

Table of Contents

Introduction, xi

Part I: The Biblical Period

- Chapter 1 The Conquest and Settlement of the Land, 3
2 The Inhabitants of the Land of Israel, 13
3 Categories of Inhabitants of Israel, 16
4 Ideological Underpinning for Universalism and Conversion, 28

Part II: The Rabbinic Period

- 5 Historical Background, 35
6 Proselytization and the Rabbis, 40
7 Other Jewish Voices Favoring Proselyting, 47
8 The Process of Conversion and the Convert's Status, 50
9 The Greco-Roman Environment, 54
10 The Rise of Christianity and Its Effects, 61

Part III: The Medieval Period: From the Rise of Islam to the French Revolution

- 11 Historical Overview, 67
12 Christianity and Conversion to Judaism, 71
13 The Jewish Adaptation to Restrictions on Conversion, 74
14 Conversions During the Middle Ages, 79
15 Socio-Economic Implications for Conversion, 84

Part IV: Group Conversion to Judaism

- 16 Introduction, 93

- 17 The Idumeans and Itureans, 94
- 18 Adiabene, 97
- 19 Jews in South Arabia and the Conversion of Dhu
Nuwas, 101
- 20 The Conversion of the Berbers of North Africa, 104
- 21 The Conversion of the Khazars, 107
- 22 The Falashas, 115

Part V: After the French Revolution

- 23 Conversion and Intermarriage, 121

Conclusion, 141

Notes, 147

Bibliography, 161

Index, 169