



Reading And Believing Ancient Judaism And Contemporary Gullibility

James F. McGrath



Reading And Believing Ancient Judaism And Contemporary Gullibility:

Judaism in Late Antiquity 3:1 Jacob Neusner, Alan Jeffery Avery-Peck, 1998-10 This collection of systematic Auseinandersetzungen articulates difference and spells out what is at issue Learning atrophies when political consensus substitutes for criticism and when other than broadly accepted viewpoints approaches and readings find a hearing only with difficulty if at all The editors therefore have invited colleagues systematically to outline their views in an Auseinandersetzung with contrary ones The several participants explain how in broad and sweeping terms they see the state of learning in their areas of special interest The editors invited leading players in the USA Europe and the State of Israel in the study of ancient Judaism both in Second Temple Times and after 70 C E The work commences with a thoroughly fresh perspective of a theoretical question what in a religion so concerned with social norms and public policy can we possibly mean by law when we speak of law in Judaism It then proceeds with two chapters on Second Temple Judaism and two on the special subject of the Dead Sea library The two papers in the present part provide an overview of matters and a systematic critical account of the fading consensus respectively The next set of papers ought to stand as the definitive account of the diverse viewpoints on a basic question of method Because of the willingness of contending parties to meet one another in a single frame of discourse the work is able to portray with considerable breadth the presently contending viewpoints concerning the use of Rabbinic literature for historical purposes Then proceed a number of other accounts of how matters look from the perspective of major participants in scholarly debate At the same time as the requirements of historical critical reading of the Rabbinic literature precipitated sustained and vigorous debate other problems have attracted attention Among these a critical issue emerges in the hermeneutics to govern the reading of the documents for the purposes of other than historical study feminist interests for example

The Mishnah in Contemporary Perspective Jacob Neusner, Alan Avery-Peck, 2006-07-01 This second volume of a two part project on the Mishnah displays a broad selection of approaches to the study of the Mishnah in the contemporary academy The work derives from Israel North America and Europe and shows the intellectual vitality of scholarship in all three centers of learning What these articles show in diverse ways is that the Mishnah forms a critical focus of the study of Judaism The authors of these studies represent the best of contemporary scholarship on the Mishnah Because of the many viewpoints included here this is the most representative selection of contemporary Mishnah study available in any collection in a Western language

Annals of Gullibility Stephen Greenspan, 2008-12-30 The first book to provide a comprehensive look at the problem of gullibility this groundbreaking work covers how and why we are fooled in areas that range from religion politics science and medicine to personal finance and relationships First laying the groundwork by showing gullibility at play in the writings of historic authors we all know developmental psychologist Stephen Greenspan follows with chapters that describe social duping across the gamut of human conduct From people who pour bucks into investment scams to those who follow the faith of scientologists believe in

fortunetellers or champion unfounded medicine akin to snake oil we all know someone who has been duped A lot of us have been duped ourselves out of naive trust It s not a matter of low intelligence that moves us to without evidence believe the words of politicians salesmen academics lawyers military figures or cult leaders among others Greenspan shows us the four broad reasons we become drawn into gullible behavior and he presents ways people can become less gullible Greenspan takes us into the vast realm of gullibility from the fictional Pied Piper to the historical Trojan Horse then through modern day military maneuvers political untruths police and criminal justice scams and financial and love lies While there have been earlier books focused on liars and manipulators of all sorts this is the first to focus on the gullible who are their victims and how the gullible can become less likely to be taken again **John of History, Baptist of Faith** James F.

McGrath,2024-10-04 Studies of the historical Jesus typically reduce John the Baptist to a subordinate role in the story of Christian origins This meticulous historical study focuses on John himself revealing his extensive and enduring influence In the popular imagination John the Baptist plays the supporting role of Jesus s unkempt forerunner But meticulous historical study reveals his wide reaching and enduring influence on the history of religion The first study of its kind John of History Baptist of Faith sheds light on the historical John the Baptist and his world James F McGrath applies historical critical methodology not only to the New Testament but also to the Mandaean Book of John a holy text of the last extant gnostic sect McGrath uses the teachings of John s pupil Jesus as a window into his mentor s beliefs Along the way he brings new clarity to questions of contention among scholars such as John s use of immersion as a substitute for temple sacrifice Bold in its claims yet careful in its method John of History Baptist of Faith lends fresh insight into John Jesus and their world McGrath s pioneering monograph will challenge and intrigue students and scholars of the New Testament and Second Temple Judaism

The Talmud - A Personal Take Daniel Boyarin,2018-01-15 This collection of Daniel Boyarin s previously uncollected essays on the Talmud represents the different methods and lines of inquiry that have animated his work on that text over the last four decades Ranging and changing from linguistic work to work on sex and gender to the relations between formative Judaism and Christianity to the literary genres of the Talmud in the Hellenistic context he gives an account of multiple questions and provocations to which that prodigious book gives stimulation showing how the Talmud can contribute to all of these fields The book opens up possibilities for study of the Talmud using historical classical philological anthropological cultural studies gender and literary theory and criticism As a kind of intellectual autobiography it is a record of the alarms and excursions of a life in the Talmud **Mine and Yours Are Hers** Tāl Īlān, This book suggests several methods with

which rabbinic sources can be approached in order to obtain information about women s history It is the first feminist book about rabbinic literature which treats the latter as a historical source It contains many examples and discusses for the first time many sources relevant for the issue of women in rabbinics **Marriage and Metaphor** Gail Susan

Labovitz,2009-01-01 In Marriage and Metaphor Gail Labovitz explores gender relations in marriage within rabbinic culture

Labovitz shows how rabbis use the concepts of property and ownership to discuss the roles of a husband and wife thereby modeling marriage after a business transaction one in which the wife is seen as an acquisition owned by and subject to the husband This ownership metaphor is clearly present in all strata of rabbinic literature and this book explores how it continues to guide rabbinic thinking serve as a tool for legal reasoning and produce new linguistic applications With a close and careful reading of rabbinic texts Labovitz applies metaphor theory and feminist linguistics to demonstrate the ways in which rabbis regularly use information from the realm of property and commercial transactions to structure their understanding of marriage and gender relations Labovitz examines the qualities deemed masculine and feminine seeking out the methods used by members of rabbinic culture to promote contest legislate and exemplify the ideas and ideals associated with proper normative gender roles What comes of this is a striking work of feminist scholarship that should be read by those interested in gender studies and Jewish culture and history Book jacket **Sacrifice and the Body** John Dunnill, 2016-04-08

What is sacrifice For many people today the word has negative overtones suggesting loss or death or violence But in religions ancient and modern the word is linked primarily to joyous feasting which puts people in touch with the deepest realities How has that change of meaning come about What effect does it have on the way we think about Christianity How does it affect the way Christian believers think about themselves and God John Dunnill's study focuses on sacrifice as a physical event uniting worshippers to deity Bringing together insights from social anthropology biblical studies and Trinitarian theology Dunnill links to debates in sociology and cultural studies as well as the study of liturgy Through a positive view of sacrifice Dunnill contributes to contemporary Christian debates on atonement and salvation **Talmuda de-Eretz Israel** Steven Fine, Aaron Koller, 2014-07-28 Talmuda de Eretz Israel Archaeology and the Rabbis in Late Antique Palestine brings together an international community of historians literature scholars and archaeologists to explore how the integrated study of rabbinic texts and archaeology increases our understanding of both types of evidence and of the complex culture which they together reflect This volume reflects a growing consensus that rabbinic culture was an embodied culture presenting a series of case studies that demonstrate the value of archaeology for the contextualization of rabbinic literature It steers away from later twentieth century trends particularly in North America that stressed disjunction between archaeology and rabbinic literature and seeks a more holistic approach **A Bride Without a Blessing** David Brodsky, 2006 David Brodsky uses form and source criticism to date Massekhet Kallah and the first two chapters of Kallah Rabbati which form a commentary on Massekhet Kallah to the mid amoraic period circa late third and early fifth centuries CE respectively and to locate their redaction in Babylonia This makes these two sources the only known rabbinic texts whose final redaction took place in Babylonia during the amoraic period and establishes them as the closest extant relatives of the Babylonian Talmud Parallels between these two sources and the Babylonian Talmud elucidate the nature of oral transmission and of the redactional processes of Babylonian rabbinic material during this critical period and thereby of the Babylonian Talmud itself In addition

the author deciphers Massekhet Kallah's peculiar asceticism a concern with men's inappropriate use of or interactions with their wives charity vows and even with the group's own transmitted traditions Massekhet Kallah fears the physical and at times cosmic effects of such inappropriate behavior Brodsky finds that these items were all deemed consecrated removed from the realm of normal interaction To have mundane interaction with them was a powerful and dangerous act Brodsky explores the fascinating gender and theological implications of this unique asceticism

Uncover the mysteries within Explore with is enigmatic creation, **Reading And Believing Ancient Judaism And Contemporary Gullibility** . This downloadable ebook, shrouded in suspense, is available in a PDF format (*). Dive into a world of uncertainty and anticipation. Download now to unravel the secrets hidden within the pages.

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