
Neusner (Bard College) responds to an extensive array of queries pertaining to rabbinic Judaism. He focuses on rabbinic Judaism's classical sources, perspectives, and views in order to introduce readers to the complexities of the issues typically raised in this area of study. He gives particular attention to the questions commonly posed to him by students studying the New Testament. Neusner works diligently to "clarify important traits of rabbinic Judaism that enrich the study of the New Testament." The book is divided into eight parts: "Defining Rabbinic Judaism," "The Sources of Rabbinic Judaism: Scripture and Midrash," "The Sources of Rabbinic Judaism: Law (Halakah)," "The Sources of Rabbinic Judaism: Lore (Aggadah)," "Aggadah and the Theology of Rabbinic Judaism," "Halakah and the Theology of Rabbinic Judaism: How Does the Law Embody the Torah's Narrative Theology?" "Social Doctrines of Rabbinic Judaism: Family, Gender, Virtue, and Work," and "Rabbinic Judaism and Christianity: Points of Intersection of Two Coordinate Scriptural Systems." Neusner, one of the foremost scholars in rabbinic Judaism, offers a work that will be important for students in religious studies, New Testament studies, and Judaism. It is a highly approachable and thorough investigation of the intellectual foundations of Judaism. **Summing Up:** Recommended. Lower-level undergraduates through faculty/researchers; general readers.—*L. Lampert, California State University—Northridge*