

Christine R. Trotter

Hellenistic Jews and Consolatory Rhetoric

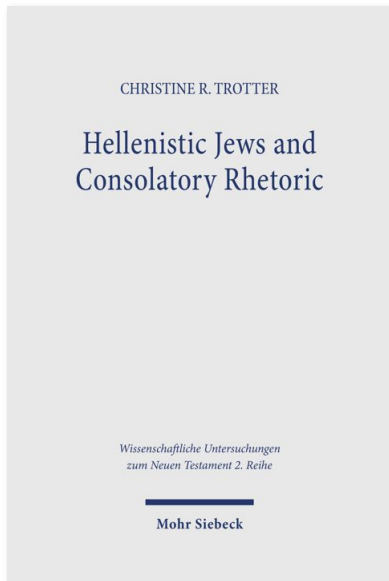
2 Maccabees, Wisdom of Solomon, 1 Thessalonians, and Hebrews

[Hellenistic Jews and Consolatory Rhetoric]

Published in English.

Christine R. Trotter elucidates how Hellenistic Jewish writers attempted to comfort those living in the midst of and in the wake of persecution and violence. While past scholarship has explored this question primarily in terms of the development of Jewish apocalypticism and afterlife beliefs, Christine R. Trotter takes a comprehensive approach by investigating how Hellenistic Jewish authors engaged with ancient consolatory rhetoric, that is, the means of persuasion intended to move a suffering person out of grief and into joy. Through studies on 2 Maccabees, the Wisdom of Solomon, 1 Thessalonians, and Hebrews, the author explicates how Hellenistic Jewish authors navigated the diverse traditions of consolation within their biblical heritage and Greco-Roman culture. Her work has important implications for the genre of 1 Thessalonians and the dates of composition of the Wisdom of Solomon and Hebrews.

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2023. XII, 385 pages. WUNT II 600

ISBN 978-3-16-162475-9
sewn paper €99.00

ISBN 978-3-16-162476-6
DOI [10.1628/978-3-16-162476-6](https://doi.org/10.1628/978-3-16-162476-6)
eBook PDF €99.00

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