Contents

Steven Fine and Aaron Koller
Preface — v

Shawn Zelig Aster
Mishnah Baba Metsia 7:7 and the Relationship of Mishnaic Hebrew to Northern Biblical Hebrew — 1

Jonathan S. Milgram
Mishnah Baba Batra 8:5 – The Transformation of the Firstborn Son from Family Leader to Family Member — 19

Noa Yuval-Hacham
Mishnah Avodah Zarah 4:5 – The Faces of Effacement: Between Textual and Artistic Evidence — 29

Joshua Weistuch and Ben Zion Rosenfeld
Tosefta Ma'aser Sheni 1:4 – The Rabbis and Roman Civic Coinage in Late Antique Palestine — 53

Yonatan Adler
Tosefta Shabbat 1:14 – “Come and See the Extent to Which Purity Had Spread” An Archaeological Perspective on the Historical Background to a Late Tannaitic Passage — 63

Uzi Leibner
An Illustrated Midrash of Mekilta de R. Ishmael, Vayeḥi Beshalḥ, 1 – Rabbis and the Jewish Community Revisited — 83

Lawrence H. Schiffman
Jerusalem Talmud Megillah 1 (71b–72a) – “Of the Making of Books”: Rabbinic Scribal Arts in Light of the Dead Sea Scrolls — 97

Alexei Sivertsev
Jerusalem Talmud Sanhedrin 2,6 (20c) – The Demise of King Solomon and Roman Imperial Propaganda in Late Antiquity — 111
Burton L. Visotzky
Genesis Rabbah 1:1 – Mosaic Torah as the Blueprint of the Universe – Insights from the Roman World — 127

R. Steven Notley
Genesis Rabbah 98:17 – “And Why Is It Called Gennosar?” Recent Discoveries at Magdala and Jewish Life on the Plain of Gennosar in the Early Roman Period. — 141

Galit Hasan-Rokem
Leviticus Rabbah 16:1 – “Odysseus and the Sirens” in the Beit Leontis Mosaic from Beit She’an — 159

Steven Fine
Babylonian Talmud, Sukkah 51b – Coloring the Temple: Polychromy and the Jerusalem Temple in Late Antiquity — 191

Sacha Stern
Babylonian Talmud, Avodah Zarah 16a – Jews and Pagan Cults in Third-Century Sepphoris — 205

Steven D. Fraade
The Rehov Inscriptions and Rabbinic Literature – Matters of Language — 225

Stuart S. Miller
“This Is the Beit Midrash of Rabbi Eliezer ha-Qappar” (Dabbura Inscription) – Were Epigraphical Rabbis Real Sages, or Nothing More Than Donors and Honored Deceased? — 239

Laura S. Lieber
The Piyyutim le-Hatan of Qallir and Amittai – Jewish Marriage Customs in Early Byzantium — 275

Afterwords

Eric Meyers
The Use of Archaeology in Understanding Rabbinic Materials: An Archaeological Perspective — 303
Daniel Sperber
The Use of Archaeology in Understanding Rabbinic Materials: A Talmudic Perspective — 321

Index — 347