



THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM
ISRAEL INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDIES
ISRAEL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

The IAS Research Group

From Creation to Sinai: Genesis and Exodus in Antiquity

Jewish, Christian, and Muslim Traditions in Interaction

is happy to invite you to participate in the workshop

From Creation to Sinai

Jewish, Christian, and Qur'anic Traditions in Interaction

Sunday - Wednesday, March 5-8, 2017

All lectures will take place at the Israel Institute for Advanced Studies,
on the Edmond J. Safra Campus, Giv'at Ram, Room 130

Please find the detailed programme in the following pages.

There may be minor changes in the lectures schedule.

Sunday, March 5, 2017

15:30–16:00 Registration and Gathering

16:00–18:30 Opening Session

The Variety of Biblical Interpretation in Antiquity

Chair: GUY STROUMSA

Greetings: MICHAL LINIAL, MENAHEM KISTER

HAROLD ATTRIDGE | Debates about Origins: Variety in ‘Gnostic’ and Hermetic
Accounts of Creation

MENAHEM KISTER | ‘Ascending and Descending’ and the Fate of Israel: Themes and
Variations

GARY A. ANDERSON | Divine Testing in Second Temple Literature: The Correlation
of Abraham, Job and Tobit

18:30–20:00 Reception

Monday, March 6, 2017

9:30–10:50 Pseudepigraphic Writings of the Second Temple Period

Chair: DEVORAH DIMANT

LOREN STUCKENBRUCK | The Integrity of Creation in the Book of Watchers: A Reading
of 1 Enoch Chapters 6-16 in Literary Context

ESTHER ESHEL | Learning and Transmission of Knowledge in the Genesis
Apocryphon and Related Texts

10:50–11:20 Coffee break

11:20–12:40 Philo the Exegete

Chair: MAREN NIEHOFF

THOMAS H. TOBIN, SJ | Philo and the Allegorical Reinterpretation of Genesis

GREGORY E. STERLING | Thunderous Silence: Philo of Alexandria on the Sinai Pericope

12:45–14:15 Lunch

14:15–15:35 Rabbinic Literature: Exegesis in Context

Chair: VERED NOAM

CHAIM MILIKOWSKY | The Years of Israel in Egypt: Hermeneutical Strategies and Interpretive Decisions

YAKIR PAZ | 'He Who Created This Did Not Create This': A Rabbinic Polemic against an Audian Melothesian Anthropogony

15:35–16:00 Coffee break

16:00–17:20 Hellenistic Jewish Writings, Pseudepigrapha, and Rabbinic Literature

Chair: MOSHE DAVID HERR

JAN JOOSTEN | The Divinization of Joseph in Hellenistic Judaism

YAAKOV KADURI | The Testaments of the Twelve Patriarchs and Rabbinic Exegetical Tradition

Tuesday, March 7, 2017

9:30–10:50 Christian Exegesis of Biblical Themes

Chair: ORA LIMOR

HILLEL NEWMAN | Jerome's Exegesis of Genesis in Light of Jewish Exegetical Traditions

BAS TER HAAR ROMENY | 'From Whence Was the Ram?' Aspects of Genesis 22 in Syriac Biblical Interpretation

10:50–11:20 Coffee break

11:20–12:40 Christian and Anti-Christian Interpretations of Genesis

Chair: MARC HIRSHMAN

CHRISTOPH MARKSCHIES | Origen on Genesis

PIETER W. VAN DER HORST | The Pagan Opponents of Christianity on the Book of Genesis

12:45–14:15 Lunch

14:15–15:35 From Exodus to Sinai in the Qur'an

Chair: SARA SVIRI

URI RUBIN | The Israelite Exodus and the Promised Land: The Qur'ānic Viewpoint

JOSEPH WITZTUM | Sinning at Sinai: Qur'anic Variations on Biblical and Post-Biblical Themes

15:35–16:00 Coffee break

16:00–17:20 Abraham in the Qur'an

Chair: HAGGAI BEN-SHAMMAI

ANGELIKA NEUWIRTH | The Change of the Direction of Prayer and the *Akedah*: A Hypothetical Relationship

NICOLAI SINAI | Abraham in the Qur'an: From Anti-paternal Dissenter to Paternal Forbear

Wednesday, March 8, 2017

9:30–11:45 Samaritan and Christian Exegesis of Genesis

Chair: ADIEL SCHREMER

ALISON SALVESEN | Jacob of Edessa's *Hexaemeron*: Exegesis or Encyclopedia?

10:10–10:25 Coffee break

STEFAN SCHORCH | Concepts of Creation in the Early Samaritan Liturgical Poetry

WILLIAM ADLER | The Story of Abraham and Melchizedek in the *Palaea Historica*

11:45–12:15 Refreshments

12:15–13:45 Concluding Session: Transmission, Evolution and Interaction of Traditions

Chair: GARY A. ANDERSON

Opening remarks: LOREN STUCKENBRUCK, HAROLD ATTRIDGE, ANGELIKA NEUWIRTH

The introductory remarks will be followed by an open discussion among all participants in the conference to summarize and reflect general issues emerging from the lectures and the ensuing discussions.

Participants

WILLIAM ADLER, North Carolina State University

GARY ANDERSON, University of Notre Dame

HAROLD ATTRIDGE, Yale University

ESTHER ESHEL, Bar-Ilan University

PIETER VAN DER HORST, Utrecht University

JAN JOOSTEN, Oxford University

YAAKOV KADURI (JAMES KUGEL), Bar-Ilan University

MENACHEM KISTER, Hebrew University

CHRISTOPH MARKSCHIES, Humboldt-Universität, Berlin

CHAIM MILIKOWSKY, Bar-Ilan University

ANGELIKA NEUWIRTH, Freie Universität, Berlin

HILLEL NEWMAN, University of Haifa

YAKIR PAZ, Hebrew University

BAS TER HAAR ROMENY, University of Amsterdam

URI RUBIN, Tel Aviv University

ALISON G. SALVESEN, Oxford University

STEFAN SCHORCH, Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg

NICOLAI SINAI, Oxford University

GREGORY E. STERLING, Yale University

LOREN T. STUCKENBRUCK, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München

THOMAS H. TOBIN, Loyola University, Chicago

JOSEPH WITZTUM, Hebrew University