

Tradition and Innovation: R. Yehuda Copperman's Interpretive Approach

Eliezer Daniel Jeselsohn

This paper describes the interpretive approach that R. Yehuda Copperman developed in his numerous publications on the subject. It is founded on the principle, reflected in halakhic midrash, that the Oral and Written Torah were given simultaneously. Two major ideas stem from this principle. 1. The Jewish nation received the Torah continuously over the forty years in the wilderness. This enabled Rav Copperman to resolve apparent contradictions between various parts of the Torah: he defines the temporal context in which