

Monika Elisabeth Götte

Von den Wächtern zu Adam

Frühjüdische Mythen über die Ursprünge des Bösen und ihre frühchristliche Rezeption

[From the Watchers to Adam. Early Jewish Myths on the Origins of Evil and their Early Christian Reception.]

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In the early Jewish-Christian tradition, the question as to the origin of evil is explained through the use of various mythological concepts. Most prominent are the Enochic myth of the Watchers and the narrative of Adam's fall. Monika Elisabeth Götte analyses the development and the reception of these two motifs, revealing a gradual shift of the explanation of evil's origins from the Watchers to Adam and, later, to the primordial fall of Satan. The plurality of explanations within the biblical and the early Christian tradition leads to hermeneutical issues: If evil is not explained in a uniform and definitive manner, but is left open in a multifaceted play of motifs, what does this mean for Christian theology?

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