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Alexandria c. 565-630 CE / Allen, Pauline -- Christian-Jewish Conflict in the Light of Heraclius' Forced Conversions and the Beginning of Islam / Gador-Whyte, Sarah -- The Earliest Greek Understandings of Islam: John of Damascus and Theophanes the Confessor / Neil, Bronwen -- Muhammad the Eschatological Prophet / Casey, Damien -- List of Contributors -- Index of Names and Places -- General Index

Sommario/riassunto

Conflict has been an inescapable facet of religion from its very beginnings. This volume offers insight into the mechanisms at play in the centuries from the Jesus-movement's first attempts to define itself over and against Judaism to the beginnings of Islam. Profiling research by scholars of the Centre for Early Christian Studies at Australian Catholic University, the essays document inter- and intra-religious conflict from a variety of angles. Topics relevant to the early centuries range from religious conflict between different parts of the Christian canon, types of conflict, the origins of conflict, strategies for winning, for conflict resolution, and the emergence of a language of conflict. For the fourth to seventh centuries case studies from Asia Minor, Syria, Constantinople, Gaul, Arabia and Egypt are presented. The volume closes with examinations of the Christian and Jewish response to Islam, and of Islam's response to Christianity. Given the political and religious tensions in the world today, this volume is well positioned to find relevance and meaning in societies still grappling with the monotheistic religions of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.