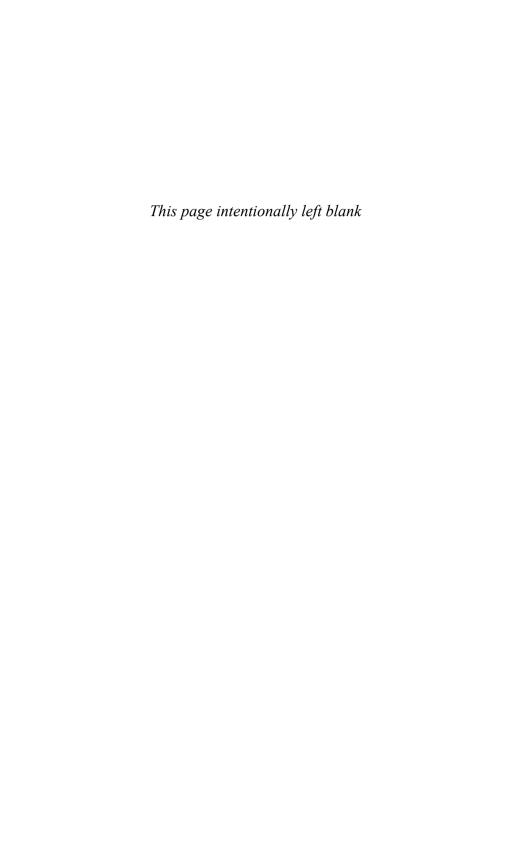
Jewish Concepts of Scripture



Jewish Concepts of Scripture

A Comparative Introduction

EDITED BY

Benjamin D. Sommer



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שָׁם, מֵעֵבֶר לַבַּיִת,
בָּאפֶּק,
חַיִּים אֶת חַיֵּיהֶם הָאלְמִים
הָהָרִים הַנִּשְׁפִּים, הָעוֹטִים
הָּהָרִים הַנִּשְׁפִּים, הָעוֹטִים
הַּמְחַת לְרִצְפָּת הַבַּיִת
הַיָּיו הַמְיֻחָדִים,
הָנֶיו הַמְיֻחָדִים,
וְכַל מַה שָׁטָּמוּן בְּתוֹכוֹ
הַנֶּלְיִם, שֶׁרְשִׁים מַעְיָנוֹת . . .
הַלְפָּר,
הַלְיָם הַשְׁלַנִיו הַבָּהוֹת שְׁפּוּכָה
עַל פְּנֵי אֲבָנָיו הַבָּהוֹת —
וְבָּרִי זָה בִּמְעַט בִּטְחוֹן.
הַלָּדָה, "הבית הישן"
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There, beyond the house, on the horizon, the lofty mountains, wearing their secret as a gray veil, live their mute lives, and beneath the floor of the house the dust lives its hidden life, its unique and solitary life, along with all that is hidden in it—seeds, roots, springs . . .

An expression—uncertainty, just so—is poured over the surface of its dark stones—

and after all, that is almost faith.

—Zeldah, "The Old House," in *Shirei Zeldah* (Tel Aviv: Haqqibbutz Hame'uchad, 1985), 9
Translation by Benjamin D. Sommer

