

GREECE & ROME
NEW SURVEYS IN THE CLASSICS NO 50
JOSEPHUS

BY JONATHAN DAVIES



PUBLISHED FOR THE CLASSICAL ASSOCIATION
CAMBRIDGE

NEW SURVEYS IN THE CLASSICS

Regular subscribers to the journal *Greece & Rome* receive a volume in the New Surveys in the Classics series as part of their subscription. The following volumes are also available to purchase as books.

- Volume 49 *Reception Studies, Second Edition*, (ISBN 9781009614832)
- Volume 48 *Xenophon* (ISBN 9781009536981)
- Volume 47 *Plutarch* (ISBN 9781009108225)
- Volume 46 *Greek Religion, Second Edition*, (ISBN 9781009048798)
- Volume 45 *The Sophists* (ISBN 9781108706216)
- Volume 44 *Sophocles* (ISBN 9781108706094)
- Volume 43 *Early Greek Hexameter Poetry* (ISBN 9781316608883)
- Volume 42 *Horace*, (ISBN 9781107444447)
- Volume 41 *Homer*, Second Edition (ISBN 9781107670167)
- Volume 40 *Greek Art*, Second Edition (ISBN 9781107601505)
- Volume 39 *Roman Landscape: Culture and Identity* (ISBN 9781107400245)
- Volume 38 *Epigram* (ISBN 9780521145701)
- Volume 37 *Comedy* (ISBN 9780521706094)
- Volume 36 *Roman Oratory* (ISBN 0521687225)
- Volume 35 *The Second Sophistic* (ISBN 0198568819)
- Volume 34 *Roman Art* (ISBN 9780198520818)
- Volume 33 *Reception Studies* (ISBN 0198528655)
- Volume 32 *The Invention of Prose* (ISBN 0198525234)
- Volume 31 *Greek Historians* (ISBN 019922501X)
- Volume 30 *Roman Religion* (ISBN 0199224331)
- Volume 29 *Greek Science* (ISBN 0199223955)

For books purchases please contact customer_service@cambridge.org and orders@cambridge.org. For journal subscriptions outside North America, call +44 (0) 1223 326070, or email journals@cambridge.org. In North America, call customer services at +1 845 348 4550 or email subscriptions_newyork@cambridge.org.

THE CLASSICAL ASSOCIATION

The Classical Association has a worldwide membership and is open to all who value the study of the history, civilisations, languages, art, material culture and legacy of ancient Greece and Rome and the broader ancient Mediterranean. It creates opportunities for friendly exchange and co-operation among classicists, encourages scholarship through its journals and other publications, and supports Classics in schools and universities. Every year it holds an annual conference, and it sponsors branches all over the country which put on programmes of lectures and other activities.

The Classical Association publishes three journals, *Classical Quarterly*, *Classical Review* and *Greece & Rome*. Members may subscribe at substantially reduced cost. Non-members and institutions can subscribe via Cambridge University Press (email journals@cambridge.org).

For more information about membership please see the Classical Association's website: <https://classicalassociation.org/> or contact the Secretary, The Classical Association, Cardinal Point, Park Road, Rickmansworth, WD3 1RE, UK, e-mail: office@classicalassociation.org, Tel: +44 (0) 7926 632598. The Secretary can also give information about the reduced journal subscription rates, and about the Association's other occasional publications.

Cover illustration: The rock of Masada from the north, showing the Herodian palace. [iStock.com/ Mindaugas Dulinskas](https://www.iStock.com/MindaugasDulinskas).

Greece & Rome

NEW SURVEYS IN THE CLASSICS No. 50

JOSEPHUS

BY
JONATHAN DAVIES

Published for the Classical Association
CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS
2025

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8EA, United Kingdom

One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA

477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia

314–321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre, New Delhi – 110025, India

103 Penang Road, #05–06/07, Visioncrest Commercial, Singapore 238467

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781009651912

© The Classical Association 2025

This publication is copyright. Subject to statutory exception and to the provisions of relevant collective licensing agreements, no reproduction of any part may take place without the written permission of Cambridge University Press

Printed in Great Britain by Henry Ling Limited, The Dorset Press, Dorchester, DT1 1HD

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

ISBN 9781009651912.

Cambridge University Press has no responsibility for the persistence or accuracy of URLs for external or third-party websites referred to in this publication, and does not guarantee that any content on such websites is, or will remain, accurate or appropriate.
For EU product safety concerns, contact us at Calle de José Abascal, 56, 1º, 28003 Madrid, Spain, or email eugpsr@cambridge.org.

CONTENTS

Acknowledgements and Dedication	v
Translations and Abbreviations	vii
Maps	ix
I From Jerusalem to Rome: Situating Josephus	1
II A Sword in Heaven: The <i>Jewish War</i>	26
III History Repeating: The <i>Jewish Antiquities</i>	52
IV History in Microcosm: The <i>Life of Josephus</i>	72
V Talking Back: <i>Against Apion</i>	85
VI Josephan Afterlives	99
Recommended Reading	120
Bibliography	123
Index	141