

Contents

Acknowledgements — VII

Chapter 1

Introduction — 1

- 1.1 Setting the scene — 1
 - 1.1.1 *Why* Joseph and Aseneth? — 2
 - 1.1.2 Aim of this study — 3
 - 1.1.3 What is the work referred to as “Joseph and Aseneth”? — 4
 - 1.1.4 The story — 5
 - 1.1.5 The witnesses — 8
 - 1.1.6 Modern editions and theories of development — 10
- 1.2 Joseph and Aseneth. *in modern research* — 16
 - 1.2.1 Works shaping the field from before 2003 — 16
 - 1.2.2 The contribution of Christoph Burchard — 20
 - 1.2.3 Themes since 2003 — 23
 - 1.2.4 Joseph and Aseneth *and the novel* — 28
 - 1.2.5 Summary — 31
- 1.3 This study — 32
 - 1.3.1 Overview — 32
 - 1.3.2 Methodology — 33
 - 1.3.3 How this study came together — 34
 - 1.3.4 The synoptic edition — 35
 - 1.3.5 The significant contributions of this study to the field of research — 35

Section 1: The Syriac and Armenian versions

Chapter 2

The Syriac version — 39

- 2.1 Introduction — 39
- 2.2 The text of the Syriac version — 40
 - 2.2.1 Manuscripts and editions — 40
 - 2.2.2 Methodology — 42
 - 2.2.3 General style overview — 43
 - 2.2.4 Focus of translation — 44
 - 2.2.4.1 *Comparison of the focus of translation in Joseph and Aseneth and Glaphyra* — 46
 - 2.2.4.2 The nature of Joseph and Aseneth — 48

2.2.5	Unit of translation —	49
2.2.6	Translator limitations —	50
2.2.7	Translation tendencies and technical aspects —	51
2.2.7.1	Untranslated material —	51
2.2.7.2	Expansions —	52
2.2.7.3	Changes —	53
2.2.7.4	Transliteration from Greek —	54
2.2.8	Text-critical importance —	55
2.2.9	Influence of biblical texts —	56
2.2.10	Theological differences —	57
2.3	The context of the Syriac version —	58
2.3.1	The particularity of the extant witness —	58
2.3.2	<i>17,202 and Pseudo-Zachariah's Ecclesiastical History</i> —	61
2.3.2.1	Citations —	66
2.3.2.2	Theoria —	68
2.3.3	7,190 and the miscellaneous collection —	72
2.4	Conclusions —	73

Chapter 3

The Armenian version — 75

3.1	Introduction —	75
3.2	The text of the Armenian version —	76
3.2.1	Manuscripts and editions —	76
3.2.2	Methodology —	77
3.2.3	General style overview —	78
3.2.4	Focus of translation —	78
3.2.5	Unit of translation —	80
3.2.6	Translator limitations —	82
3.2.7	Translation tendencies and technical aspects —	83
3.2.8	Text-critical importance —	84
3.2.9	Influence of biblical texts —	85
3.2.10	Theological differences —	85
3.3	The context of the Armenian version —	86
3.3.1	The split textual tradition —	86
3.3.2	The context of translation —	89
3.3.3	Relationship to the Bible —	90
3.4	Conclusions —	92

Chapter 4**Reading the Syriac and Armenian versions side-by-side — 93**

- 4.1 Introduction — 93
- 4.1.1 Methodology — 93
- 4.2 Scholarship on the affinity of Syr and Arm — 94
- 4.3 Reading Syr and Arm together — 95
- 4.3.1 Verse-level trends — 95
- 4.3.1.1 Condensing the text — 96
- 4.3.1.2 Syr Arm preserves a different reading — 98
- 4.3.1.3 Where the witness of Syr and Arm diverge — 99
- 4.3.2 Translational tendencies — 99
- 4.3.2.1 Interaction with the Bible within the version — 99
- 4.3.2.2 Variation in vocabulary — 100
- 4.3.2.3 Attitude to location and setting — 101
- 4.3.2.4 Transition points — 101
- 4.4 Conclusions: Re-envisioning the story — 102

Section 2: *Joseph and Aseneth* in Byzantine Greek contexts**Chapter 5****FW G – *Joseph and Aseneth* as exhortatory literature — 105**

- 5.1 Introduction — 105
- 5.2 The manuscripts and the edition — 106
- 5.2.1 Manuscript witnesses — 106
- 5.2.2 Manuscript relationships — 109
- 5.2.2.1 The relationship of F and W — 109
- 5.2.2.2 The relationship of FW to G — 111
- 5.2.3 The edition of FW G — 112
- 5.3 Framing and telling the story in FW G — 113
- 5.3.1 Exhortatory insertions in FW — 113
- 5.3.2 The story in FW — 115
- 5.3.3 The miniatures and the text in G — 116
- 5.3.4 *The story of Jos. Asen. in G* — 119
- 5.4 Conclusions — 120

Chapter 6**Family Mc: A metaphrastic revision — 123**

- 6.1 Introduction — 123
- 6.2 The manuscripts and their relationships — 124

- 6.2.1 Manuscript description — **124**
- 6.2.2 The relationship of H, J, and K — **127**
- 6.2.3 Edition of HJK — **128**
- 6.2.4 The relationship of HJK to M — **128**
- 6.2.5 The relationship of the shared text of Mc and the wider tradition — **130**
- 6.3 *Family Mc: A metaphrastic redaction of Jos. Asen.* — **132**
- 6.4 A revised story — **135**
- 6.4.1 Jos. Asen. in Mc’s version — **135**
- 6.4.2 The new ending of HK — **136**
- 6.5 Conclusions — **138**

Chapter 7

Family a: A menologion version — 140

- 7.1 Introduction — **140**
- 7.2 Manuscript witness, relationships, and the new edition — **142**
- 7.2.1 Introduction — **142**
- 7.2.2 The manuscripts — **142**
- 7.2.3 Manuscript relationships — **146**
- 7.2.4 The edition — **147**
- 7.3 Telling the story — **148**
- 7.3.1 Family a characteristics — **148**
- 7.3.2 Notable features — **150**
- 7.3.3 *Variants within family a* — **153**
- 7.4 *The context of family a* — **155**
- 7.5 Conclusions — **157**

Section 3: Four abridged versions

Chapter 8

Four abridged versions — 161

- 8.1 Introduction — **161**
- 8.2 Family d — **162**
- 8.2.1 Introduction — **162**
- 8.2.2 Methodology — **167**
- 8.2.3 Redaction technique — **168**
- 8.2.4 A reshaped story — **170**
- 8.2.5 Conclusions — **173**
- 8.3 Greek manuscript E — **174**
- 8.3.1 Introduction — **174**

8.3.1.1	The manuscript —	175
8.3.1.2	The text —	177
8.3.2	Methodology —	179
8.3.3	Redaction technique —	180
8.3.4	A reshaped story —	184
8.3.5	Conclusions —	187
8.4	The first latin version —	201
8.4.1	Introduction —	201
8.4.1.1	Manuscript witness —	202
8.4.1.2	The contribution of Antoni Biosca i Bas —	206
8.4.2	Methodology —	210
8.4.3	Translation and redaction technique —	210
8.4.3.1	Comment on the translation —	210
8.4.3.2	Redaction technique —	212
8.4.4	A reshaped story —	214
8.4.5	Conclusions —	216
8.5	The so-called ‘early modern Greek’ version —	217
8.5.1	Introduction —	217
8.5.2	Methodology —	221
8.5.3	Redaction technique —	221
8.5.4	661: The bare bones of the story —	222
8.5.5	Conclusions —	224
8.6	Summary and conclusions —	229

Chapter 9

Summary and conclusions — 231

9.1	Overview —	231
9.2	Themes —	233
9.3	<i>Where next in the study of Jos. Asen.?</i> —	236
9.4	Concluding remarks —	239

Synoptic Edition — 241

Bibliography — 523

Index — 543