



Caspari Center  
for Biblical and Jewish Studies

# OPEN LECTURE

Spring 2017

Tuesday / April 25th / at 7 pm

## Judeans of Egypt in the Persian period in light of the Aramaic documents

Esko Siljanen

In this lecture, Esko Siljanen will present highlights from his dissertation on the Judeans of Egypt in the Persian period, in light of the Aramaic documents. The systemic examination of the vast data of Aramaic documents (1042) provides an increased understanding of the Judean settlement of Egypt. Judeans of Egypt possessed a religious group identity that was mainly Yahwistic; however, clear evidence also exists to prove their partial religious acculturation, especially with the Arameans. The greatest token of the Yahwistic identity of the Judeans was the temple of Yahu in Elephantine in South Egypt. Yahwistic names were still highly preserved by the Judeans of Egypt during the Persian period. The research also provides some insight into the question of why the religion of the Judeans of Egypt was criticized by the Prophet Jeremiah.

**Esko Siljanen** recently completed his Doctoral Degree in Biblical Studies at the University of Helsinki. He served as the Caspari Center administrator between 1986-1989 and 1990-1992. He was a lecturer of Biblical Hebrew and the Hebrew Bible at Mekane Yesus Seminary in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 2013-2016.

The lecture is open to the public and is free of charge. It takes place at 55 HaNevi'im Street, Jerusalem.  
The Caspari Center Library is open to the public prior to the lecture.

This lecture as well as a selection of past lectures will be available for download on our website  
[www.caspari.com](http://www.caspari.com) under Resources / Audio.

For more information please contact the Caspari Center, Tel. 02-623-3926, E-mail : [caspari@caspari.com](mailto:caspari@caspari.com)