PUBLISHERS’ PREFACE

Brown Judaic Studies has been publishing scholarly books in all areas of Judaic studies for forty years. Our books, many of which contain groundbreaking scholarship, were typically printed in small runs and are not easily accessible outside of major research libraries. We are delighted that with the support of a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities/Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Humanities Open Book Program, we are now able to make available, in digital, open-access, format, fifty titles from our backlist.

In Scholastic Rabbinism: A Literary Study of the Fathers According to Rabbi Nathan (1982), the late Anthony J. Saldarini compares the two rabbinic texts, Ethics of the Fathers (Pirke Avot) and the two textual versions of The Fathers According to Rabbi Nathan (Avot d’Rabbi Nathan), arguing that both had a common origin in oral stories that were selected and shaped by later scholastic editors. Saldarini suggests that The Fathers According to Rabbi Nathan took shape in the second to third centuries, CE, a relatively early date for many scholars who have worked on this text.

This edition incorporates typographical and some factual corrections of the original text.

Michael L. Satlow
Managing Editor
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