

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
Department of Oriental Studies
847 Williams Hall
Philadelphia, PA. 19104-6305
Tel: 898-6038/7466

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Dear Dovid,

Many thanks for sending the review-- and for writing it! Although I wish you could have appended the line in your letter about "your admiration" for the project being "greater than what comes through" in the review, your points in the essay are all well-taken. Actually, I don't know why I didn't think about writing a paragraph about Rabbinic Fantasies' relation to Sefer Haaggadah etc., since that pedigree is one that Mark and I were both quite self-consciously aware of. But it is certainly good you brought it up. On the other hand, by the book's title-- which we chose mainly for its catchiness-- we did not intend to make a claim for everything in it being equally "rabbinic," and I thought my intro made that clear. The history-fantasy question, I agree, remains messy; but I was hoping that my generic distinction between the mashal and the ma'aseh would help move the discussion to another level; but I guess that wasn't clear enough. You're absolutely right about the Biblical stuff.

In any case, we really do appreciate your writing the review before the book sinks totally from all memory. And thanks, too, for the kind words about the Bloom piece.

Enclosed is my report on the Kimmelman article (which, as I write, is surprisingly good.) I'll try to get the God article in as close to the date in March as possible.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Dovid' or similar, written in a cursive style.