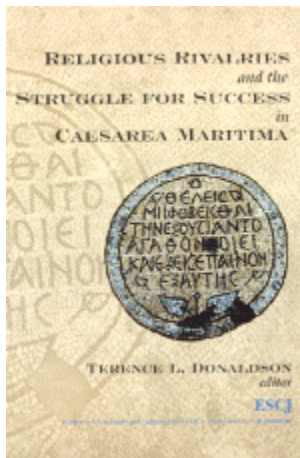


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Doanldson, Terence L., ed.

Religious Rivalries and the Struggle for Success in Caesarea Maritima

Studies in Christianity and Judaism/Études sur le christianisme et le judaïsme 8

Waterloo, ON: Wilfrid Laurier University Press, 2000. Pp. xiv + 398, Paperback, \$29.95, ISBN 0889203482.

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This helpful volume of essays, the product of a seminar under the same name in the Canadian Society of Biblical Studies, will engage many of the constituencies of the *Review of Biblical Literature*. The topic is the religious life of Caesarea Maritima between Herod's building projects at the founding of the Roman Empire and the construction of the fifth-century Byzantine church on the site of Herod's temple of Roma and Augustus. First, scholars with interests as diverse as Herod the Great, the Samaritans, Origen, Mithraism, the emperor cult, archaeology, and religious architecture in late Roman antiquity, and many other topics, will find an essay discussing the relationship of that topic and Caesarea Maritima between the first and sixth centuries CE. Secondly, the broader issue of "religious rivalries" between the Jews, Christians, Samaritans, and various Roman religions in the late antique period, as Christianity grew to the point of official acceptance, deserves considerable attention. While these essays focus on particular pieces of the "struggle" in different times, the volume as a whole—and many of the individual essays—consider the broader methodological issues of the topic.

Terence Donaldson has provided an introduction (1-8) that summarizes the major topics and the essays that follow. Part 1, entitled "Evidence," contains "Archaeological Evidence for Religion and Urbanism in Caesarea Maritima," by Peter Richardson (11-34); "A Literary Guide to Caesarea Maritima," by Lee A. Johnson (35-56); "Epigraphical Evidence in Caesarea Maritima," by Bradley H. McLean (57-64); and "Archeological Study of Caesarea Maritima: An Annotated Bibliography," by Elaine A. Myers (65-101).

Part 2, "Religion," contains "Greco-Roman Religion in Caesarea Maritima," by R. Jackson Painter (105-25); "Jews and Judaism in Caesarea Maritima," by Michele Murray (127-52); "Christianity in Caesarea Maritima," by Richard S. Ascough (153-79); and "Samaritanism in Caesarea Maritima," by Rienhard Pummer (181-202).

Part 3, "Perspectives," contains the following essays: "The Origins and Social Context of Mithraism at Caesarea Maritima," by R. Jackson Painter (205-25); "Ethnic and Political Factors in the Conflict at Caesarea Maritima," by John S. Kloppenborg (227-48); "The Conflict over *Isopoliteia*: An Alexandrian Perspective," by Dorothy I. Sly (249-65); "Architecture and Conflict in Caesarea Maritima," by Stephen Fai (267-78); "Cornelius, the Roman Army and Religion," by Wendy Cotter (279-301); and "Origen's *Hexapla* and Christian-Jewish Encounter in the Second and Third Centuries," by Ruth A. Clements (303-29).

The "Concluding Reflections" by Terence Donaldson (331-39) highlight several of the major themes raised in the essays, including the urban nature of religions in antiquity, the problem in the surviving evidence in moving from particular observations about one city to the broader topic of religions in late antiquity, and the interactions between the various religions, in particular, Origen and the rabbis. The volume closes with a comprehensive list of works cited and indices of both ancient texts and modern authors.