THE DESTRUCTION OF JERUSALEM IN EARLY MODERN ENGLISH LITERATURE

This book explores the fall of Jerusalem and restores to its rightful place one of the key explanatory tropes of early modern English culture. Showing the importance of Jerusalem’s destruction in sermons, ballads, puppet shows and provincial drama of the period, Beatrice Groves brings a new perspective to works by canonical authors such as Marlowe, Nashe, Shakespeare, Dekker and Milton. The volume also offers a historically compelling and wide-ranging account of major shifts in cultural attitudes towards Judaism by situating texts in their wider cultural and theological context. Groves examines the continuities and differences between medieval and early modern theatre, London as an imagined community and the way that narratives about Jerusalem and Judaism informed notions of English identity in the wake of the Reformation. Adopting an interdisciplinary approach, this volume will interest researchers and upper-level students of early modern literature, religious studies and theatre.

Beatrice Groves is Research Lecturer in Renaissance Literature at Trinity College, University of Oxford. She is the author of Texts and Traditions: Religion in Shakespeare 1592–1604 (2007) and has published articles in journals, such as Milton Studies, Shakespeare Survey, Medieval and Renaissance Drama in England and Studies in Philology, and her essay in The Sixteenth-Century Journal won the 2013 Sixteenth Century Society’s Literature Prize. Her essays have also appeared in edited collections, including Shakespeare and Renaissance Ethics (Cambridge, 2014), and Shakespeare and Early Modern Religion (Cambridge, 2015).
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BEATRICE GROVES
Tu es Petrus
Contents

List of figures  page viii
Acknowledgements  x

Introduction  1

PART I THE DESTRUCTION OF JERUSALEM IN EARLY MODERN LITERARY CULTURE
1 From Roman to Jew: Josephus, the Josippon and the destruction of Jerusalem in early modern culture  13
2 Continuity and change: staging Jerusalem and staging ‘the Jew’  55
3 Preachers and players: the sack of Jerusalem from pulpit and stage  86

PART II THE DESTRUCTION OF JERUSALEM IN EARLY MODERN TEXTS
4 Marlowe’s Jew of Malta and the destruction of Jerusalem  121
5 The siege of Jerusalem and subversive rhetoric in Shakespeare’s King John  146
6 The fall of Jerusalem and the rise of a metropolis: Nashe’s Christ’s Tears over Jerusalem, Dekker’s plague pamphlets and maternal cannibalism in early modern London  165
7 The New Jerusalem: Josephan portents and Milton’s Paradise Lost  187

Conclusion  219

Bibliography  232
Index  262
Figures


List of figures

11 The Franks Casket. © The Trustees of the British Museum. All rights reserved.  
210
226
Acknowledgements

This book on the destruction of Jerusalem has been a number of years in the building. Particular thanks are due to those – Peter McCullough, Paulina Kewes and Imogen Black – who gave me support and assistance at its inception; and to those – Tessa Rajak, Maud Hurley and Jane McLeod – who have suggested improvements to the final manuscript. Along the way I have had many illuminating discussions: Diarmaid MacCulloch, in particular, has been endlessly generous in responding to queries, and conversations with Jessica Sheppard have added many new perspectives. I have also enjoyed stimulating, interdisciplinary exchanges with fellow members of the network 'Imagining Jerusalem, c. 1099 to the Present Day', particularly at our 2014 York conference.

My gratitude is due to all the many friends and scholars who have assisted me during this project with their erudition and enthusiasm: Sarah Apetrei, Kate Armstrong, John Barnard, Martin Biddle, Madeleine Brook, Victoria Brownlee, Susan Brigden, Mark Burnett, Timothy Chesters, Chloe Courtney, Simon Cuff, Brian Cummings, Sarah Dewar-Watson, Katherine Duncan-Jones, Mark Edwards, Bart van Es, Stefano Evangelista, Laura Gallagher, Ellie Gebarowski-Shafer, Martin Goodman, Ralph Hanna, Martin Henig, David Hook, Lisa Hopkins, Chris Howgego, Paul Joyce, Katherine Larson, Helen Lavy, Jason Lawrence, Elizabeth Leach, Rhodri Lewis, David Loewenstein, Mary Ann Lund, Melanie Marshall, David Maskell, Nick Mayhew, Judith McKenzie, Fergus Millar, Llewelyn Morgan, John Muddiman, Vanita Neelakanta, John T. Ramsey, Thomas Roebuck, Peter van Rooden, Christopher Rowland, John Sawyer, Fred Schurink, Cathy Shrank, Paul Slack, Emma Smith, Michael Theophilos, Michael Witmore and Florence Yoon.

The final stages of this book were completed during sabbatical leave and I am grateful to the President and Fellows of Trinity College, Oxford – and in particular my colleagues Kantik Ghosh and Stefano Evangelista – for this. I am also grateful to the many librarians who have been unfailingly
Acknowledgements

helpful during my research, in particular those of the Duke Humphrey and Upper Reading Rooms of the Bodleian. Thanks are due likewise to the staff of the Oxford English Faculty library, the British Library and numerous Oxford College libraries.


I am grateful to my editors at Cambridge University Press – Sarah Stanton, Rosemary Crawley, Joanna Breeze and Andrew Dawes – and my indexer Francesca Hillier. I would also like to thank the anonymous readers who have given their expertise so generously.

Above all I want to thank my family and friends for their unfailing love and support: in particular my brother, James, my parents, Jane and Peter, and my children, Michael and Edward. Finally, this book is dedicated to my husband, Peter, in love and gratitude.