

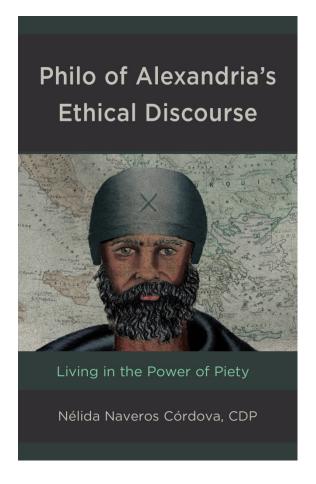
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# PHILO OF ALEXANDRIA'S ETHICAL DISCOURSE: LIVING IN THE POWER OF PIETY

#### BY Nélida Naveros Córdova, CDP



#### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

**Nélida Naveros Córdova, CDP,** is an adjunct professor of New Testament at Pope St. John XXIII National Seminary.

In this exceptionally well-researched book, Nélida Naveros Córdova analyzes five major uses of piety in Philo's treatises piety and the Decalogue; piety as a foundational virtue; piety as the opposite of impiety; the practice of piety, and the relationship between piety and love of humanity. Naveros carefully examines each of these five uses within both the Hellenistic Jewish and Greek philosophical traditions, focusing particularly on piety's primary role in Philo's teaching about the acquisition of virtues and the avoidance of vices. This book illustrates the way Philo moves beyond both Hellenistic Jewish and Greek philosophical traditions by comprehensively showing how he develops the place of piety, from being a subordinate virtue in Greek catalogue of virtues to becoming a foundational virtue. To date, this is an original study on Philo's ethics, and the first to offer the fullest evaluation of piety within the categories of ancient ethical systems.

"This book makes a very valuable and insightful contribution to the study of Philo of Alexandria and how he appropriated and transformed the Greek notion of "piety" into a way of integrating his understanding of the observance of the Mosaic Law and its value. It is clear, lucid, and learned."

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"An important and informative book about the virtues, especially piety, in Philo's ethics. Naveros Cordova pays due attention to the Greek philosophical and biblical backgrounds, while also making an argument for Philo's own contributions and formulations."

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