

Asaf Yedidya | **The Halakhic Teachings of Rabbi Zvi Hirsch Kalischer**

Rabbi Zvi Hirsch Kalischer (1795–1874) was known for his proto-national thinking and activities in the third quarter of the nineteenth century, and for this reason he was crowned the ‘Precursor of Zionism.’ However, his halakhic teachings have not yet been properly researched. This article seeks to illuminate his halakhic teachings by examining Rabbi Kalischer’s position on major issues that occupied the halakhic discourse in countries of emancipation in his days: relating to non-Jews within the biblical commandments pertaining to interpersonal relationships; treatment of religious offenders, as well as other halakhic approaches characteristic of his rulings; consideration of public opinion in halakhic jurisprudence and learning *halakhot* from the Bible. The article also discusses halakhic questions related to Rabbi Kalischer’s proto-national teachings – which busied mostly himself – and the connection between his general halakhic teachings and his proto-national teachings.