

Sceptic and Believer in Ancient Mediterranean Religions

Edited by Babett Edelmann-Singer, Tobias Nicklas, Janet E. Spittler, and Luigi Walt

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What are the roles of doubt and scepticism in the religious landscape of the ancient Mediterranean? How is doubt expressed within a specific religious community, and what reactions does it provoke? How does »insider doubt« differ from the sceptical attitude of outsiders? Exploring these questions with respect to a wide range of religious contexts and topics (including early Christianity, Greco-Roman religions, Egyptian religions, astrology, and magic), the essays in this volume confirm the thesis that doubting one's own religious tradition is not simply a »Western« post-Enlightenment phenomenon. On the contrary, ancient religions offered opportunities and contexts wherein aspects of doubt are not just tolerated but accepted; moreover, doubt and scepticism concerning certain religious ideas or aspects of belief also motivated creative reinterpretation of those ideas.

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Babett Edelmann-Singer Born 1975; 2005 Promotion; 2013 Habilitation; since 2018 Heisenberg Fellow at the Ludwig Maximilian University Munich, Germany; Research Associate at the Department of Greek, Latin and Classical Studies, University of the Free State, Bloemfontein, South Africa; 2019–2020 Visiting Associate Professor at the Ludwig Maximilian University Munich, Germany.

Tobias Nicklas Born 1967; 2000 Promotion; 2004 Habilitation; since 2007 Professor of New Testament at University of Regensburg, Germany; Research Associate at the Department of New Testament, University of the Free State, Bloemfontein, South Africa; since 2018 Director of the Centre for Advanced Studies »Beyond Canon«, University of Regensburg, Germany; since 2019 Adjunct Ordinary Professor at the Catholic University of America, Washington, DC.

Janet E. Spittler Born 1976; 2007 PhD; since 2017 Associate Professor of Religious Studies, University of Virginia; Research Associate at the Department of Greek, Latin, and Classical Studies, University of the Free State, Bloemfontein, South Africa. <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-3553-266X>

Luigi Walt Born 1975; 2008 PhD; since 2018 Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Centre for Advanced Studies »Beyond Canon«, University of Regensburg, Germany.

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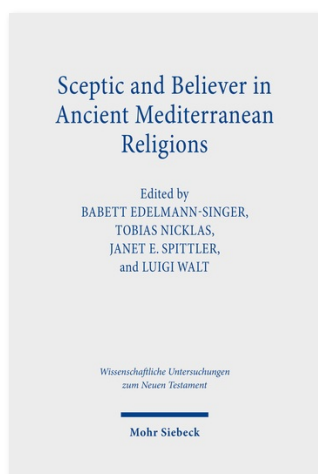
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