"Midrash [from Hebrew verb "to seek"], a rabbinic method of exegesis of a biblical text. The method is based on the assumptions that the Bible is of divine origin, that it is perfect containing no contradictions, inconsistencies, or superfluity, that it is always relevant, and that there is a hidden message behind the apparent meaning. The word midrash can also refer to a compilation of biblical interpetations." *The Messiah in Early Judaim and Christianity* (M. Zetterholm, ed.; Minneapolis: Fortress, 2007), 121.