Gregory Sterling

Title: When a Human is not the Measure of All Things: God and Humans in Second Temple Judaism

Abstract: Second Temple Jewish authors had a pronounced tendency to focus on individuals in many different genres: in apocalypses, bioi, historical narratives, philosophical commentaries, and testaments. Unlike the agnosticism of Protagoras of Abdera, Jewish authors not only thought that they understood something about the divine, but about the ways in which the divine relates to humans. This contribution will explore which ancestral figures Second Temple Jewish authors featured and how they understood the relationship between them and the God of Israel.