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NOTES

THE THREE TEMPLES OF 4 Q FLORILEGIUM

In his long-awaited publication of the Temple Scroll, Y. Yadin has called attention to the similarity of a passage at the end of its twenty-ninth column to one in the first column of the 4 Q Florilegium. (1) The latter, particularly due to its singular expression miqdal 'ādām (line 6), has been used in support of quite divergent interpretations of Qumran beliefs and hopes regarding the Temple. Therefore, in the reasonable hope that in the light of the Temple Scroll, renewed examination of the Florilegium will bring surer conclusions regarding this subject, we will review the two major interpretations it has received. After noting the problems which they encounter, we will suggest another, perhaps more successful.

A. Building upon the widely accepted theory that the Qumran community considered itself a temple, many scholars have seized upon the term miqdal 'adam as further confirmation for it: the sect, so they hold, is a "human temple". (2) This text, in fact, is a very

(2) So, among, others, B. Girtner, The Temple and the Community in Qumran and the New Testament (Society for New Testament City)

⁽¹⁾ The Temple Scroll, Jerusalem, 1977, vol. 1, pp. 143-144 (Hebrew). Yadin's text of XXIX, 8-10, which i have translated on p. 85 below, is found in vol. 11, p. 238; photographs of the fragments appear as plates 44 and 14° in vol. 111. The Florilegium was originally published by J. M. Allegoro, Fragments of a Qumran Scroll of Eschalological Midrābim, in Journal of Biblical Literature, 77, 1958, pp. 350-354; his definitive publication is in Qumran Cave 4, Discoveries in the Judaean Desert, V. Oxford, 1968, p. 53 and plate xix. Corrections and improved readings have been suggested by Yadin, A Midrash on 8 Sam. vii and Ps. 1-11 (4 Q Florilegium), in Israel Exploration Journal, 9, 1959, pp. 95-98, and by J. Strugnbill, Notes en marge du volume V des e Discoveries in the Judaean Desert of Jordan s, in Revue de Qumrán, nº 26, vol. 7, fasc. 2, April 1970, pp. 220-221.

"a sanctuary amongst men". (6) This unique phrase was created by the commentator, Yadin explains, (7) in order to clarify the contrast between this temple and another one which God has built, but not amongst men: the heavenly temple. Thus, he argues, this text expresses the hope for a new temple, essentially like the former one, but differing in that it will be built by God's hands.

Along with maintaining the essential similarity of the former temple and the expected one, this interpretation also releases us from the necessity of taking migdal in both material and metaphorical senses within the same line 6. (8) Similarly, it further allows us to take maglirim, in line 6, as a literal reference to sacrifice, the purpose of the future temple, (9) without requiring metaphorical interpretations of that word as well. Finally, YADIN now argues, the new passage from the Temple Scroll confirms his interpretation. For in promising "I will sanctify My temple with My glory which I will cause to dwell upon it, until the day of blessing when I will create My temple to establish it for Me forever," God nowhere hints that the eschatological temple or its cult will differ in essence from the interim ones. (10)

While this new passage does confirm that the Florilegium's future temple will be essentially the same as the former one, it seems

(7) Temple Scroll, vol. 1, p. 144, n. 13.

(10) Temple Scroll, vol. 1, p. 144; my translation of XXIX, 8-10 (see n. 1,

above).

⁽⁶⁾ So YADIN, Midrash..., p. 96 and now again in his Temple Scroll, vol. 1, p. 144, n. 13; D. Flussen, Two Notes on the Midrash on 2 Sam. vii, in Israel Exploration Journal, 9, 1959, p. 102; E. Lonsa, Die Texte aus Qumran, Munich, 1964, p. 257; J. MAIEN, Die Texte vom Tolen Meer, Munich-Basel, 1960, vol. I, p. 185; Klinzing, Umdeutung..., p. 83.

⁽⁸⁾ Cl. F. M. Cnoss, The Ancient Library of Qumran and Modern Biblical' Studies (1956-57 Haskell Lectures), 2nd. edition, Garden City, New York, 1961, p. 102, n. 120, and Klinzing, Umdeulung..., p. 48, who properly criticize those who, in a similar matter, give a spiritualizing interpretation to the "sacrifices" which Josephus (Antiquities XVIII, 1, 5, 4 19) says the Essenes "perform" by themselves, while giving a literal translation to the same words when, a breath before, Josephus uses them in stating that the Essenes do not sacrifice at the Temple.

⁽⁹⁾ So too Flussen, Two Notes..., p. 102. STRUGHELL (Notes en marge..., P. 221) has even suggested reading, in line 7, w'ay Twon instead of m'ay Twnn; cf. Klinzino, Umdeulung..., p. 84, who leans in favor of this suggestion. BAUMGARTEN (Studies ..., p. 83) emphasizes, however, that the use of 'su with TWRH as a designation of the sectorians and their activities is characteristic of the scrolls. But even if the reading rwan is therefore retained, it need not follow that, as Baumuanten argues, the m'sy twen which the sectorisms hope to perform in the future will exclude sacrifices. Hather, the term simply refers to observance according to the law, and when the ability to sacrifice in a purified temple would become available to the sectarians, there is no reason why their offerings could not be likewise characterized as m'sy twan.

welcome supplement to the either evidence for the temple-community thesis, for it is the only one which explicitly mentions a temple (miqdas). (3)

However, this interpretation of 4 Q Flor. has been rejected by many, even those who otherwise subscribe to the temple-community thesis, (4) and this largely for two good reasons: 1) the text seems to state this temple will exist in the end of days (be'ahartl hayyamim, line 2) (5), while, if it refers to a temple-community, which now exists, this would be unnecessary; and 2) the contrast of this temple with Israel's prior temple, which was defiled (lines 5-6), implies that the two temples are essentially similar (id est, material), the only difference being that the second would not share the fate of the first.

B. Another interpretation, that of YADIN, FLUSSER, and others. avoids both difficulties by translating the problematic phrase as

in Judentum, Urchristentum, Kirche: Festschrift für Joachim Jeremias, edited by W. Eltesten, 2nd. edition, Berlin, 1964, p. 9; G. Vennes, The Dead Sea Scrolls in English, 2nd. edition, Penguin Books, 1975, pp. 245-246; L. Gaston, No Stone on Another: Studies in the Significance of the Fall of Jerusalem in the Synoplic Gospels, (Novum Testamentum Supplement 23), Leiden, 1970, p. 164 (unmistakably); T. H. Gasten, The Dead Sea Scriptures, 3rd. edition, Anchor Books, Garden City, New York, 1976, pp. 446, 474, n. 2; J. M. BAUMGANTEN, Studies in Qumran Law (Studies in Judaism in Late Antiquity, 24), Leiden, 1977,

(3) Apart from the citation of Exeklel 44, 15 in Dam. Doc. IV, 1; cf. J. MURPHY-O'CONNON's comments in Revue Biblique, 79, 1972, pp. 438-439 (in his review of KLINZING's book cited in the next note). The other main proof-texts of the temple-community thesis are 1 Q Serek V, 6, VIII, 5-6, VIII, 9, and IX, 6, with secondary references sometimes made to I Q p Hab XII, 3-4 (* Lebanon *) and 4 Q p Isa4. In this article we will confine ourselves to the

question of the relevance of & Q Florilegium.

(4) Including A. JAUBERT, La notion d'alliance dans le Judaisme aux abords de l'ère Chrétienne (Patristica Sorbonensia, 6), Paris, 1963, pp. 160-161; R. J. Mckblyby, The New Temple: The Church in the New Testament (Oxford Theological Monographs, 3), London, 1969, pp. 50-51; G. KLINZING, Die Umdeulung des Kullus in der Qumrangemeinde und im NT (Studien zur Umwell des Neuen Testaments, 7), Göttingen, 1971, pp. 82-83. Gaston, on the other hand, calls & Q Florilegium "one of the most important texts in which the

community of Qumran is seen as the temple" (No Slone..., p. 163).

(5) Which has a decidedly future reference; see J. Liven, The "Sons of Zadok the Priests" in the Dead Sea Sect, in Revue de Qumran, nº 21, vol. 8, tasc. 1. February 1967, p. 10, n. 15, and Klinzing, Umdeulung..., p. 141. especially 4 Q Florilegium 1, 12, where the messianic descendent of David is described as being in Zion B'RNYT HYMYM; no one would hold that this refers to a figure the commentator believed present in his own time. (In retaining the conventional translation "the end of days", I do not mean to imply that "#RYT HYMYM refers to anything more definite than "the future"; see J. CARMIGNAC, La notion d'eschalologie dans la Bible et à Qumran, in Revus de Qumran, nº 25, vol. 7, fasc. 1, December 1969, pp. 20-27.)

to me, however, that it at the same time argues against Yadda's interpretation of miqdas 'ādām. For, as the Florilegium, so too the Temple Scroll makes no reference to the heavenly temple, but, again as the Florilegium, it does refer to the future temple which God will make. It is therefore unnecessary to look outside of these two passages for the contrast which led the commentator to create the term miqdas 'ādām; the contrast is sufficiently clear between the God-made temple of the future and the man-made temple of the present. The latter, so elaborately described in the Temple Scroll, (11) is what the Florilegium calls a miqdas 'ādām, and thus, indeed, it was already interpreted by its first editor, followed by others as well. (12)

Once we have recognized, however, that the strange term miqdal 'ddām may only be understood as a contrast to miqdal 'ddōnāy in line 3, we have led to a more basic objection to all of the interpretations outlined above: while they assume that the miqdal 'ādām of lines 6-7, however it is to be translated, is the eschatological temple alluded to in lines 2-5, it now appears that the two are deliberately contrasted. Moreover, if this is true, as I believe, then we are actually dealing with three temples, for the use of miqdal yisra'el in line 6, equally unique, implies that this temple too is being distinguished from the others. A new analysis of the Florilegium is needed, therefore, in order to understand these references.

C. First, we must repeat the oft-made comment that the term "Florilegium" is a misnomer. (13) Lines 1-13 are more aptly termed a pesher of a single passage, 2 Sam 7, 10-14. This observation has more than semantic importance: it means that the order of texts and ideas discussed is governed by that of the biblical text (while the compiler of a florilegium is free to pick texts as he likes). That this is so is confirmed by a glance at the text: lines 1-2 quote verses 10b-11a, explaining them in lines 3ff. (leaving aside, for the moment, the question of where this explanation ends); line 7 quotes

⁽¹¹⁾ It seems clear that the Temple Scroll describes the Temple as it was to have been built, in the opinion of its author(s); so YADIN, Temple Scroll, vol. I, p. 141, followed in reviews by J. MAIRR (in Zeitschrift für die altiestamentliche Wissenschaft, 90, 1978, p. 153) and D. Flusska (Ha-Aretz, 3 February 1978, p. 18).

⁽¹²⁾ ALLEGRO (see n. 1, above); JAUBERT, Notion d'alliance..., p. 160; A. DUPONT-SOMMER, Les écrits esséniens découverls près de la Mer Morte, 3rd. edition, Paris, 1968, p. 325 (but ibidem, n. 7, he recognizes « bâti en hommes » as an alternative); McKelvey, New Temple..., p. 51.

⁽¹⁶⁾ New Commentary Structure.

⁽¹⁷⁾ On this and similar introdu

7, 11b, which is explained in lines 7-9; and lines 10-11 quote verses 11c-14a, which are explained in lines 11-13. With the exception of verse 13, to which we shall return, only duplications are omitted from the text of verses 10-14, (14) and all texts are cited in order.

Next, we must note that while bayit is used with two senses in 2 Sam 7, both of David's posterity and of the Temple, our text splits its discussion into two distinct sections and avoids the ambiguity: lines 1-6 speak of temples, using the term miqdal (bayit appears only in line 2), while lines 7-13, beginning with ma'dder 'āmar lēdāwid (again ignoring the phrase wayyô'mer ... lôra in lines 6-7, for the moment), refer only to the bayit of David's posterity. By carefully choosing its words, this midrash has clarified the two parts of the discussion. Garrnen is thus wrong in stating that "the theme of the text, as far as the expression miqdal 'ādām, is that the eschatological temple is to be made up of the community;" (15) the text actually clearly put its discussion of the community—if that is how one may understand its references to David's posterity—only after this expression.

Finally, one must note the importance of introductory formulae. Lane, in his discussion of the nature of the Florilegium, emphasized that, with two exceptions, introductory formulae are not used to introduce the biblical texts to be explained, but they are used to introduce the text used a commentary. Lane explained only one of the exceptions, apparently correctly: the introduction midrās mē... in line 14 was used to call attention to the fact that the commentator is now turning to passages from a new section of the libble. (16) The other exception is in line 7, where wa'dšer'āmar lédāwld introduces verse 11b, which is thereafter explained. (17) As verse 11a was the last-explained verse, according to the scheme we outlined above, we cannot explain this formula as an indication, as in line 14, that the following verse is from a new section of the

⁽¹⁴⁾ Both are in verse 12: 1) the reference to David's death—which could myway be inferred from the eliusion to "your seed after you", and 2) the edundant information that that seed "shall proceed from your bowels". Sincuel and Batz (Von Goll gezeugi..., p. 10) also list verse 14b as an omission, but this is hardly proper, for the commentator simply ceased his citations with verse 14a. As for the tost beginning of the Florilegium, it apparently included a treat verse 10, for it is "I will appoint a place for my people Israel..." which he commentator explains as referring to the future temple (line 2), just as trael's prior troubles, alluded to in the end of verse 10, are taken as references the pollution of Israel's prior temple (lines 5-6).

⁽¹⁵⁾ Temple and Community..., p. 35.

⁽¹⁸⁾ New Commentary Structure..., p. 345.
(17) On this and similar intenductory formulae

Bible. However, on the analogy of line 14, we must infer, as is natural, that the formula somehow indicates a change from the preceding discussion. But what change? Since the formula is not merely a standardized ka'dler kālūb, as in lines 2, 12, 15, and 16, but rather points out that verse 11b was said to (or of) David, it seems reasonable to suggest that the use of this formula indicates that the foregoing was said to or of someone else. (18)

Having made these three observations, the following suggestion may be offered: "And He said to build Him a man-made temple" is meant as a paraphrase of verse 13a, which refers to Solomon's future construction of the Temple. It is followed by an explanation of the purpose of this temple, in terms obviously reminiscent of those used for the same purpose by Solomon himself, according to 2 Chr 2, 5: lthaqllr lepānāyw.

This interpretation takes account of all the difficulties we have noticed:

- a. We must no longer assume the absence of this important passage. (19)
- b. We can understand why the next citation from Samuel has to be introduced with a reference to David: to distinguish it from the preceding words, which referred to Solomon.
- c. We can also understand why this half-verse, in contrast to all the others commented upon, is cited out of order (the rest of verses 11-14 are cited and explained only later), for its topic, along with that of verses 10-11a, in the sectarian interpretation, is the temple, not the "house" of David's posterity. (20)

Two objections might be raised:

a. Line 6 does not give a literal quotation of verse 13a. However, the other quotations are not literal either, and we have even

⁽¹⁸⁾ Which excludes the possibility that the foregoing phrase reports David's request to build a temple for God; cf. Michel and Betz, Von Golf gereugh..., p. 9, n. 35, who also reject that possibility, from their own point of view.

⁽¹⁹⁾ Its absence has been noted by some scholars, including Michel and Betz, loco citato, p. 10, who explain that "Gott selbst erbout ja Sein Heiligtum"; Gaston (No Stone..., p. 128, n. 2) implies a similar explanation. As has been explained, however, the temple which God will build, referred to in lines 2-5, seems to be deliberately distinguished from that alluded to in lines 6-7.

⁽²⁰⁾ The second half of verse 13, wknnty 't ks' mmlktw 'b 'wlm, on the other hand, dealing as it does with David's posterity, was not transferred to the first half of the Florilegium but rather left in its place and assimilated, in lines 10-11, with the last words of verse 12 (whknnty 't mmlktw); with verse 13a removed, literal reproduction of the latter followed by 13b would have been ridiculously redundant.

noticed two omissions (n. 14). Furthermore, it is quite easy to understand how and why the commentator changed hu' yibneh bayil lism! to wayyo'mer libnot 16 miqdas 'ādām: the speaker is God, who "said," indirect speech changing lism! to the third person and 16 being used instead of lismo, (21) as already in 1 Chr 17, 12.25 and 2 Chr 2, 5 (to which we have already referred as the source of the definition of the Temple's purpose); miqdas is substituted for bayil, as explained above, in line with the commentator's attempt to avoid the ambiguous meaning of the latter in Nathan's speech.

b. It might also be argued that reference to Solomon's Temple is irrelevant, or at least anticlimatic, in an eschatological midrash, as this is so often termed. However, we must reassert the importance of the recognition that the commentator did not freely choose his material, but rather commented on whole texts from beginning to end, without significant omission. The lack of coherence or relevance of this part of the Florilegium is thus only a reflection of the jarring presence of verse 13a in the context of Nathan's speech; many critics, as is well known, have deemed it an interpolation into a speech which otherwise seems to reject temples altogether. (22) However that may be, (23) we have no reason to suspect that such doubts were entertained by the Qumran sectarians, (24) and our commentator, in fact, seems to have explained this half-verse just as he explained the rest of the passage.

In summary, then, the Florilegium refers to three temples: the Third Temple, to be built by God in the eschatological future;

⁽²¹⁾ Note that the Septuagint here reflects both readings, having both mei and to enomali mou.

⁽²²⁾ So, for example, G. Westpwal, Jahuss Wohneställen nach den Anschauungen der allen Hebrder (Beihefle zur Zeitschrift für die alltestamentliche Wissenschaft, 15), Glessen, 19'8, p. 162; M. Simon, La prophètie de Nathan et le Temple (Remarques sur 11 Sam. 7), in Revue d'histoire et de philosophie religieuses, 32, 1952, pp. 41-58, especially 50-51. Both refer to Wellhausen, who, however, is more tentative than they: "Uebrigens leugne ich nicht, dess ich unsern Vers streichen würde, wäre nicht 1 Reg. 5, 19" (Der Text der Bücher Samuelis, Göttingen, 1871, p. 172).

⁽²³⁾ M. Ota has recently suggested an interpretation of Nathan's speech which assigns verse 13a absolutely crucial role: A Note on 2 Sam 7, in A Light Unio My Path: Old Testament Studies in Honor of Jacob M. Myers (Gettysburg Theological Studies, 4), edited by H. N. Bream, R. D. Heim, and C. A. Moore, Philadelphia, 1974, especially p. 406.

⁽²⁴⁾ M. Simon (Saint Stephen and the Hellenists in the Primitive Church, 1936, Haskell Lectures, London, 1958, p. 81), in a similar case, asserts that Stephen was aware that verse 13a was interpolated. Even that is doubtful, to say the least; for the Qumran community, in any case, we have no reason to suppose that they held any parts of the Bible, including those favorable to sacrifice and temple, were "false pericopes". See Baumgarten, Studies..., pp. 39-51, for a review of the evidence for Qumran's essentially favorable view of sacrificial worship.

the Second Temple, which the sect held to be desecrated; and the First Temple, built by Solomon. These, it tells us, are alluded to in verses 10 and 13 of 2 Sam 7: verse 10 alludes to the Third and Second Temples, while verse 13 alludes to the First. The new passage from the Temple Scroll, col. XXIX, now confirms these views regarding the First and Third Temples, while the Second Temple is not mentioned. As Flussen (25) has emphasized, furthermore, these are views evidenced in other Second Temple period texts as well; (26) for the sect, in particular, the view that the current temple is "desolate" is amply paralleled. (27) As the

(25) Two Notes..., p. 99; cf. his article, Jerusalem in the Literature of the Second Temple Period, in Ve'im Biguuroth: Fourscore Years, A Tribute to Rubin and Hannah Mass on their Eightieth Birthdays, edited by A. Ebbn-Shushan, A. Sh. Elhanani, A. Bibn, A. M. Habbnmann, and S. Shalom, Jerusalom, 1974, pp. 264-281 (Hobrsw).

(26) These include Jubiless 1, 17 (cf. 1, 26-29), which, like the Temple Scroll, purports to be God's words to Moses and, again like the Temple Scroll, refers only to the first man-made temple and the future God-made one; cf. Testaments of the Patriarchs, Benjamin, 1X, 2. Other texts, such as Tobit 14, 5, Haggai 2, 3.9, Ben-Sira 36, 12-14, and II (Syriac) Apocalypse of Baruch 32, 2-4, white not condemning the Second Temple, still express the hope that the future one

will be more glorious.

(27) As FLUSSER explains (Two Notes..., p. 102, n. 9), \$MM need not imply destruction, for it may mean pollution and desecration as well; KLINZING's doubts (Umdeulung..., p. 82, n. 15) are not convincing. Cf. Yerushalmi, liagigah 11, 3, 78a, where the word is used simply to note pejoratively that there were no people in the Temple court. Furthermore, as the Second Temple is contrasted with the Third, which will not be polluted by the entrance of impure people ("Ammonite, Moabite...", line 4), it seems natural to interpret lines 5-6 as referring to the pollution of the former. (I thank Professor Joseph Baum-GARTEN for this, as for several other ideas which are reflected in this paper, although we do not always agree.) Cf. Nehemiah 13, 1-9 and Lamentations 1, 10 for other cases in which those not allowed "to enter the congregation" are regarded as polluting in the Temple. For detailed evidence of the sect's view that the Second Temple was defiled, see Krinzing, Umdeutung..., pp. 12-20. It may even be that the unique expression supply vin't itself carried a priorative connotation, for 1) its closest biblical counterpart is Amos 7, 9, where MODEY YAR's are the condemned sanctuaries of the northern kingdom, and 2) similarly, the sect at times characterized itself as "Judah", its enemies as "Menusseh and "Ephraim", which latter together comprised the wicked northern kingdom of Israel; soo Flussen, Pharisees, Sadducees, and Essenes in Pesher Nahum, in In Memory of Gedaliahu Alon: Essays in Jewish History and Philology, edited by M. Dorman, S. Safrai, and M. Stenn, [Tel-Aviv], Hakibbutz Hameuchad, 1970, pp. 139-141 (Hebrew); Louse, Die Texte..., p. 294, n. 7. Cf. 11 Chronicles 36, 17: the Temple had been God's house in verses 14-16, but now, when the people persisted in its sinfulness, it is only "their temple". Similarly, the Testament of Levi, chapters 15-16, according to an Armenian version (Aa) cited in the apparatus of R. H. Chancus' edition (The Greek Versions of the Testaments of the Twelve Patriarchs, Oxford, 1908, pp. 57-59), refers to what was polluted as "your sanctuary" (15, 1), "our sitars" (16, 1), "your temple" (16, 4), "your ٩

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analysis of the Florilegium here proposed shows, and the Temple Scroll confirms, there is thus no reason for viewing 4 Q Flor as evidence for the temple-community thesis; it is rather just another text which states that although man-made temples were indeed ordained by God, the present one was defiled, while the future held hope for a new and eternally pure one to be built by God Himself (28).

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when speaking of the Leviles' ideal charge, this version refers to "the Sanctuary of the Lord". On the value of this version, see Charles, thidem, pages xivxvi. It may be, however, that & Q Florilegium uses the term MQDE YER'L simply as a reflex of 11 Samuel 7, 10a's reference to "a place for my people

larael"; see above, n. 14.

(28) It should be emphasized that the expected future construction of the temple by God was not usually envisioned as the descent of the or a heavenly Temple. While CHARLES (The Apocalypse of Baruch, London, 1896, p. 7) writes that "the new Jerusalem coming down from heaven...was indeed a very current conception in the latter half of the first century A.D.", almost all of the sources which he cites in this connection are irrelevant: 1) II (Syriac) Apocalypse of Baruch 32, 2-4 makes no mention of a descent, but only of a rebuilding; 2) ibidem, chapter 4 does indeed refer to a heavenly Jerusalem, but does not say it will descend; 3) Testaments of the Patriarchs, Dan, 5, 12-13, like 4 Q Florilegium compares the new Jerusalem to the formerly desolated one, making no mention of a descent; cf. the Apocalypse of Abraham, chapter 29; 4) IV Erra 8, 52-53 speaks only of a city being built; b) ibidem, 7, 26, 10, 44-59, and 13, 36, which indeed say a heavenly Jerusalem will "appear" on earth, mean only that in the future others will share the seer's current vision of the heavenly Jerusalem; see the ancient versions cited by H. Gunkke in Die Apokryphen und Pseudepigraphen des Allen Testaments, edited by E. KAUTZSCH, Tübingen, 1900, vol. 11, p. 370, note d. The conception is virtually missing from rabbinic literature as well, as has been pointed out by H. BIETENHARD, Die himmlische Well im Urchristentum und Späljudentum (Wissenschaftliche Untersuchungen zum Neuen Testament, 2), Tübingen, 1951, pp. 194-196 (cf. ibidem, p. 125, notes 3-4) and by S. Safnai, The Heavenly Jerusalem, in Ariel, 23, Winter 1969, p. 16. Only in Revelation 3, 12; 21, 2.10, and in I (Bihlopian) Bnoch 90, 28-29 do we find the idea of the descent of the heavenly Jerusalem or Temple. As opposed to Charles' "current conception", Flussun's "marginal" (Jerusalem ..., p. 286) thus seems a more accurate characterization of the idea's popularity.