

# Table of Contents

## List of Contents

Chapter 1. <i>Gender</i> and Taxonomies .....	1
1.1 Texts .....	2
1.2 Methodologies .....	8
1.3 Classification .....	12
1.3.1 Binary Oppositions and Deconstruction.....	12
1.3.2 Binary Oppositions and Taxonomic Logic.....	16
1.4 Taxonomies of <i>Gender</i> .....	17
1.4.1 Ben Sira’s <i>Taxonomy of Pairs and Affinity-Schema</i> .....	18
1.4.2 A Greek Taxonomy of <i>Gender</i> .....	22
1.5 Parameters for <i>Gender</i> .....	32
Chapter 2. <i>Gender</i> and Impersonal Speech .....	35
2.1 Ben Sira’s Colonial Status .....	36
2.1.1 Hellenistic Colonialism .....	37
2.1.2 Language and Resistance .....	39
2.2 The Production of “Impersonal Speech” .....	42
2.2.1 Greek Genres Available to Ben Sira .....	43
2.2.2 Schematic Figures in the Book of Ben Sira.....	47
2.2.3 Proverbial Statements.....	53
2.3 Colonial Contexts for Some Gender-Incidental Passages.....	60
2.3.1 Speech and Shame in Ben Sira’s Colonial Context.....	61
2.3.2 “Praise of the Fathers”: Genre in a Colonial Context.....	69
2.4 Genre in a Gender-Focal Passage: BBS 25:13–26:3.....	73
Chapter 3. Divine Female(s).....	79
3.1 Wisdom.....	79
3.1.1 Wisdom and God.....	94
3.1.2 Personified-Wisdom in Later Texts .....	96
3.2 Why Is the “Strange Woman” Not in the Book of Ben Sira? .....	99
3.2.1 Schematic Human Figures in Proverbs .....	99
3.2.2 Non-Human Figures in Proverbs.....	102
Chapter 4. Human Females .....	105
4.1 Male/Female Pairs .....	106

4.1.1 “Father” and “Mother”; “Son” and “Daughter” .....	106
4.1.2 “Friend (Male)” and “Wife” .....	111
4.2 Passages concerning the “Intelligent Wife” .....	116
4.2.1 First Set of Paired Poetic Units .....	119
4.2.2 Second Set of Paired Poetic Units .....	127
4.3 Interlude for Wordplay .....	129
4.4 Two Poems in One Gender-Focal Passage: BBS 42:9–14.....	134
4.4.1 Archaeology, Anthropology, and Texts .....	142
4.4.2 Reading a Text Together With External Evidence.....	146
 Chapter 5. Human Female, Biblical Females .....	153
5.1 Citation by Allusion: Genesis 1–4 in BBS .....	153
5.2 Eve and the “Woman” in BBS 25:24.....	158
5.3 The “Intelligent Wife” and Eve .....	163
5.3.1 Third Set of Paired Poetic Units, Part 1: Female.....	164
5.3.2 Third Set of Paired Poetic Units, Part 2: Male .....	166
5.4 The “Intelligent Wife” and Wisdom—and Eve .....	169
5.5 (Potentially) Erotic Passages in the Book of Ben Sira .....	172
5.5.1 Erotic Images for Wisdom .....	173
5.5.2 Erotic Images for the “Intelligent Wife” .....	175
5.5.3 Wisdom, the Sage, and the “Intelligent Wife” .....	178
5.6 The Book of Ben Sira and the Song of Songs.....	182
 Chapter 6. The Discourse of <i>Gender</i> in the Book of Ben Sira .....	187
6.1 Relational-Gender Passages.....	188
6.2 ‘Anomalous’ Verses— BBS 25:24 and BBS 42:13 and 14 .....	192
6.3 <i>Gender</i> in the Book of Ben Sira.....	193
 Appendix: Lexical Studies and Annotated Translations.....	197
A.1 Lexical Studies.....	197
A.1.1 <b>טוֹב</b> and <b>וְרָעַ</b> : Good and Bad/Evil in the Book of Ben Sira .....	197
A.1.2 Eve and the Vocabulary of BBS 25:24.....	200
A.1.3 Miscellaneous Lexical Studies .....	205
A.2 Fully-Annotated Translations, Passages from the Book of Ben Sira....	216
A.2.1 Fully-Annotated Chart for Chapter 1.....	216
A.2.2 Fully-Annotated Charts for Chapter 2 .....	217
A.2.3 Fully-Annotated Charts for Chapter 3 .....	223
A.2.4 Fully-Annotated Charts for Chapter 4 .....	231
A.2.5 Conjectural Translation of BBS 42:14 .....	246
A.2.6 Fully-Annotated Charts for Chapter 5 .....	246
 Select Bibliography .....	253
Index of Modern Authors .....	273