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in Late Hellenistic and Early Imperial Times

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Title: Resonating Highlights, highlighting resonances – Biographical aspects in the remembrance of Solomon.

Abstract: Ambivalent king, wisdom teacher, builder of the temple, womanizer, healer, worshipper of idols. The remembrance of Solomon in literature of antiquity – from the earliest sources and their process of editing onwards - mainly takes place in high- and lowlights. Transmission of biographies via certain high- and lowlights may be seen as a possible form of biographical representation that both condenses lives and opens them up for new stories. Selected examples from the Jewish tradition of commemorating Solomon shed light on these resonances. They also point to interesting correlations between individual and collective “biographies” that will be traced exemplarily regarding Solomon and reach a peak in Hellenistic times.