**PLANT MOTIFS ON JEWISH OSSURARIES AND SARCOPHAGI IN
PALESTINE IN THE LATE SECOND TEMPLE PERIOD: THEIR
IDENTIFICATION, SOCIOLOGY AND SIGNIFICANCE**

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This paper attempts to identify the whole range of plant motifs found on Jewish ossuaries. It outlines briefly the nature of the ossuary, its context within the tomb, and the religious, ideological and sociological implications of its use. In light of evidence of the non-funerary use of many similar motifs, the abundant use of plant imagery in biblical and apocryphal texts, and possible external influences on the development of Jewish funerary art, it is argued that, through a process of acculturation, a 'type of symbolism', which is not necessarily religious (that is, related to a system of beliefs about God), may be inherent in the motifs.

The full 90 page illustrated text can be found only online.

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