

Hermann-Josef Stipp

Jeremia 25–52

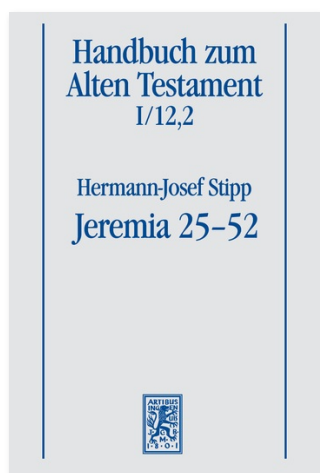
[Jeremiah 25–52.]

Published in German.

This commentary builds on recent insights into the textual history of the Book of Jeremiah spurred by the manuscript discoveries at Qumran and the ensuing re-evaluation of the ancient translation of the book into Greek (Septuagint of Jeremiah). Hermann-Josef Stipp shows that situated in the historical contexts of their origins, the various literary units of the book emerge as tantalizing testimonies to the fervid theological battles fought in Judah about the correct interpretation of the traumata afflicting the Judeans during the sixth century BCE: the Babylonian empire's overwhelming power that according to the prophet Jeremiah had been bestowed on King Nebuchadnezzar by Yahweh himself; the total military defeat, the devastation of Jerusalem and the temple, the loss of kingship and statehood, the deportations into exile in 587, and eventually the efforts to re-consolidate the community of Yahweh-worshippers under less than encouraging circumstances that followed the onset of Persian rule in 539.

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2019. IX, 832 pages. HAT I/12,2

ISBN 978-3-16-156632-5
sewn paper 69,00 €

ISBN 978-3-16-156633-2
cloth 124,00 €

ISBN 978-3-16-156634-9
eBook PDF 124,00 €

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