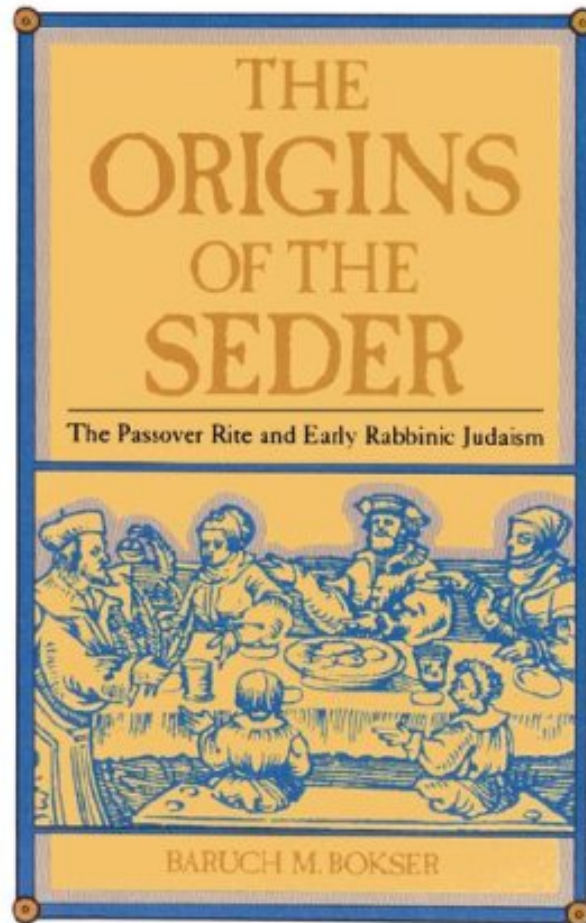


## The Origins of the Seder

*Baruch M. Bokser*

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#1443514 in Books Baruch M Bokser 2002-01-01 2002-01-01Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 5.98 x .45 x 9.02l, .70 #File Name: 0873340876212 pagesISBN13: 9780873340878Condition: NewNotes: BRAND NEW FROM PUBLISHER! 100% Satisfaction Guarantee. Tracking provided on most orders. Buy with Confidence! Millions of books sold! | File size: 52.Mb

**Baruch M. Bokser : The Origins of the Seder** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Origins of the Seder:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Bokser does a good job of making his caseBy seerBokser does a good job of making his case, though he clearly relies to some extent on reading between the lines. In my estimation, he does so in a legitimate way and makes a credible case for his conclusions. For my purposes, the book demonstrates

clearly that the Seder is NOT a ritual that was in effect at the time the Last Supper occurred. There is a growing movement afoot that insists that the Passover kept in the gospels was a Seder meal. This error comes from the belief that the Seder and Passover are inseparable, even identical phenomena. While I have long known that to be an anachronism, Bokser's presentation of the evidence is a treasure trove of material showing that the additional elements of the Seder apart from "three elements" mentioned in Exo. 12 and addressed by Gamaliel (lamb, unleavened bread, and bitter herbs) are responses to the destruction of the temple in 70CE. If you want to understand the "genesis" of the Seder including the reason for its current post-temple format, this book is probably to most succinct and compact explanation you can find. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Not easy to read, but rewarding

By David Smith  
This book is a scholarly work giving the author's well developed hypothesis on the origin of the Seder and how the Seder developed as an important substitute for the temple sacrifice. The book is relatively short and it is well referenced. It is not easy reading, but I found it rewarding reading and provided me a greater appreciation of the Passover rituals. For me the major unanswered question concerns the pre Temple destruction Passover celebration for those who could not go to the Temple. How was Passover celebrated in Rome for example or even earlier during the Babylonian exile? Perhaps, elements of those diaspora ceremonies had a greater impact on the post 70 C.E. ceremony than acknowledged by the author. 7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Insights From Origins of the Seder/t

By Jerome A. Hoffman  
The paperback edition packs facts, analysis and insight into its relatively short 141 pages of text and footnotes. The hypothesis and argument are clearly spelled and and then supported by detailed references to various Talmud and Mishnah sections which are reproduced as necessary. Although the hardback was published in 1984 and the paperback reprinted in 2002, it is current and consistent with more recent works. I read the book in the weeks leading up to 2009 Passover holidays and found much in Dr. Bokser's work to work into the actual Seder and ignite the interest of those present. In essence, Dr. Bokser makes a very persuasive case that the Passover Seder, as molded in the HaGaddah, was one of the key pillars for the survival of Judaism after the catastrophic destruction of the Second Temple in 70 C.E. Certainly, he establishes that the basics of the Seder as we know it today with its emphasis on freedom, community and symbolic ritual owes its genesis to the Tanna and the Amora of the centuries following the destruction.

The Passover and its rite are central in the history of Judaism and Christianity. Explaining not the Passover evening celebration, the seder, became one of the most popular Jewish rituals, Baruch M. Bokser shows how it was based on and transformed a biblical sacrificial meal. Bokser demonstrates the significance of the motif of Passover in ancient Judaism, indicating why Jews and Christians employed it to express hopes for redemption. And he also illuminates the process of historical development through the interaction of a traditional heritage with contemporary and outside cultural influences. This is a fascinating book which will add much to our understanding of Judaism and Christianity and of the nature of religion in a changing world.