

Table of Contents

- ix Contributors
- xv Acknowledgements
- xvii Abbreviations
- 1 Introduction
Alessandro Scafi
- 9 The Birth of Paradise: To Early Christianity, via Greece, Persia and Israel
Jan N. Bremmer
- 31 Sumerian Paradise Lost
Markham J. Geller
- 39 Around, Inside and Beyond the Walls: Names, Ideas and Images of Paradise in Pre-Islamic Iran
Antonio C. D. Panaino
- 67 Enoch, Eden, and the Beginnings of Jewish Cosmography
Annette Yoshiko Reed
- 95 Gnostic Paradises
Einar Thomassen
- 109 Diabolizing the Garden of Eden:
Re-Interpretations of Jewish Pseudepigraphy in Medieval Christian Dualism
Yuri Stoyanov
- 127 Seeking Paradise in the Egyptian Desert
Dimitris J. Kyrtatas
- 137 Gazing at the Holy Mountain: Images of Paradise in Syriac Christian Tradition
Sergey Minov
- 163 Food and the Senses, and One Very Special Taste of Paradise
Danuta Shanzer

- 183 'The Heavens Declare the Glory of God':
Mapping Cosmos and Activating Heaven through Holy Icons
Veronica Della Dora
- 201 Paradise in Western Medieval Tradition
Rudolf Simek
- 211 Paradise in the Islamic Religious Imagination
Christian Lange
- 227 In Medieval Islamic Cosmography, where is Paradise?
Emilie Savage-Smith
- 245 Valhalla and Heaven:
Scandinavian Images of Paradise in a Period of Religious Change
Anders Hultgård
- 267 Figures
- 285 Index of Names