Contents

Abbreviations — 1

Introduction — 3

Biographical aspects — 12
1 Julius Wellhausen (1844–1918) — 12
2 Yehezkel Kaufmann (1889–1963) — 15
2.1 Life — 15
2.2 Main interest — 16
2.3 Major works — 17

Part I Julius Wellhausen’s Reconstruction of the History of Israel

Chapter One: From Source and Literary Criticism to Historical Synthesis — 25
1 Introduction — 25
2 Principles of Wellhausen’s historiographical approach — 27
2.1 Literary sources and Tendenzkritik — 27
2.2 Original and genuine tradition — 31
3 Dating the sources — 34
4 From literary criticism to historical synthesis: Summary — 40
5 Julius Wellhausen: The historical setting — 44
5.1 Wellhausen’s bias towards romanticism — 45
5.2 Historicism — 47
5.2.1 De Wette’s Beiträge zur Einleitung in das Alte Testament — 48
5.2.2 Vatke’s Biblische Theologie — 49
5.2.3 Graf’s Die geschichtlichen Bücher des Alten Testaments — 51
5.2.4 Ewald’s Geschichte des Volkes Israel — 52

Chapter Two: History of Israelite Religion — 55
1 Introduction — 55
2 The place of law in the history of Israel — 55
3 The religion of ancient Israel — 61
4 The prophetic reformation — 63
5 Israel and Judaism — 67
## Chapter Six: Early Israelite History in Canaan — 143

1. Introduction — 143  
2. The Patriarchal Age — 143  
3. Moses — 146  
4. Inquiry into the traditions of conquest and settlement — 150  
5. The narrative of the conquest — 153  
6. Conquest and settlement: two different periods — 156  
7. Utopian land of Israel — 160  
8. Israelites and the Canaanites — 163

## Chapter Seven: Sources of Kaufmann's Exegetical Approach — 171

1. Introduction — 171  
2. Kaufmann and biblical criticism — 171  
3. Kaufmann’s exegetical approach — 179  
   3.1. Jewish rationalism — 179  
   3.2. In search of the nation — 182  
   3.3. Religion and the quest for the original idea — 184

## Part III  
**Religion and History: A Comparison of Wellhausen and Kaufmann**

## Chapter Eight: Moving between Wellhausen and Kaufmann — 195

1. Introduction — 195  
2. Setting the scene — 195  
3. Wellhausen and Kaufmann: Similarities and differences — 197  
   3.1. Religious history of ancient Israel — 197  
   3.2. History and history writing — 211  
   3.3. Authority of biblical texts — 219

## Chapter Nine: Early Israel: Priestly Ideal or Prophetic Theocracy? — 233

1. Introduction — 233  
2. Early theocracy — 235  
3. Prophetic theocracy — 239  
4. Theocratic ideal — 242  
5. Premises and assumptions — 262  
6. Evaluation — 269

Conclusion — 275
Bibliography — 283

Subject index — 300

Index of names — 303