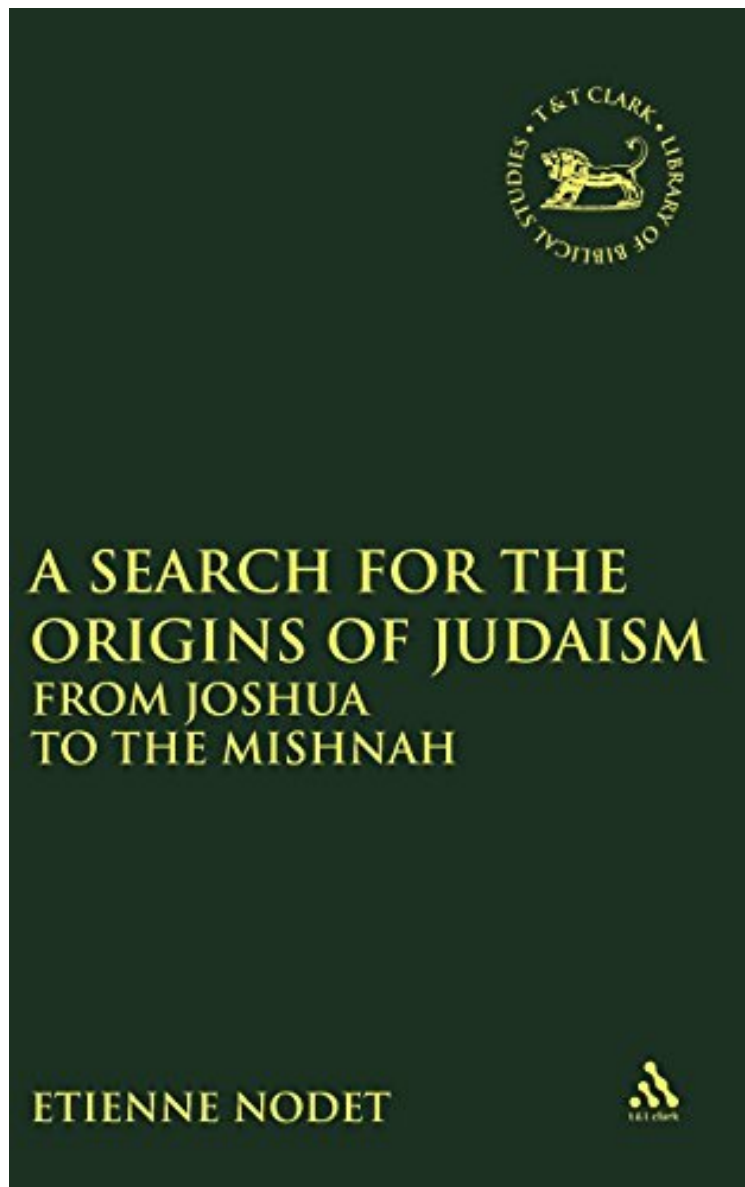


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## **A Search for the Origins of Judaism: From Joshua to the Mishnah (The Library of Hebrew Bible/Old Testament Studies)**

*Etienne Nodet*

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Translated by J. Edward Crowley. This radical reconstruction of the origins of Judaism starts by observing that Josephus's sources on the early history of Israel do not agree with the Bible and that the oldest rabbinic traditions show no sign of a biblical foundation. Another interesting question is raised by the Samaritan claim, at the time of Antiochus Epiphanes, that they had only recently received the Sabbath from the Jews. From such details, Nodet creates a comprehensive line of argument that reveals two major sources of Judaism, as symbolized in the subtitle of his work: Joshua was the one who established locally in writing a statute and a law at the Shechem assembly, while the Mishnah was the ultimate metamorphosis of traditions brought from Babylon and combined with Judaeian influences.

About the Author Etienne Nodet, O.P., is Professor of Ancient Jewish Literature at the Ecole Biblique et Archologique in Jerusalem.