

Abstract

The thesis focuses on analysing the reflection of Jewish exegetical techniques and methods in The Letter of Aristeas. The thesis tries to answer the question, whether and how the author of The Letter of Aristeas knew and used Jewish exegetical methods and individual stories and teachings derived from the Bible by means of interpretation. The possible influences of Greek thought and culture on the author and his exegetical methods are also discussed. The first chapter deals with the book's content and its most important features. The second chapter focuses on the Greek influence on the book. The third chapter is concerned with the relationship between the Bible and The Letter of Aristeas. It deals with the author's concepts and thoughts about the origin and inspiration of the Bible. The literary incorporation of biblical motives and themes into the book's narrative is also mentioned in this chapter. The fourth chapter analyses the individual Jewish exegetical methods utilized by the author and comments on the sharing of interpretations between Palestine and the diaspora. The thesis suggests that the author of The Letter of Aristeas mastered a range of basic Greek ideas and notions taken from popular Hellenistic philosophy, as well as deep knowledge of the Bible and he was able to use some Jewish exegetical methods properly. He creatively incorporated both Greek and Jewish ideas and method into his work, which nevertheless has a distinctively Jewish purpose and content.