

Willard G Oxtoby Alan F Segal

Two Powers in Heaven Crossing Boundaries in Early Judaism and Christianity Life After Death What it Means to be Israel The Other Judaisms of Late Antiquity Sinning in the Hebrew Bible Segal V. Commissioner of Internal Revenue Rebecca's Children Israel's God and Rebecca's Children Tax Court Memorandum Decisions The Demise of the Devil Kime's International Law Directory Revue de Qumrân Origins and Method Identity and Interaction in the Ancient Mediterranean Philo Judaeus Jesus and the Dead Sea Scrolls Paradise Now Speaking of Death Geschichte--Tradition--Reflexion: Judentum Segal Kimberley Stratton Alan Segal Alan F. Segal Alan F. Segal Alan F. Segal Larry W. Hurtado Susan R. Garrett Philip Graburn Kime John Coolidge Hurd Zeba A. Crook Naomi G. Cohen James H. Charlesworth April D. De Conick Michael K. Bartalos Hubert Cancik

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the history of jews from the period of the second temple to the rise of islam

this volume celebrates the scholarship of alan segal during his prolific career alan published ground breaking studies that shifted scholarly conversations about christianity rabbinic judaism hellenism and gnosticism like the subjects of his research alan crossed many boundaries he understood that religions do not operate in academically defined silos but in complex

societies populated by complicated human beings alan s work engaged with a variety of social scientific theories that illuminated ancient sources and enabled him to reveal new angles on familiar material this interdisciplinary approach enabled alan to propose often controversial theories about jewish and christian origins a new generation of scholars has been nurtured on this approach and the fields of early judaism and christianity emerge radically redefined as a result

a magisterial work of social history life after death illuminates the many different ways ancient civilizations grappled with the question of what exactly happens to us after we die in a masterful exploration of how western civilizations have defined the afterlife alan f segal weaves together biblical and literary scholarship sociology history and philosophy a renowned scholar segal examines the maps of the afterlife found in western religious texts and reveals not only what various cultures believed but how their notions reflected their societies realities and ideals and why those beliefs changed over time he maintains that the afterlife is the mirror in which a society arranges its concept of the self the composition process for judaism christianity and islam begins in grief and ends in the victory of the self over death arguing that in every religious tradition the afterlife represents the ultimate reward for the good segal combines historical and anthropological data with insights gleaned from religious and philosophical writings to explain the following mysteries why the egyptians insisted on an afterlife in heaven while the body was embalmed in a tomb on earth why the babylonians viewed the dead as living in underground prisons why the hebrews remained silent about life after death during the period of the first temple yet embraced it in the second temple period 534 b c e 70 c e and why christianity placed the afterlife in the center of its belief system he discusses the inner dialogues and arguments within judaism and christianity showing the underlying dynamic behind them as well as the ideas that mark the differences between the two religions in a thoughtful examination of the influence of biblical views of heaven and martyrdom on islamic beliefs he offers a fascinating perspective on the current troubling rise of islamic fundamentalism in tracing the organic historical relationships between sacred texts and communities of belief and comparing the visions of life after death that have emerged throughout history segal sheds a bright revealing light on the intimate connections between notions of the afterlife the societies that produced them and the individual s search for the ultimate meaning of life on earth

stories of rape murder adultery and conquest raise crucial issues in the hebrew bible and their interpretation helps societies form their religious and moral beliefs from the sacrifice of isaac to the adultery of david narratives of sin engender vivid analysis and debate powering the myths that form the basis of the religious covenant or the relationship between a people and their god rereading these stories in their different forms and varying contexts alan f segal demonstrates the significance of

sinning throughout history and today drawing on literary and historical theory as well as research in the social sciences he explores the motivation for creating sin stories their prevalence in the hebrew bible and their possible meaning to israelite readers and listeners after introducing the basics of his approach and outlining several hermeneutical concepts segal conducts seven linked studies of specific narratives using character and text to clarify problematic terms such as myth typology and orality following the reappearance and reinterpretation of these narratives in later compositions he proves their lasting power in the mythology of israel and the encapsulation of universal perennially relevant themes segal ultimately positions the hebrew bible as a foundational moral text and a history book offering uncommon insights into the dating of biblical events and the intentions of biblical authors

segal offers new insights into the origins of rabbinic judaism and christianity these twin descendants of hebrew heritage shared the same social cultural and ideological context and the same minority status in the first century ce the separation between them fractured what remained of the shared symbolic life of judea

an important new look at community and identity in early christianity

stephen g wilson was professor of religion at carleton university ottawa and director of the college of humanities until his retirement in 2007 his contributions to the study of the religious identities of jews christians and gentiles in the first three centuries of the common era are widely acknowledged his interests have been no less in the contrasting and sometimes conflicting religious identities within each of these three groups among his best known publications are the gentiles and the gentile mission in luke degreesacts 1973 luke and the law 1983 related strangers jews and christians 70 degrees170 ce 1995 and leaving the fold defectors and apostates in antiquity 2004 the present collection of essays develops further wilson s researches on the general theme of identity and interaction the sixteen contributors to this festschrift include kim stratton on curse rhetoric adele reinhartz on caiaphas willi braun on meals and social formation philip harland on meals and social labelling richard ascough on missionizing associations john barclay on judaeen identity in josephus john kloppenborg on the recipients of the letter of james laurence broadhurst on ancient music larry hurtado on manuscripts and identity edith humphrey on naming in the apocalypse michele murray on the apostolic constitutions roger beck on the late antique horoscope of islam graydon snyder on the ethiopian jews alan segal on daniel boyarin robert morgan on theology vs religious studies and william arnal on scholarly identities in the study of christia

philo's specific agenda is seen to be the presentation of a brief for a commitment to judaism including the obligation both to the study and to the practice of the torah commandments and the ancient unwritten traditions this he argues from the vantage point of a thoroughly hellenized jew to a thoroughly hellenized audience among the subjects treated in the book philo as part of an ongoing palestinian diaspora midrashic tradition judaism considered as a philosophy the greek virtues and the mosaic laws philo's shema includes a discussion of philo's conception of the phylacteries the mezuzah and the absence in philo of parashath tsitsith the use of many greek words and greek word combinations in an idiosyncratic jewish connotation in jewish contexts philo's curriculum of study the oral law and philo

in the latest volume of the distinguished anchor bible reference library the author of jesus within judaism explains why the dead sea scrolls have been called the greatest archaeological find of the millennium and how they have revolutionized our understanding of jesus of nazareth photographs and drawings

a substantial introduction to the study of early jewish and christian mysticism this volume examines major aspects of the mystical tradition within early judaism and christianity this tradition was centered on the belief that a person directly immediately and before death can experience the divine either as a rapture experience or one solicited by a particular praxis the essays define and analyze the nature and practices of mysticism as it emerges within early judaism and christianity recognizing this emergence within a variety of communal environments larger questions about the relationship between hermeneutics and experience as well as the relationship between mysticism and apocalypticism are also discussed and a substantial bibliography of the field is provided the book is the result of ten years of work of the early jewish and christian mysticism unit of the society of biblical literature the contributors are cameron c afzal daphna arbel kelley coblenz bautch ra anan s boustan james r davila april d deconick celia deutsch rachel elior frances flannery dailey charles a gieschen rebecca lesses andrea lieber christopher r a morray jones andrei a orlov christopher rowland seth l sanders alan f segal and kevin sullivan paperback edition is available from the society of biblical literature sbl site org

this work includes a look at cosmologists and physicists who have revised their theories on humanity's legacy when our world meets a fateful end proposing a means by which mankind's achievements might survive indefinitely transporting from one universe to another without violating the known laws of physics book jacket

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