CONTENTS

List of Figures x
List of Tables xi
Acknowledgments xii
Note on the Text xv
List of Abbreviations xvi

Introduction: Why This New Genos? Christian Ethnic Identity in 1 Peter 1
Why This New Genos? 1
Regeneration in Previous Studies of 1 Peter 2

1 Ethnicity Ancient and Modern 7
  1.1 Christianity as an Ethnos 7
  1.2 Modern Perspectives on Ethnicity 9
  1.3 Ancient Jewish Ethnicity in the Second Temple Period 15
  1.4 A Note on Ancient Greek Ethnicity 21

2 A Field Guide to Metaphors 24
  2.1 Metaphor and Divine Regeneration in 1 Peter: A Review of Scholarship 26
  2.2 Anatomy of a Metaphor 29
  2.3 How to Identify Metaphors: The Metaphor Identification Procedure (MIP) 44
  2.4 Metaphor, the “Real,” and Theology: A Complex Intersection 47

3 The Structure of 1 Peter: A Bird’s-Eye View 52
  3.1 The Structure of 1 Peter 52
# Contents

4 Begotten Anew: Divine Begetting in 1 Peter 63

4.1 Introduction 63

4.2 The Vocabulary of Regeneration: *Anagenna*ō and *Palingenesia* 65

4.3 God as Begetter and Birthmother 75

4.4 Begotten Anew: Divine Begetting in 1 Peter 101

4.5 Conclusion 115

5 Seed Metaphors in Jewish and Early Christian Literature 118

5.1 Introduction 118

5.2 Holy Seed in Biblical Literature 119

5.3 Holy or Divine Seed in Greco-Roman Jewish Literature 130

5.4 The Idiom Seed in the New Testament 148

5.5 Imperishable Seed in 1 Peter 151

5.6 Conclusion 165

6 Newborn Babies and Spiritual Milk in 1 Peter 2:1–3 169

6.1 More than Nutrition: Milk and Ethnic Identity 169

6.2 Breastfeeding and Ethnic Identity 170

6.3 Cross-Gender Imagery: Feminine Men, Maternal God 176

6.4 Nursed to Salvation: 1 Peter 2:1–3 187

6.5 Conclusion 195

7 From House to House of God: House and Cultic Language in 1 Peter 2:4–10 198

7.1 Introduction: Structure and Spiritual Formation 198

7.2 From House to House of God 199

7.3 The House of God: The Meanings of *Oikos* 200

7.4 A Spiritual House: Community as Temple at Qumran 202

7.5 Living Temples in the New Testament 216

7.6 1 Peter 2:4–5: Living Stones 220

7.7 1 Peter 2:6–8: For It Stands in Scripture 227

7.8 1 Peter 2:9–10: The People of God 229

7.9 Conclusion 247

8 From (Re)Generation to *Ethnos*: Mapping Systematic Metaphors in 1 Peter 254

8.1 Introduction 254

8.2 Mapping Metaphors in 1 Peter 254
# Contents

## 9 Conclusion: The Divine Regeneration Metaphor in 1 Peter

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9.1 Chapter Summaries</td>
<td>264</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.2 Looking Forward</td>
<td>274</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Appendix: The Language of Rebirth in Rabbinic Judaism

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bibliography</td>
<td>281</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subject Index</td>
<td>306</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ancient Sources Index</td>
<td>308</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>