

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-28551-3 - Jews in the Hellenistic World: Josephus, Aristeas, The
Sibylline Oracles, Eupolemus

John R. Bartlett

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CAMBRIDGE COMMENTARIES ON
WRITINGS OF THE JEWISH AND CHRISTIAN WORLD
200 BC TO AD 200
VOLUME I PART I

Jews in the Hellenistic World

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-28551-3 - *Jews in the Hellenistic World: Josephus, Aristeas, The Sibylline Oracles, Eupolemus*

John R. Bartlett

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CAMBRIDGE COMMENTARIES ON
WRITINGS OF THE JEWISH AND CHRISTIAN WORLD
200 BC TO AD 200

General Editors:

P. R. ACKROYD

A. R. C. LEANEY

J. W. PACKER

- 1 i *Jews in the Hellenistic World: Josephus, Aristeas, the Sibylline Oracles, Eupolemus* – John R. Bartlett
- 1 ii *Jews in the Hellenistic World: Philo* – R. Williamson
- 2 *The Qumran Community* – M. A. Knibb
- 3 *Early Rabbinic Writings* – H. Maccoby
- 4 *Outside the Old Testament* – M. de Jonge
- 5 *Outside the New Testament* – G. N. Stanton
- 6 *Jews and Christians: Graeco-Roman Views* – Molly Whittaker
- 7 *The Jewish and Christian World 200 BC to AD 200* – A. R. C. Leaney

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-28551-3 - Jews in the Hellenistic World: Josephus, Aristeas, The
Sibylline Oracles, Eupolemus

John R. Bartlett

Frontmatter

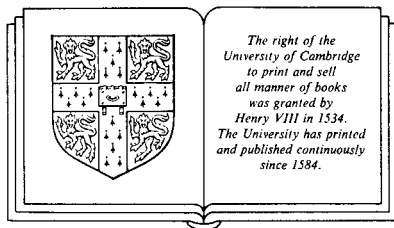
[More information](#)

JEWES IN THE HELLENISTIC WORLD

JOSEPHUS, ARISTEAS,
THE SIBYLLINE ORACLES, EUPOLEMUS

JOHN R. BARTLETT

*Lecturer in Divinity and
Fellow of Trinity College Dublin*



CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge

London New York New Rochelle

Melbourne Sydney

Cambridge University Press
978-0-521-28551-3 - Jews in the Hellenistic World: Josephus, Aristeas, The
Sibylline Oracles, Eupolemus
John R. Bartlett
Frontmatter
[More information](#)

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS
Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town, Singapore, São Paulo, Delhi

Cambridge University Press
The Edinburgh Building, Cambridge CB2 8RU, UK

Published in the United States of America by Cambridge University Press, New York

www.cambridge.org
Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9780521242462

© Cambridge University Press 1985

This publication is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception
and to the provisions of relevant collective licensing agreements,
no reproduction of any part may take place without the written
permission of Cambridge University Press.

First published 1985
Re-issued in this digitally printed version 2008

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

Library of Congress Catalogue Card Number: 85-3840

ISBN 978-0-521-24246-2 hardback
ISBN 978-0-521-28551-3 paperback

Cambridge University Press
 978-0-521-28551-3 - Jews in the Hellenistic World: Josephus, Aristeas, The
 Sibylline Oracles, Eupolemus
 John R. Bartlett
 Frontmatter
[More information](#)

Contents

List of Maps and Plans	<i>page</i> vii
General Editors' Preface	ix
Jews in the hellenistic world	I
THE LETTER OF ARISTEAS	
	II
The purpose of the Letter	II
The date of the Letter	16
The author's Preface (1–6)	17
The memorandum of Demetrius (28–33)	20
Jerusalem and Alexandria – a comparison (105–10)	24
The land of Judaea (112–18)	27
The high priest's apology for the Law (134–9)	30
Interpretation of certain provisions of the Law (144–50)	32
THE SIBYLLINE ORACLES	
	35
Origins	35
The message of the Oracles	37
Book Three	38
Book Five	39
Later Sibylline books	41
A sequence of kingdoms (III.162–95)	42
Against Egypt and Alexandria (V.73–109)	49
EUPOLEMUS	
	56
Eupolemus, author and diplomat	56
The writings of Eupolemus	57
Moses and the Law (Euseb. <i>P.E.</i> IX.26.1)	59
From Moses to David (Euseb. <i>P.E.</i> IX.30.1–4)	61
Preparation for building the Temple (Euseb. <i>P.E.</i> IX.30.5–8)	64
Solomon's correspondence with Vaphres (Euseb. <i>P.E.</i> IX.30.8 – IX.32.1)	67
Jeremiah and the fall of Jerusalem (Euseb. <i>P.E.</i> IX.39.2–5)	69

Cambridge University Press
 978-0-521-28551-3 - Jews in the Hellenistic World: Josephus, Aristeas, The
 Sibylline Oracles, Eupolemus
 John R. Bartlett
 Frontmatter
[More information](#)

vi	<i>Contents</i>	
	JOSEPHUS	page 72
	The life and career of Josephus	72
	The text of Josephus' writings	76
	<i>The Jewish War</i>	76
	<i>Antiquities of the Jews</i>	79
	<i>Against Apion</i>	86
	<i>The Life</i>	89
	<i>The Testimonium Flavianum</i>	92
	The selected passages	94
	Josephus and the Jewish War (<i>War</i> , Preface 1-4 (1-12))	95
	Herod's gifts abroad (<i>War</i> 1.21.11-12 (422-8))	101
	Pontius Pilate (<i>War</i> 11.9.2-3 (169-74))	110
	A warning from Agrippa (<i>War</i> 11.16.4 (358-64))	113
	Roman discipline and organisation (<i>War</i> 111.5.1-2 (70-84))	117
	Josephus prophesies before Vespasian (<i>War</i> 111.8.8-9 (392-408))	121
	The death of Ananus (<i>War</i> 11.5.2 (314-25))	127
	Three parties in the city (<i>War</i> 11.1.1-4 (1-26))	131
	Two parties in the city (<i>War</i> 11.6.1 (248-57))	138
	Titus disclaims responsibility (<i>War</i> 11.2.4 (124-8))	143
	Abraham (<i>Ant.</i> 1.7.1-2 (154-60))	144
	Abraham as a man of learning (<i>Ant.</i> 1.8.2 (166-8))	149
	Moses (<i>Ant.</i> 11.16.4-5 (345-8))	151
	Balaam (<i>Ant.</i> 11.6.6. (126-30))	153
	Israelite apostasy (<i>Ant.</i> 11.6.8-9 (137-40))	155
	Zambrias (<i>Ant.</i> 11.6.10, 11 (141, 145-9))	158
	The Law of Moses and directions for the Temple (<i>Ant.</i> 11.8.4-5 (196-201))	161
	Daniel (<i>Ant.</i> 11.11.7 (266-81))	164
	Greek historians (<i>Apion</i> 1.2 (6-12))	171
	The Jewish historians (<i>Apion</i> 1.7-8 (37-44))	176
	Aristotle and the Jew (<i>Apion</i> 1.22 (175-82))	179
	Apion's charge of sedition (<i>Apion</i> 11.6 (68-78))	182
	Diplomacy in Rome and Jerusalem (<i>Life</i> 3-4 (13-19))	188
	A Note on Further Reading	192
	Index	195

Cambridge University Press
 978-0-521-28551-3 - Jews in the Hellenistic World: Josephus, Aristeas, The
 Sibylline Oracles, Eupolemus
 John R. Bartlett
 Frontmatter
[More information](#)

Maps and Plans

MAPS

1	The hellenistic Mediterranean world	<i>page</i> 44
2	Ptolemaic Egypt	50
3	Asia, Arabia, Armenia, and Parthia	98
4	The Levant	104
5	Judaea and her neighbours	126
6	Jerusalem AD 66–70	136
7	The Bay of Naples	189

PLANS

1	A typical Roman fort	119
2	The Herodian Temple and its courts	142

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-28551-3 - Jews in the Hellenistic World: Josephus, Aristeas, The Sibylline Oracles, Eupolemus

John R. Bartlett

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

General Editors' Preface

The three general editors of the Cambridge Bible Commentary series have all, in their teaching, experienced a lack of readily usable texts of the literature which is often called pseudepigrapha but which is more accurately defined as extra-biblical or para-biblical literature. The aim of this new series is to help fill this gap.

The welcome accorded to the Cambridge Bible Commentary has encouraged the editors to follow the same pattern here, except that carefully chosen extracts from the texts, rather than complete books, have normally been provided for comment. The introductory material leads naturally into the text, which itself leads into alternating sections of commentary.

Within the severe limits imposed by the size and scope of the series, each contributor will attempt to provide for the student and general reader the results of modern scholarship, but has been asked to assume no specialised theological or linguistic knowledge.

The volumes already planned cover the writings of the Jewish and Christian World from about 200 BC to AD 200 and are being edited as follows:

- 1 i *Jews in the Hellenistic World: Josephus, Aristeas, the Sibylline Oracles, Eupolemus* – John R. Bartlett, Trinity College, Dublin
- 1 ii *Jews in the Hellenistic World: Philo* – R. Williamson, University of Leeds
- 2 *The Qumran Community* – M. A. Knibb, King's College, London
- 3 *Early Rabbinic Writings* – H. Maccoby, Leo Baeck College, London
- 4 *Outside the Old Testament* – M. de Jonge, University of Leiden
- 5 *Outside the New Testament* – G. N. Stanton, King's College, London
- 6 *Jews and Christians: Graeco-Roman Views* – Molly Whittaker, University of Nottingham

A seventh volume by one of the general editors, A. R. C. Leaney, *The Jewish and Christian World 200 BC to AD 200*, examines the wider

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-28551-3 - Jews in the Hellenistic World: Josephus, Aristeas, The
Sibylline Oracles, Eupolemus

John R. Bartlett

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

x

General Editors' Preface

historical and literary background to the period and includes tables of dates, relevant lists and maps. Although this companion volume will preface and augment the series, it may also be read as complete in itself and be used as a work of general reference.

P.R.A. A.R.C.L. J.W.P.