# Contents

Acknowledgments ix

Introduction: Thinking about Continuity and Disruption xiii

*Rabbi Stanley M. Davids*

## Part One: Biblical Considerations

1. The Disruptive Prophets: Linking Action and Intention 3
   *Kristine Henriksen Garroway, PhD*

2. 586 BCE: Defeat and the Emergence of Jewish Peoplehood 17
   *Jacob L. Wright, PhD*

## Part Two: Rabbinic Disruptions

3. Christianity: A Pauline Revolution 35
   *Rabbi Joshua D. Garroway, PhD*

4. Persecution, Martyrdom, and Divine Justice: How the Afterlife Came to Be 49
   *Rabbi Candice Levy, PhD*

5. “They Are Israel”: Nonbinary Gender Then and Now 65
   *Gwynn Kessler, PhD*

## Part Three: Medieval Constructions

6. The Radical Rationalist: Maimonides Reshapes Rabbinic Discourse 83
   *Tamar Ron Marvin, PhD*

7. The *Zohar* Transformation: A New Understanding of Torah, God, and Humanity 99
   *Rabbi Lawrence A. Englander, DHL*
8. Sabbatianism: Convulsions and Creativity  
   Rabbi Stanley M. Davids  

   Michal Ohana, PhD  

Part Four: Modern Deliberations  

    Yoav Schaefer  

11. Breaking the Chain: The Radical Thought of Rabbi Samuel Holdheim  
    Michael A. Meyer, PhD  

12. Sephardism and Modernity: Jewish Communities in Flux  
    Rabbi Marc D. Angel, PhD  

    Rabbi Kari Tuling, PhD  

14. Power, Pragmatism, and Peoplehood: Mordecai Kaplan’s Radical American Judaism  
    Rabbi Michael Marmur, PhD  

Part Five: Contemporary Innovations  

15. The Breakup: Rethinking American Jewish Literary History  
    Adam Rovner, PhD  

16. Liturgy as an Instrument of Intellectual Change: Between Comfort and Disruption  
    Rabbi Sonja K. Pilz, PhD  

17. Reform Jewry Sings a New Song: Disruptions and Innovations  
    Cantor Evan Kent, DMA  

18. The Gender Revolution: Disruptions of Jewish Feminism  
    Rabbi Elyse Goldstein
19. Moving Beyond Post-Holocaust Theology: Critical Theory as a New Paradigm
   Rabbi Jason Rodich 295

20. Holocaust Testimony: Listening, Humanizing, and Sacralizing
   Stephen D. Smith, PhD 305

   Rabbi Nora Feinstein 319

Afterword
   Leah Hochman, PhD 327

Contributors 335