

# Testing and Temptation in Second Temple Jewish and Early Christian Texts

Edited by Daniel L. Smith and Loren T. Stuckenbruck

[Prüfung und Versuchung in frühchristlichen Texten und jüdischen Texten aus der Zeit des Zweiten Tempels.]

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From the Wisdom of Ben Sira to the writings of Paul, many Second Temple Jewish and early Christian texts recognize the inescapable role of testing and temptation in human experience. Though God is often presented as one who tests, testing is also attributed to Satan, Mastema, the people of God, and individual humans. How did ancient interpreters react to texts that depict the God of Israel as testing, tested, or intervening on behalf of those undergoing a test? What assumptions do authors have about the role of testing in human experience? How does the vocabulary used for testing and temptation influence the meaning of the text? The essays in the present volume constitute an opening foray into addressing these questions, and this volume aims to catalyze further research into additional dimensions of testing and overlooked motifs in the relevant literature.

Survey of contents

*Daniel L. Smith/Loren T. Stuckenbruck*: Introduction – *Michael Francis*: Philo of Alexandria on Testing and Temptation – *Madison N. Pierce*: Testing and Being Tested in the Epistle to the Hebrews – *Loren T. Stuckenbruck*: Eschatological Temptation the Enochic Way: A Note on 1 Enoch 94:5 – *Todd R. Hanneken*: Ten-Times-Tested Abraham in the Book of Jubilees – *Susanne Luther*: Preparing for Temptation in a Culture of Mutual Ethical Responsibility – *Tzvi Novick*: Life as Test: Reflections on m. 'Abot 2:4 and Related Texts – *Andrew Bowden*: »And the Mixed among Them Desired a Desire«: The Reception of Desire in Numbers 11 LXX in Greek Texts, Ending with the Apostle Paul – *Jan Willem van Henten*: The Triangle of Testing in the Wilderness – *Daniel L. Smith*: Testing the Child of God at the Beginning and until the End: ΠΕΙΡΑΣΜΟΣ and Theological Anthropology in Ancient Jewish and Christian Texts – *Susan R. Garrett*: (Not) Knowing Where I'm Going: Ignorance and Agony for Jesus and Job – *Benjamin G. Wright III*: Unbridled Libido: Ben Sira and the Billy Graham Rule

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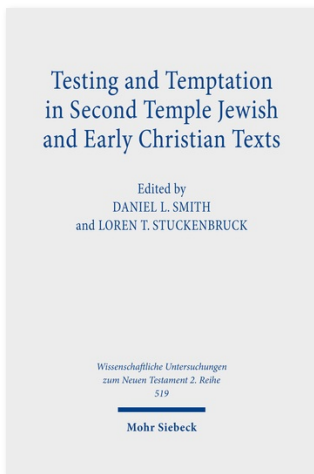
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