

## Contents

Acknowledgments .....	XI
Abbreviations .....	XIII
Introduction .....	1
Mysticism .....	1
Jewish Mysticism .....	9
1. Phases of Jewish Mysticism .....	9
2. <i>Unio mystica</i> .....	17
Origins .....	20
The Origins of Jewish Mysticism .....	23
Chapter 1. Ezekiel's Vision: The Cosmos as Temple .....	34
Chapter 2. Enoch and His Circle: Ascent to Heaven .....	53
The Book of the Watchers (1 Enoch 1–36) .....	53
The Testament of Levi .....	67
Similitudes of Enoch (1 Enoch 37–71) .....	72
2 Enoch .....	77
Chapter 3. Enoch's Companions: From the Community to the Individual .....	86
Apocalypse of Abraham .....	86
Ascension of Isaiah .....	93
Apocalypse of Zephaniah .....	99
Apocalypse of John .....	103

Chapter 4. Qumran: Communion with the Angels .....	112
A Community of Priests .....	113
Communion with the Angels in the Holy War .....	116
Liturgical Communion with the Angels .....	122
The Songs of the Sabbath Sacrifice .....	130
The Self-Glorification Hymn .....	146
Summary .....	151
Chapter 5. Philo: The Ascent of the Soul .....	154
Philo's Concept of God .....	155
Body and Soul, Senses and Mind .....	160
The Soul's Vision of God .....	164
Chapter 6. The Rabbis I: Approaching God through Exegesis .....	175
Reading and Expounding the Torah .....	176
The Cycle of Seven Stories .....	185
1. Yohanan b. Zakkai and Eleazar b. Arakh: Teacher and Student .....	186
2. Chain of Transmission .....	195
3. Four Entered a Garden .....	196
4. Parable of the King's Garden .....	203
5. Parable of the Middle Course .....	206
6. Ben Zoma and Creation .....	207
7. Creation .....	209
Summary .....	210
Chapter 7. The Rabbis II: The Merkavah in Context .....	214
Yerushalmi .....	214
Bavli .....	222
Chapter 8. The Merkavah Mystics .....	243
Hekhalot Rabbi .....	244
1. The Gedullah Hymns .....	245
2. The Qedushah Hymns .....	254
3. The Ten Martyrs Narrative .....	256
4. The Apocalypses .....	257

5. Qedushah Hymns and Hymns of Praise .....	259
6. The Ascent Accounts .....	268
Hekhalot Zutarti .....	282
1. §§ 335–374: Ascent Accounts .....	283
2. §§ 375–406: Metatron .....	294
3. §§ 407–427: The Test of the Mystic and His Ascent .....	298
4. §§ 489–495: The Book of the Mysteries of the Divine Names .....	304
5. §§ 498–517: The Magic of the Name .....	305
Shi‘ur Qomah .....	306
3 Enoch .....	315
1. Ishmael’s Ascent .....	316
2. Enoch Is Metatron .....	318
Summary .....	327
 Chapter 9. Conclusions .....	331
Ezekiel and the Ascent Apocalypses .....	331
Hekhalot Literature .....	339
Qumran .....	348
The Rabbis .....	350
Philo .....	352
Mysticism .....	353
 Bibliography .....	357
Source Index .....	373
General Index .....	391