

SOCIETY, THE SACRED, AND SCRIPTURE IN ANCIENT JUDAISM

**A SOCIOLOGY OF
KNOWLEDGE**

Jack N. Lightstone



Society The Sacred And Scripture In Ancient Judaism A Sociology Of Knowledge

**Helen M. Buss, Roger
Hutchinson, Canadian Corporation for
Studies in Religion**

Society The Sacred And Scripture In Ancient Judaism A Sociology Of Knowledge:

Society, the Sacred and Scripture in Ancient Judaism Jack N. Lightstone, 2010-10-30 This work explores the relationship between religion social patterns and the perception of the character of scripture in four modes of Ancient Judaism 1 the Jerusalem community of the fifth to fourth centuries B C E ie the Early Second Temple Period 2 the Judaism of the Graeco Roman Diaspora down to the end of the fourth century of the Christian Era 3 earliest rabbinic Judaism in the second century C E in the land of Israel 4 Late Antique Talmudic Rabbinism primarily in Babylonia down to the sixth century of the Christian Era Lightstone attempts not only to describe these perceptions and relationships but also to account for them to explore why scripture should be thus perceived His imaginative approach to the challenging descriptive and theoretical tasks is influenced by literary and formal critical methods as well as by the methods and perspectives of social anthropology and sociology of the mind This unique attempt at revising the perception of the character of scripture should arouse the interest of scholars and students of Ancient Judaism **Society, the Sacred, and Scripture in Ancient Judaism** Jack N.

Lightstone, 1988-07-13 This work explores the relationship between religion social patterns and the perception of the character of scripture in four modes of Ancient Judaism 1 the Jerusalem community of the fifth to fourth centuries B C E ie the Early Second Temple Period 2 the Judaism of the Graeco Roman Diaspora down to the end of the fourth century of the Christian Era 3 earliest rabbinic Judaism in the second century C E in the land of Israel 4 Late Antique Talmudic Rabbinism primarily in Babylonia down to the sixth century of the Christian Era Lightstone attempts not only to describe these perceptions and relationships but also to account for them to explore why scripture should be thus perceived His imaginative approach to the challenging descriptive and theoretical tasks is influenced by literary and formal critical methods as well as by the methods and perspectives of social anthropology and sociology of the mind This unique attempt at revising the perception of the character of scripture should arouse the interest of scholars and students of Ancient Judaism *Hindu*

Iconoclasts Noel Salmond, 2006-01-01 Why Salmond asks would nineteenth century Hindus who come from an iconic religious tradition voice a kind of invective one might expect from Hebrew prophets Muslim iconoclasts or Calvinists Rammohun was a wealthy Bengali intimately associated with the British Raj and familiar with European languages religion and currents of thought Dayananda was an itinerant Gujarati ascetic who did not speak English and was not integrated into the culture of the colonizers Salmond's examination of Dayananda after Rammohun complicates the easy assumption that nineteenth century Hindu iconoclasm is simply a case of borrowing an attitude from Muslim or Protestant traditions Salmond examines the origins of these reformers' ideas by considering the process of diffusion and independent invention that is whether ideas are borrowed from other cultures or arise spontaneously and without influence from external sources Examining their writings from multiple perspectives Salmond suggests that Hindu iconoclasm was a complex movement whose attitudes may have arisen from independent invention and were then reinforced by diffusion Although idolatry became

the symbolic marker of their reformist programs Rammohun's and Dayananda's agendas were broader than the elimination of image worship These Hindu reformers perceived a link between image rejection in religion and the unification and modernization of society part of a process that Max Weber called the disenchantment of the world Focusing on idolatry in nineteenth century India Hindu Iconoclasts investigates the encounter of civilizations an encounter that continues to resonate today

The Costa Rican Catholic Church, Social Justice, and the Rights of Workers, 1979-1996 Dana Sawchuk, 2006-01-01 Provides a new understanding of the relationship between Church and State in 20th century Costa Rica Understanding the relationship between religion and social justice in Costa Rica involves piecing together the complex interrelationships between Church and State between priests popes politics and the people This book does just that Dana Sawchuk chronicles the fortunes of the country's two competing forms of labour organizations during the 1980s and demonstrates how different factions within the Church came to support either the union movement or Costa Rica's home grown Solidarity movement Challenging the conventional understanding of Costa Rica as a wholly peaceful and prosperous nation and traditional interpretations of Catholic Social Teaching this book introduces readers to a Church largely unknown outside Costa Rica Sawchuk has carefully analyzed material from a multitude of sources interviews newspapers books and articles as well as official Church documents editorials and statements by Church representatives to provide a firmly rooted socio economic history of the experiences of workers and the Catholic Church's responses to workers in Costa Rica

The Biblical Politics of John Locke Kim Ian Parker, 2006-01-01 John Locke is often thought of as one of the founders of the Enlightenment a movement that sought to do away with the Bible and religion and replace them with scientific realism But Locke was extremely interested in the Bible and he was engaged by biblical theology and religion throughout his life In this new book K I Parker considers Locke's interest in Scripture and how that interest is articulated in the development of his political philosophy Parker shows that Locke's liberalism is inspired by his religious vision and particularly his distinctive understanding of the early chapters of the book of Genesis Unlike Sir Robert Filmer who understood the Bible to justify social hierarchies i e the divine right of the king the first born son's rights over other siblings and the natural subservience of women to men Locke understood from the Bible that humans are in a natural state of freedom and equality to each other The biblical debate between Filmer and Locke furnishes scholars with a better understanding of Lockes political views as presented in his Two Treatises The Biblical Politics of John Locke demonstrates the impact of the Bible on one of the most influential thinkers of the seventeenth century and provides an original context in which to situate the debate concerning the origins of early modern political thought

Canadian Methodist Women, 1766-1925 Marilyn Färdig Whiteley, 2006-01-01 Canadian Methodist women like women of all religious traditions have expressed their faith in accordance with their denominational heritage Canadian Methodist Women 1766 1925 Marys Marthas Mothers in Israel analyzes the spiritual life and the varied activities of women whose faith helped shape the life of the Methodist Church and of Canadian society from

the latter half of the eighteenth century until church union in 1925 Based on extensive readings of periodicals biographies autobiographies and the records of many women s groups across Canada as well as early histories of Methodism Marilyn Fridig Whiteley tells the story of ordinary women who provided hospitality for itinerant preachers taught Sunday school played the melodeon selected and supported women missionaries and taught sewing to immigrant girls thus expressing their faith according to their opportunities In performing these tasks they sometimes expanded women s roles well beyond their initial boundaries Focusing on religious practices Canadian Methodist Women 1766 1925 provides a broad perspective on the Methodist movement that helped shape nineteenth and early twentieth century Canadian society The use and interpretation of many new or little used sources will interest those wishing to learn more about the history of women in religion and in Canadian society

Law in Religious Communities in the Roman Period Peter Richardson, Stephen Westerholm, Albert I. Baumgarten, Michael Pettem, Cecilia Wassén, 2006-01-01 The role and function of law in religious communities in the Roman period especially in Judaism has been a key issue among scholars in recent years This thought provoking work is the first full scale attempt to write a historical assessment of the scholarly debate concerning this question focussing on two closely related religious communities Judaism and Christianity By juxtaposing the two religions a clearer understanding of the developments with respect to torah and nomos in Judaism and early Christianity emerges This insightful work placing emphasis on the major figures and both the scholarly lines of development and the appropriate lines for future research will set the debate in a clearer and more and succinct manner It will serve as a critical point of reference for further discussion

Religious Rivalries and the Struggle for Success in Caesarea Maritima Terence L. Donaldson, 2000-05-11 We know how the story of the Roman Empire ended with the triumph of Christianity and the eventual Christianization of the Roman Mediterranean But how would religious life have appeared to an observer at a time when the conversion of the emperor was only a Christian pipe dream And how would it have appeared in one particular city rather than in the Roman Empire as a whole This volume takes a detailed look at the religious dimension of life in one particular Roman city Caesarea Maritima on the Mediterranean coast of Judea Caesarea was marked by a complex religious identity from the outset Over time other religious groups including Christianity Mithraism and Samaritanism found a home in the city where they jostled with each other and with those already present for position influence and the means of survival Written by a team of seasoned scholars and promising newcomers this book brings a new perspective to the study of religion in antiquity Along with the deliberate goal to understand religion as an urban phenomenon Religious Rivalries and the Struggle for Success in Caesarea Maritima studies religious groups as part of the dynamic process of social interaction spanning a spectrum from coexistence through competition and rivalry to open conflict The cumulative result is a fresh and fascinating look at one of antiquity s most interesting cities

"Lord, Giver of Life" Jane Barter Moulaison, 2007 George Lindbeck once characterized postliberalism which received its initial structure from his book The Nature of Doctrine as an attempt to recover pre modern scriptural

interpretation in contemporary form In *Lord Giver of Life Toward a Pneumatological Complement to George Lindbeck's Theory of Doctrine* Jane Barter Moulaison explores the success of that effort through a close examination of Lindbeck's own theological contributions Taking seriously the ecumenical promises of Lindbeck's writing he was instrumental in advancing Lutheran and Roman Catholic dialogue throughout the 1960s 70s and 80s this book brings Lindbeck's famous cultural linguistic model of religion into dialogue with Christianity's theological forbearers specifically the Eastern progenitors of orthodox confession This constellation of theological voices Lindbeck his supporters and detractors along with patristic theologians is meant not only to test the viability of a religious model but more importantly to advance Lindbeck's project in ways that have not yet been pursued Among the critical questions engaged are to what degree can the excesses of modern theology be overcome by a return to premodern sources What are the implications of a constructive pneumatology to the cultural linguistic model Does this complement address the critiques of postliberalism particularly those that consider the role of human agency rationality and autonomy While Lindbeck recovers significant and forgotten elements of premodern biblical interpretation the very formalism of his project sometimes obscures the theological underpinnings of premodern insights and practices Through specific attention to Eastern Trinitarian theologies of the fourth century this book exposes a rather persistent oversight within Lindbeck's recovery namely that alongside the regulative function of canon and doctrine early biblical interpretation recognizes the role of the Holy Spirit in the appropriation of scripture in the mission of the church and in the defence of the gospel within the context of an unbelieving world This book attends to these insights from the early church's doctrine of the Holy Spirit in appreciative service to the cultural linguistic model of religion

Women in God's Army Andrew Mark Eason, 2009-10-22 The early Salvation Army professed its commitment to sexual equality in ministry and leadership In fact its founding constitution proclaimed women had the right to preach and hold any office in the organization But did they *Women in God's Army* is the first study of its kind devoted to the critical analysis of this central claim It traces the extent to which this egalitarian ideal was realized in the private and public lives of first and second generation female Salvationists in Britain and argues that the Salvation Army was found wanting in its overall commitment to women's equality with men Bold pronouncements were not matched by actual practice in the home or in public ministry Andrew Mark Eason traces the nature of these discrepancies as well as the Victorian and evangelical factors that lay behind them He demonstrates how Salvationists often assigned roles and responsibilities on the basis of gender rather than equality and the ways in which these discriminatory practices were supported by a male defined theology and authority He views this story from a number of angles including historical gender and feminist theology ensuring it will be of interest to a wide spectrum of readers Salvationists themselves will appreciate the light it sheds on recent debates Ultimately however anyone who wants to learn more about the human struggle for equality will find this book enlightening

The Social Setting of the Ministry as Reflected in the Writings of Hermas, Clement and Ignatius Harry O. Maier, 2006-01-01 Focussing on

three first and early second century documents the Shepherd of Hermas 1 Clement and the Ignatian epistles this work contributes to a growing body of literature concerned with the social setting of early Christianity Maier argues that the development of structures of leadership in the early Christian church is best accounted for by reference to the hospitality patronage and leadership of wealthy hosts who invited local Christian groups to meet in their homes Sociological models and types are employed to analyze the tensions that arose from excesses of patronage and leadership by the well to do Recognizing the socio economic setting of these conflicts corrects the interpretation of early Christian conflicts over the ministry as purely theological and doctrinal

Doing Ethics in a Pluralistic World Phyllis D. Airhart, Marilyn J. Legge, Gary L. Redcliffe, 2002-05-30 Doing Ethics in a Pluralistic World is an apt title for this collection of essays in honour of Roger C Hutchinson who over many decades has encouraged and participated in shaping a Canadian contextual social ethics His abiding interest in social ethics and in religious engagement with public issues is reflected in his life s work seeking the consensus and self knowledge required to achieve cooperation in the search for a just participatory and sustainable society One of Roger Hutchinson s many notable accomplishments is his development of a method of dialogue for ethical clarification in situations of diversity Some of the essays collected here apply this method to specific issues while others discuss how religious persons and organizations can and do co operate in a pluralistic world to achieve social and ecological well being All essays are of keen interest to those concerned with the role and function of ethics at the matrix of religious conviction and social transformation For nearly three decades Roger Hutchinson has been based at Victoria University in Toronto first in religious studies then at Emmanuel College where he completed his teaching career as professor of church and society while serving as principal from 1996 to 2001

Weaving Relationships Kathryn Anderson, 2006-01-01 Weaving Relationships tells the remarkable little known story of a movement that transcends barriers of geography language culture and economic disparity The story begins in the early 1980s when 200 000 Maya men women and children crossed the Guatemalan border into Mexico fleeing genocide by the Guatemalan army and seeking refuge A decade later many of the refugees returned to their homeland along with 140 Canadians members of Project Accompaniment The Canadians were there by their side to provide companionship and more significantly as an act of solidarity Weaving Relationships describes the historical roots of this solidarity focusing on the Maya in Guatemala It relates the story of Project Accompaniment and two of its founders in Canada the Christian Task Force on Central America and the Maritimes Guatemala Breaking the Silence Network It reveals solidarity s impact on the Canadians and Guatemalans whose lives have been changed by the experience of relationships across borders It presents solidarity not as a work of charity apart from or for them but as a bond of mutuality of friendship and common struggle with those who are marginalized excluded and impoverished in this world This book speaks of a spirituality based on community and justice and challenges the church to move beyond its preoccupation with its own survival to solidarity with those who are suffering It is a book about hope in the face of death and despair

Doing Ethics

in a Pluralistic World Helen M. Buss, Roger Hutchinson, Canadian Corporation for Studies in Religion, 2002-05-30

Annotation A collection of essays in honour of the man who encouraged and participated in shaping a Canadian contextual social ethics *Linking Sexuality & Gender* Tracy J. Trothen, Canadian Corporation for Studies in Religion, 2003-05-13

Trothen systematic theology and ethics Queen's U Canada argues that the Church's approaches to sexuality and gender contributed to the length of time it took for the issue of violence against women to be identified as a concrete issue on its agenda She reviews its long tradition of grappling with issues of sexuality and gender then analyzes three case studies to demonstrate its contemporary approach Annotation c 2003 Book News Inc Portland OR booknews.com *Religious Studies in Manitoba and Saskatchewan* John M. Badertscher, Gordon Harland, Roland E. Miller, 2006-01-01 This fourth volume in a series of state of the art reviews of religious studies programs in Canadian provinces traces the formative role of religion in the establishment of the universities in Manitoba and Saskatchewan Despite strong roots in denominational colleges with their confessionally oriented study of religion by the 1960s there was a diffused sense in the culture of the need for a religious perspective and even a quest for religious experience but at the same time there was a growing dissatisfaction with the conventional ways of being religious This new perspective coupled with rising enrollments and increased funding both a result of the explosion of post secondary education in Canada was reflected in a shift away from the theological study of religion to an academic one New Religious Studies departments that reflected a science of religion philosophy were founded and faculty hired and curricula developed to meet these broader concerns Current issues such as graduate studies research and publication and faculty hiring are also treated as are the Bible colleges and theological seminaries which play such an important role in both provinces Assessments of religious studies research programs and their relation to the general community situate the programs in a wider context and indicate future directions This solid sensitively written volume adds considerably to our knowledge of religious studies in Canada and illustrates how yet another region is meeting the needs of a pluralistic society by providing new contexts for the study of religion **A Gift of God in Due Season** Richard D.

Weis, David M. Carr, James A. Sanders, 1996-11-01 This volume of essays addresses from a variety of vantage points the relation of scriptures and community that has been so central to the canonical critical work of James A Sanders The first part of the volume focuses on the formation of the Jewish and Christian canons and texts in them while the second part looks at ancient and modern appropriations of canonical texts Together these essays show the multiple potential links between canonical criticism and historical literary feminist and other approaches in contemporary biblical studies *Literature as Pulpit* Randi R. Warne, 2006-01-01 Nellie L McClung 1873 1951 was an internationally celebrated feminist and social activist whose success as a platform speaker was legendary Her earliest notoriety was achieved as a writer and during her lengthy career she authored four novels two novellas three collections of short stories a two volume autobiography and various collections of speeches articles and wartime writing to a total of sixteen volumes All this served as a pulpit from which

McClung could preach her gospel of feminist activism and social transformation. She was convinced that God's intention for Creation was a Fair Deal for everyone and that Canada, particularly the prairie West, was a perfect place to begin to bring that about. Woman suffrage, temperance, and the ordination of women were keystones in the battle engaged in contrast to contemporary stereotypes, with a wit and compelling humour that won over enemies as it delighted her allies. Literature as Pulpit explores Nellie McClung's vision of a better world and the impediments to it as expressed through her novels and her feminist tract *In Times Like These*. It addresses the profoundly anti-feminist context within which McClung was forced to make her arguments and notes her indebtedness to other feminist writers and thinkers of her day. Throughout McClung's religion of active care emerges as a consistent and harmonizing theme which integrates her feminism and social activism into a single empowering vision for social change.

Dangerous Food Peter D. Gooch, Canadian Corporation for Studies in Religion, 1993-11-16. Recognizing the social meaning of food and meals in Greco-Roman culture and in particular the social meaning of idol food is an integral part of understanding the impact of Paul's instructions to the Christian community at Corinth regarding the consumption of idol food. Shared meals were a central feature of social intercourse in Greco-Roman culture. Meals and food were markers of social status and participation at meals was the main means of establishing and maintaining social relations. Participation in public rites and sharing the meals which ensued was a requirement of holding public office. The social consequences of refusing to eat idol food would be extreme. Christians might not attend weddings, funerals, celebrations in honour of birthdays, or even formal banquets without encountering idol food. In this extended reading of 1 Corinthians 8:1-11, Paul's response to the Corinthian Christians' query concerning food offered to idols. Gooch uses a social historical approach combining historical methods of source literary and redaction criticism and newer applications of anthropological and sociological methods to determine what idol food was and what it meant in that place at that time to eat or avoid it. In opposition to a well-entrenched scholarly consensus, Gooch claims that although Paul had abandoned purity rules concerning food, he would not abandon Judaism's cultural and religious understanding concerning idol food. On the basis of his reconstruction of Paul's letter in which he urged the Corinthian Christians to avoid any food infected by non-Christian rites, Gooch argues that the Corinthians rejected Paul's instructions to avoid facing significant social liabilities.

Prophets, Pastors and Public Choices Roger Hutchinson, 2006-01-01. The Mackenzie Valley natural gas pipeline debate included many actors. This is the first in-depth study in comparative religious ethics to examine the debate with a particular focus on the role of the Canadian churches. In 1974, twenty-seven of the world's largest oil and natural gas companies applied for permission to build a pipeline through the Mackenzie Valley to transport Alaskan and northern Canadian gas to large southern markets. Many northern native peoples opposed the proposal and called for a moratorium on major northern development projects until native land claims had been settled. The mainline Canadian Christian churches supported the call for a moratorium and through the interchurch coalition Project North campaigned against the pipeline.

However some native peoples supported the proposal to build the pipeline and many of the pipeline's proponents were members of churches that called for a moratorium on the project This case study in comparative religious ethics though written from a pro moratorium stand attempts to clarify the debate Conflicting responses to the pipeline proposal are assessed in relation to hard facts concerning the need for northern gas in the South social scientific findings regarding the impact of the pipeline on native communities the rights of native peoples to participate in decisions affecting their lives assumptions about the way of life of non native people in the South and the role of religious convictions in public choices This thoroughly researched study reveals the inner workings and influences of the Canadian churches involved and illustrates their commitment on behalf of the northern natives opposed to the project

Society The Sacred And Scripture In Ancient Judaism A Sociology Of Knowledge Book Review: Unveiling the Power of Words

In some sort of driven by information and connectivity, the energy of words has become more evident than ever. They have the capacity to inspire, provoke, and ignite change. Such is the essence of the book **Society The Sacred And Scripture In Ancient Judaism A Sociology Of Knowledge**, a literary masterpiece that delves deep into the significance of words and their effect on our lives. Compiled by a renowned author, this captivating work takes readers on a transformative journey, unraveling the secrets and potential behind every word. In this review, we shall explore the book's key themes, examine its writing style, and analyze its overall impact on readers.

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