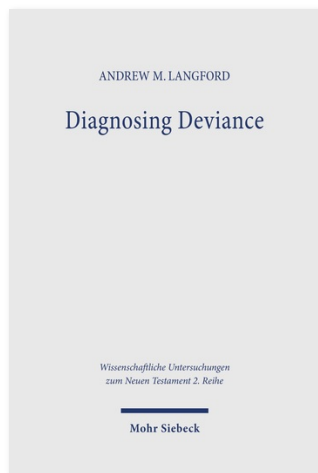


Andrew M. Langford

## Diagnosing Deviance

### Pathology and Polemic in the Pastoral Epistles

[Abweichung diagnostizieren. Pathologie und Polemik in den Pastoralbriefen.]



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In this study, Andrew M. Langford demonstrates that the single, post-Pauline author of the Pastoral Epistles (»the Pastor«) crafts a stigmatizing depiction of his theological opponents by spatializing, demonizing, and pathologizing their alleged deviance. Through close comparative readings of ancient medical and philosophical literature, the author argues for the necessity of interpreting the Pastor's pathologizing of deviance in light of ancient disease etiologies and models of corporeality. With this book, the author contributes to recent interpretive insights about the function of authorial fiction in antiquity and demonstrates that the Pastor is self-consciously appropriating the Pauline epistolary to craft his approach to his theological opponents.

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