

CONTENTS

| | |
|---|------------|
| Foreword | 9 |
| Introduction | 11 |
| Research History 15; Observation Models 17; Relations of the Sages' Stories to the Bible 22; The Halakhah within the Aggadah 26; From Folk Tales to the Sages' Tales 27; Topos 29; Structure and Theme 30; Independent Tales or Parallel Stories? 32; Literary-Cultural Codes 34 | |
| Chapter 1: Stories about Visiting the Sick among the Sages of Yavneh | 37 |
| Stories about the Sick Concerning R. Eliezer B. Hyrqanus | |
| Story 1: (Sanhedrin 101a) 37; Story 2: (<i>Mekhilta Yitro</i>) 42; Story 3: (<i>Berakhot</i> 28b) 51 | |
| The Attempt to Remove the Ailing R. Eliezer B. Hyrqanus's Phylacteries | 42 |
| Story 4 (Yerushalmi Shabbat 2:6, 5b) 57; Story 5 (Sanhedrin 68a) 58; Story 6 (Avot De-Rabbi Nathan, Version A, Ch.25) 60; Analysis of the Prominent Differences between the Three Versions 64; Analysis of the Story in the Yerushalmi 69; Analysis of the Story in Avot De-Rabbi Nathan 79; Analysis of the Story in the Bavli 91 | |
| Stories about Visiting the Sick among other Sages of Yavneh | 101 |
| Story 7 (<i>Berakhot</i> 28b) 101; Story 8 (<i>Avodah Zarah</i> 18a) 108; | |
| Chapter 2: Stories about Consoling Mourners among the Sages of Yavneh | 122 |
| Story 1: (<i>Mo`ed Qatan</i> 28b) 122; Story 2: (<i>Avot</i> De-Rabbi Nathan, Version A, Ch. 14) 142; Story 3: (<i>Berakhot</i> 16b) 158; Story 4: (<i>Mo`ed Qatan</i> 21b) 165 | |
| Chapter 3: Stories about Visiting the Sick among Post-Yavnean Sages | 170 |
| Story 1: (<i>Ketubbot</i> 103b) 170; Story 2: (<i>Nedarim</i> 39b) 172; Story 3: (<i>Tosefta Bava Qamma</i> 8:13) 175; Story 4: (<i>Gitin</i> 16b) 180; Story 5: (<i>Berakhot</i> 5b) 184; Story 6: (<i>Avot</i> De-Rabbi Nathan, Version A, Ch 41) 191; Story 7: (<i>Canticles Rabbah</i> 2:35) 196; Summary of Chapter 3 201 | |

| | |
|---|------------|
| Chapter 4: Stories about Consoling Mourners among Post-Yavnean Sages | 210 |
| Story 1: (Shabbat 152a) 210; Story 2: (BV Qamma 38a) 211; Story 3: (Yerushalmi Demai 1:3, 22a) 217; Story 4: (Midrash Mishlei 31) 221; Story 5: (Ketubbot 8b) 228; Summary of Chapter 4 233 | |
| Chapter 5: The Unique Features of the Stories about the Sages of Yavneh | 241 |
| 1. Analysis of the Narrative Pattern 241; a. Structure and Plot 241; b. Character 244; c. Crisis Situations 268; 2. Additional Themes and Motifs which Contribute to the Literary Formulation of Crisis Situations 272; 3. The Philosophical and Theological Themes Developed in the Stories 275; 4. Do the Yavneh Stories Constitute Literary Corpora? 284 | |
| Conclusions | 310 |
| Appendixes | 315 |
| Appendix 1: The Origin of the Story Mekhilta, Ytro, Bahodeesh, ch. 10 315; Appendix 2: Phylacteries on the Sabbath 317; Appendix 3: A Clarification of the Halakhic Aspects of Purity and Impurity of Vessels Mentioned in the Tales 323; Appendix 4: The Halakhic Problems of the Squash Spell 329; Appendix 5: Table of Characters (Yavneh) 331; Appendix 6: Table of Sources and Parallels 332; Appendix 7 Table of Characters (Post Yavneh) 334 | |
| Bibliography | 335 |
| Indexes | 346 |
| List of Abbreviations 346 | |
| Index of Sources 348 | |
| Index of Sages 356 | |
| Subject Index 359 | |