

Contents

Preface — vii

Introduction — 1

Select Bibliography — 7

Contributors — 13

Part I: Ben Sira in Conversation with the Torah

John J. Collins

The Creation of Humanity in Hebrew Wisdom Literature of the Second Century BCE — 19

Jean-Louis Ska

Torah, Paideia, and Sophia in Ben Sira — 35

Pancratius C. Beentjes

Ben Sira's Portrayal of Aaron and Phinehas (Sir 45:6–25): An Interaction between Tradition and Innovation — 51

Benjamin G. Wright III

“Do Not Defraud the Life of the Poor”: Notes on the Greek of Sir 4:1–10 — 65

Part II: Ben Sira in Conversation with the Prophets

Jeremy Corley

Ben Sira and Ezekiel — 81

Bradley C. Gregory

“Bread to the Hungry and Clothes to the Naked”: A History of a Prophetic-Sapiential Motif from Tobit to the Syriac of Ben Sira — 95

Paweł Paszko

The Metaphor of a Woman Giving Birth: The Book of Ben Sira in the Light of Prophetic Literature — 109

Ibolya Balla

Banquet of Life in Ben Sira and Hosea: Intertextual Links between Sir 24:12–23 and Hos 14:5–10 — 123

Part III: Ben Sira in Conversation with Wisdom Traditions

Tova Forti

“Yet, No One Remembered that Poor Man”: Qoheleth and Ben Sira on the Wisdom of the Poor — 149

Sergio Rotasperti and F. Javier Ruiz-Ortiz

Living with Wild Animals: A Study of the Imagery in Sir 25:15–16 — 165

Friedrich V. Reiterer

On the Gifts of the Lord in Ben Sira — 177

Dinh Anh Nhue Nguyen

Family Ethos and Wise Behavior in Proverbs, Sirach, and Vietnamese Folk Sayings — 191

Part IV: Ben Sira in Conversation with Some of the Literature of the Second Temple

Francis M. Macatangay and Emilio López Navas

Jerusalem in the Books of Tobit and Ben Sira — 217

Michael W. Duggan

Wisdom in Disguise and the Heroism of Widows: Ben Sira and Judean Traditions (Sir 4:1–19) — 235

Barbara Schmitz

Path Dependence and Institutional Change: The Portrayal of Alcimus and Jonathan as High Priests in 1 Maccabees — 249

Matthew Goff

A Devilish Parallel: Sir 15:14 in its Hebrew Reception — 267

Part V: Later Authors in Conversation with the Book of Ben Sira

Oda Wischmeyer

**The Book of Ben Sira From a Reception-Historical Perspective:
Hubert Frankemölle's Commentary on the Letter of James — 285**

Elisa Estévez López

**Quick to Listen, Slow to Speak, and Slow to Anger (Jas 1:19
and Sir 5:11) — 301**

Maurice Gilbert

Reliability and Gentleness: Moses, Jesus, and the Disciple — 321

Juan Chapa

"Useful for Instruction": The Popularity of Sirach in Christian Egypt — 337

Stefan C. Reif

M. H. Segal (1875–1968) and his Abiding Interest in Ben Sira — 351

Index of References — 371

Index of Authors — 381