

Josephus' *Antiquities* introduces Moses as the Jewish lawgiver, adapting the biblical account for a new audience. But who was that audience, and what did they understand by the term lawgiver (νομοθέτης)? This book uses Plutarch's *Lives* as a proxy for an imagined audience, providing a historically grounded but flexible model of a lawgiver, against which some of the otherwise invisible forces shaping Josephus' choices are thrown into sharp relief. This method reveals patterns of appeal and challenge in Josephus' intriguing and lively account of Moses' legislative activities.

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