



FROM JOSEPHUS TO THE RABBIS

ANCIENT
WORLD
RESEARCH
CLUSTER
WORKSHOP

THURSDAY,
22 MAY 2025 9 AM - 5 PM
WOLFSON COLLEGE (THE BUTTERY),
LINTON RD. OXFORD OX2 6UD



09:00-09:30 Gathering and Coffee

09:30-09:45 Welcoming Remarks (Meron Priotrkowski)

09:45-12:00 Session 1

CHAIR: JUDITH OLSZOWY-SCHLANGER (OCHJS)

PART I: MODERN PERSPECTIVES

Martin Goodman (Wolfson)

Isaac D'Israeli on Jewish History after 70 CE: The First Two Centuries

Tessa Rajak (Somerville)

Moshe Schwabe and the Hebrew Gymnasium

10:45-11:00 Coffee Break

PART II: THE RABBIS AND RABBINIC LITERATURE

Robert Brody (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

What Did the Rabbis Think About Priests?

Noah Hacham (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

On Exile: Between Philo and Rabbinic Literature

12:00-13:00 Lunch Break

13:00-14:30 Session 2

CHAIR: HINDY NAJMAN (ORIEL)

PART I: REASSESSING JOSEPHUS: TEXTS, TRADITIONS, & TRANSFORMATIONS

David Friedman (Cambridge/St.Edmund's)
Josephus' Inconsistent Accounts of Judean (Dis)unity

David Taylor (Wolfson)
The Reception of Josephus in Syriac Sources

Meron Piotrkowski (Wolfson)
Josephus on Papyrus: On the Oldest Surviving
Manuscript of the 1st century Jewish Historian

14:30-15:00 Coffee Break

15:00-17:00 Session 3

CHAIR: MARTIN GOODMAN (WOLFSON)

PART II: REASSESSING JOSEPHUS: TEXTS, TRADITIONS, & TRANSFORMATIONS

Jan Willem van Henten (Universiteit van Amsterdam)
Josephus and the Flavians Revisited: The Case of the
Antiquities

15:45-16:45 Keynote Lecture

Daniel Schwartz (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)
Who's to Blame for the Catastrophe? Josephus and the
Birth of Jewish Post-Destruction Discourse

16:45-17:00 Closing Remarks

HINDY NAJMAN, MERON PIOTRKOWSKI, NOAH HACHAM



Ancient World
Research Cluster



Oxford Centre for
Hebrew & Jewish Studies



Centre for the
Study of the Bible

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PROLOGVS IN LIBRO

BELLI IVDÆIC

orientis metus inuaderet. Quoniam iudei
cunctos etiam qui trans eufraten essent
gentiles suos secum rebellaturos esse cre-
derant. romanos autem & finitima ga-
rruabant. nec manus celtica quies-
bat. dissensionumque plena erant omnia
post neronem. & multos quidem rege-
pus adhortabatur. lucri autem cupi-
pars militaris mutationem presentium