618	126r	Concerning Millennia II
M5690	1r–1v	Concerning the Renewal of Angelic Destruction
M6340	36r–47r	The Israelites in Egypt
M6340	47r–50r	This Is the Story of Nineveh and Jonah
M6617	254v–255r	He Counts the Multitude of the Stars
M6897	413r	The Ten Plagues of Egypt
M6905	1r–1v	Concerning the Renewal of Angelic Destruction
M8076	222r–222v	Chronological Summaries
M8076	223r	Concerning the Millennia III
M8076	273r	Concerning the Millennia II
M8591	82r–82v	Concerning the Tower 1
M8591	82v	What Are the Dimensions of the Ark?
M9100	370v–371r	Concerning the Periods
M9100	372r–373v	Names of the Jewels of Aaron's Ephod
M9121	102r–102v	The Twelve Gifts Lost by Adam
OXBodleian arm c3	322r–329v	Memorial of the Forefathers Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob
OXBodleian arm f 26	333v–334v	Supplication to Angels
OXBodleian arm f 26	334v	Prayer to the Archangel Michael
OXBodleian arm f 26	335r	Prayer to the Twelve Guardian Angels