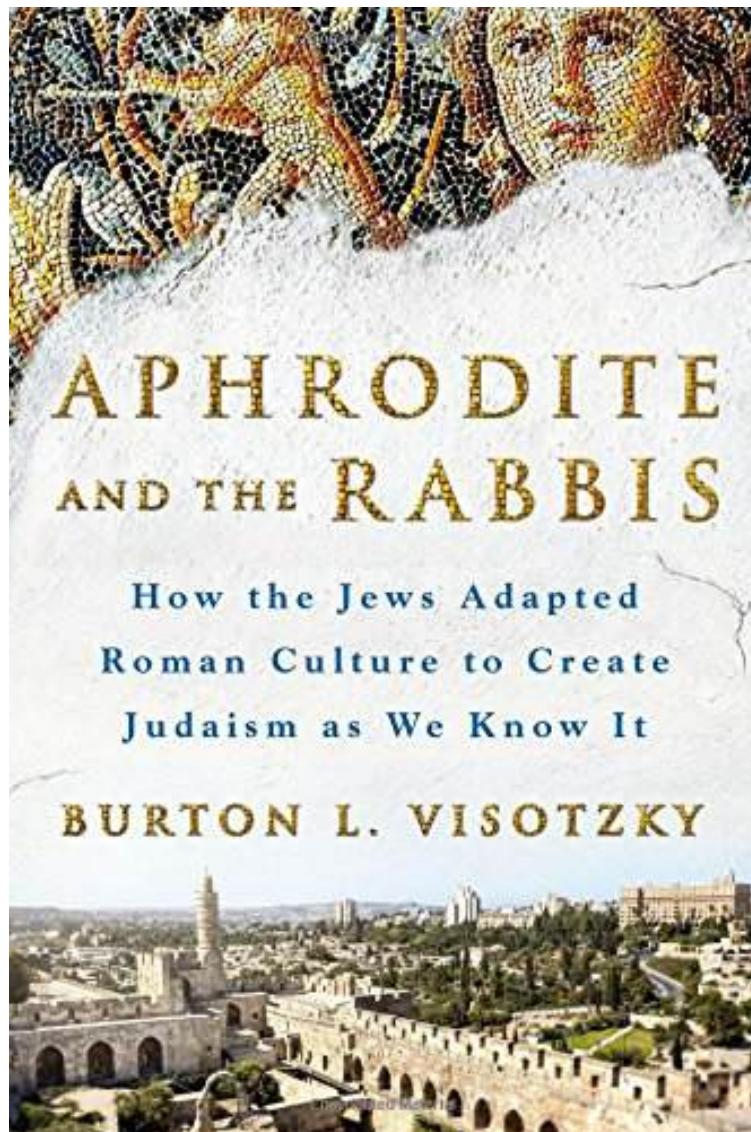


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## Aphrodite and the Rabbis: How the Jews Adapted Roman Culture to Create Judaism as We Know It

By Burton L. Visotzky

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2 of 2 review helpful Rome Jersualem By Eric Maroney In Aphrodite and the Rabbis How the Jews Adapted Roman Culture to Create Judaism as We Know It Burton Visotzky provides us with both a sweeping and focused view of how Greco Roman culture worked to mold rabbinical Judaism For example the Passover Seder is quite purposefully designed after Greco Roman style symposiums with more decorum no sex and less d Hard to believe but true The Passover Seder is a Greco Roman symposium banquet The Talmud rabbis presented themselves as Stoic philosophers Synagogue buildings were Roman basilicas Hellenistic rhetoric professors educated sons of well to do Jews Zeus Helios is depicted in synagogue mosaics across ancient Israel The Jewish courts were named after the Roman political institution the Sanhedrin In Israel there were synagogues where Visotzky rsquo s witty narrative takes the reader on a tour of rabbinic legends discussion of values art and architecture illustrated with photographs from archaeological finds in its attempt to claim that Judaism is a thoroughly western religion Co

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