

JEWISH EXEGESIS AND
HOMERIC SCHOLARSHIP IN
ALEXANDRIA

MAREN R. NIEHOFF



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Contents

<i>Acknowledgements</i>	page ix
<i>List of abbreviations</i>	xiii
1 Setting the stage	1
PART I EARLY JEWISH RESPONSES TO HOMERIC SCHOLARSHIP	17
2 A conservative reaction to critical scholarship in the <i>Letter of Aristeas</i>	19
3 Questions and answers in Aristotelian style: Demetrius' anonymous colleagues	38
4 Aristobulus' questions and answers as a tool for philosophical instruction	58
PART II CRITICAL HOMERIC SCHOLARSHIP IN THE FRAGMENTS OF PHILO'S ANONYMOUS COLLEAGUES	75
5 Comparative mythology	77
6 Historical perspectives on Scripture	95
7 Traces of text criticism among Alexandrian Jews	112
PART III THE INVERSION OF HOMERIC SCHOLARSHIP BY PHILO	131
8 Literal methods of Homeric scholarship in Philo's <i>Allegorical Commentary</i>	133

9	Philo's <i>Questions and Answers</i> as a manual of instruction	152
10	Philo's <i>Exposition of the Law</i> at a significant distance from Alexandrian scholarship	169
	Epilogue	186
	<i>References</i>	188
	<i>Index of Greek terms</i>	208
	<i>Index of sources</i>	209
	<i>Index of modern authors</i>	214
	<i>General index</i>	215