

Forschungen zum Alten Testament 2. Reihe

Edited by Corinna Körting, Konrad Schmid, Mark S. Smith, and Andrew Teeter

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ISSN: 1611-4914 - Suggested citation: *FAT II*

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Kline, Joanna G.

Narrative Analogy in the David Story

Parallels between Genesis 25–50 and 1 Samuel 16–1 Kings 2

2024. Approx. 310 pages.
forthcoming in April

ISBN 9783161582523
sewn paper approx. 85,00 €

ISBN 9783161582530
eBook PDF approx. 85,00 €

Joanna G. Kline explores the use of narrative analogy in the biblical story of King David (1 Samuel 16–1 Kings 2) and the narratives about Jacob, Judah, and Joseph (Genesis 25–50). In her analysis, the author demonstrates that parallels in plot, structure, language, and motif function to develop characterization and to reinforce significant themes in these texts, including sibling rivalry and reconciliation, measure-for-measure punishment, and divine providence. By examining the genetic relationship between Samuel and Genesis, she provides evidence of mutual influence and shows that the analogical links between David and Jacob, Judah, and Joseph were strengthened as these texts were composed and transmitted over time.

Survey of contents

Introduction

Chapter 1: From Shepherd to Ruler: 1 Samuel 16–18 and Genesis 37, 39

Chapter 2: Deceptive Dads and Double Daughters: 1 Samuel 18–19, 24–25 and Genesis 29, 31–33

Chapter 3: Rape and Revenge: 2 Samuel 13 and Genesis 34

Chapter 4: Fathers and Sons: 2 Samuel 11–13 and the Joseph Story

Conclusion

Freidenreich, Aron

Mutual Influence in Priestly and Non-Priestly Pentateuchal Narratives

A Study of the Dynamic Interaction Behind the Textual Growth of P and Non-P

2024. Approx. 340 pages.
forthcoming in May

ISBN 9783161632068
sewn paper 99,00 €

ISBN 9783161632075
eBook PDF 99,00 €

Aron Freidenreich offers evidence of a dynamic stage of mutual influence and parallel growth during the Pentateuch's formation process when Priestly and non-Priestly scribes expanded their works in response to one another. His critical examination of five key cases in Genesis and Exodus shows each passage to have been supplemented onto its Priestly or non-Priestly context under the influence of the competing literature even as the two corpora still existed separately. These case studies provide insight into the practices of scribal communities in Persian period Yehud as tradents selectively incorporated elements of the alternative tradition into their own writings while simultaneously rebuffing ideas and beliefs that they opposed. Such scribal activity was pivotal in precipitating the most crucial moment in the Pentateuch's development: the combination of its Priestly and non-Priestly materials.

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3. Exodus 3:15

4. Genesis 17:15–21

5. Genesis 26:34–35; 27:46

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Swinney, Kipp

Reforging History in the Persian Era Editing of the Twelve

The Significance of the Motifs of the Divine Warrior, Chaoskampf, and Theophany for Shaping the Book of the Twelve

2024. Approx. 220 pages.
forthcoming in May

ISBN 9783161634000
sewn paper approx. 80,00 €

ISBN 9783161634017
eBook PDF approx. 80,00 €

In the Persian era, Judean editors of the Book of the Twelve incorporated new material and revised existing content in ways that reflected on the history from Assyria's fall to Persia's rise. Kipp Swinney argues that the Persian era editors of the Twelve embed a historiography that centralizes Yahweh's role in Judah's history by using the motifs of the divine warrior, *Chaoskampf*, and theophany. These motifs depict Yahweh's acting in history without human assistance, which enhanced Yahweh's legitimacy as king despite Babylon's destruction of Judah and Persia's ascendancy. Amos, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, and Zephaniah contain this embedded historiography and legitimizing agenda. Synthesizing developmental models of the Twelve with the tradition history of the motifs used, Swinney illuminates the Persian era shaping of the Book of the Twelve.

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CHAPTER TWO: Sifting through the layers of the Twelve

The Formation of the Book of the Twelve – The Most Relevant Layers of the Twelve

CHAPTER THREE: Divine Warrior, Chaoskampf, and Theophany in the Persian Era. Reshaping of the Embedded Historiography of the Twelve—Nahum

The Literary-Historical Setting of Nahum – Divine Warrior, Chaoskampf, and Theophany in the Shaping of Nahum

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CHAPTER FIVE: Divine Warrior, Chaoskampf, and Theophany in the Persian Era Reshaping of the Embedded Historiography of the Twelve—The Book of the Four

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CHAPTER SIX: The Twelve as a Response to the Shortcomings of Histories

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Oepping, Florian

Vom Sinai zum Zion?

Das Verhältnis der Gottesbergüberlieferungen im Alten Testament

2024. Approx. 350 pages.
forthcoming in August

ISBN 9783161634819
sewn paper approx. 100,00 €
ISBN 9783161634826
eBook PDF

Florian Oepping traces the relationship between the traditions of the Mountain of God. The depiction "from the Sinai to Zion", as presented in the Old Testament, cannot be maintained based on the results of the present study. Instead, the two Mountain of God-traditions are in a literary dialogue.

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 - I. Einleitung
 - II. Altorientalische Befunde zum Bergmotiv
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- B. Analyse
 - I. Gottesbergvorstellungen aus der Königszeit im Nordreich Israel
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- C. Ertrag

Rodrian, Jonathan

Das Abrahamopfer im Kontext von Gen 12–25

Narratologische und literarhistorische Untersuchungen

2024. Approx. 450 pages.
forthcoming in April

ISBN 9783161626708
sewn paper approx. 120,00 €
ISBN 9783161634796
eBook PDF approx. 120,00 €

A God who declares his promise null and void? Jonathan Rodrian examines the narrative of the »sacrifice of Isaac« against the background of the Abraham cycle. Considering the image of God, it becomes clear that God's promise can be relied upon even when God himself seems to question his own commitment.

Survey of contents

- Einleitung: Grundlagen und Methoden
- 1. Zentraler Text: Gen 22,1–19
- 2. Ausweitung: Gen 21,1–21
- 3. Ausweitung: Gen 20; 21,22–34
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- Literarhistorische Schlussfolgerungen für Gen 12–25

Peeler, Josiah D.

Punning in Odd or Elegant Constructions in Jeremiah

The Convergence of Linguistics, Rhetoric, and Textuality in the Hebrew Text of Jeremiah

2024. Approx. 250 pages.
forthcoming in May

ISBN 9783161631986
sewn paper approx. 90,00 €
ISBN 9783161631993
eBook PDF approx. 90,00 €

Ancient Near Eastern scribes from Egypt to Mesopotamia, including Israelite scribes of the Hebrew Bible, create infelicitous or symmetric elements in their textual production. By their form, these elements communicate beyond the textual and semantic levels for rhetorical and literary purposes. »Meta-textual semantics« is a widespread scribal device in the ancient world, and ancient audiences and exegetes (e.g., rabbinic, medieval Jewish and Christian exegetes, and Masoretes) properly appreciated it, but it is underappreciated in modern interpretations of the Hebrew Bible. Using Prov 1:1–7 as a paradigm, Josiah D. Peeler explores elements in Hebrew Jeremiah usually considered secondary because of their odd or well-formed nature, to demonstrate that they exemplify a contextual theme.

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1. Meta-Textual Semantics: Present or Absent in the Hebrew Bible?

1.1 Introducing Meta-Textual Semantics – 1.2 Call for a Fuller Investigation of Meta-Textual Semantics in the Hebrew Bible – 1.3 Is Meta-Textual Semantics an Ancient or Modern Conceptualisation? – 1.4 Proverbs 1:1–7: A Paradigm for Increasing Wisdom through Reading – 1.5 A Strategy for Increasing Wisdom in Proverbs 1:10 – 1.6 Is Proverbs 1 Unique or Indicative of How the Hebrew Bible Is Written? – 1.7 Twistings in the Text of the Hebrew Bible – 1.8 Meta-Textual Semantics in Ancient Near Eastern Literature – 1.9 Conclusion

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6. Conclusion

Isaiah and Intertextuality

Isaiah amid Israel's Scriptures

Edited by Wilson de Angelo Cunha and Andrew T. Abernethy

Volume 148
2024. XIV, 284 pages.

ISBN 9783161632334
sewn paper 109,00 €
ISBN 9783161632341
eBook PDF 109,00 €

Intertextuality is a valuable interpretive tool that provides a rich understanding of Isaiah in its complex relationship with the larger witness of the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament. With essays by leading and upcoming scholars, this volume moves sequentially through the tri-partite Hebrew canon to showcase the interconnections between Isaiah and books within the Torah, Prophets, and Writings. It becomes evident that Isaiah is like a »prism« that refracts strands of tradition in ways that neither supersede nor exhaust the riches of the prior tradition and that are neither superseded by nor exhausted by the subsequent uses of Isaiah. The Book of Isaiah employs these traditions for its own rhetorical purposes, offering a message that is both unique in comparison with and interrelated to the wider web of biblical, textual traditions. Isaiah is to be read as a book amid Israel's Scriptures.

Long, Stephen Arden

Dynamics of Charity and Reciprocity in the Book of Sirach

Volume 147
2024. XV, 339 pages.

ISBN 9783161623844
sewn paper 99,00 €
ISBN 9783161627804
eBook PDF 99,00 €

In this study, Stephen Long explores the role of reciprocity and gift exchange in the wisdom-instruction of Ben Sira, contextualizing the sage's prescriptions in relation to comparative data from Greco-Roman antiquity and his own teaching on »charity«. While tangible human returns are the normal expectation in response to acts of generosity, Ben Sira is seen to have inflected this cultural expectation in a uniquely Jewish and theological manner. First, sacrifice is understood as a »gift« for the deity, a gift which the God of Israel will »repay«; second, acts of both ordinary, »self-interested« generosity as well as more »altruistic« acts are brought within the ambit of »sacrifice«. Ben Sira appears to think that he thereby followed the lead of prior, pentateuchal tradition, and drew out implications of a theology of creation whereby the cosmos is so ordered that every »need« is – or should be – met »at the right time«. Thus, Long elucidates a second century BCE sage's theological construal of the relation between charity and reciprocity.

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Chapter 2: Generosity and Reciprocity in the Good Life according to Sirach 14:3–19

Chapter 3: Decorum in Generosity according to Sirach 18:15–18 and 20:9–17

Chapter 4: »A God Who Repays« – Sacrifice, Reciprocity, and Charity according to Sir 35:1–13 and 12:1–5a

Chapter 5: Relating Charity and Reciprocity (1) – Further Scriptural Traditions and the Role of Sirach 29

Chapter 6: Relating Charity and Reciprocity (2) – Human Generosity in the Well-Ordered Creation

Chapter 7: Synthesis and Conclusions

Onuorah, Ogochukwu Daniel

Social Memory in Ex 16 and the Identity of Exilic/Post-Exilic Israel

Volume 146
2023. XV, 321 pages.

ISBN 9783161624063
sewn paper 99,00 €

ISBN 9783161627811
eBook PDF 99,00 €

The destruction of the Temple and the humiliation of the exile not only shook the foundations of Israel's pride as God's chosen people, but also brought about the danger of losing their identity as a people. To survive this, the people had to develop and highlight an identity-reinforcing theology built upon the collective memory of their constitutive past. Ogochukwu Daniel Onuorah applies the tools of the social memory theory to the exegetical analysis of Ex 16, an approach which necessarily entails both synchronic and diachronic inquiries. In six chapters, the author argues that the collective memory of the manna-experience as recounted in Ex 16 served as a socio-theological tool of identity-preservation in the difficult exilic/early post-exilic period. Succinctly noted also are the implications of this for the discussion on the composition of the Pentateuch.

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Chapter II: Exodus 16 – Unity in Complexity
Chapter III: The Bread from Heaven
Chapter IV: The Sabbath and the Memorialisation
Chapter V: »Throughout Your Generations«
Chapter VI: Social Memory in Ex 16 and Quest for Identity
Conclusion

Ray, David Cameron

Conflict and Enmity in the Asaph Psalms

Volume 145
2023. XVIII, 336 pages.

ISBN 9783161620416
sewn paper 104,00 €

ISBN 9783161625718
eBook PDF 104,00 €

David Ray examines the extent to which the Asaph Psalms constitute a coherent collection through its ubiquitous motif of conflict. A binary relational model and semantic roles at discourse level are used to uncover underlying power dynamics in the text. Initially presenting a supposedly innocent collective as fixated on the presence of its opponent while God is perceived as absent, the psalmists then focus on the failure of different generations to adhere to covenant obligations, crystallised in divine judgment. The Asaph Psalms closes with a sapiential outcome, wherein the collective expresses dependence on God, anticipating divine intervention against God's own ingathered heavenly and earthly opponents. Ray configures a pattern of conflicts consistent with Deuteronomistic-informed pastoral teaching, namely, to follow God's ways, recognise complicity in suffering, and place complete trust in the warrior-judge God.

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1 Introduction
2 Methodology
3 Theological Problem – Divine Absence and Opponent Presence
4 Test of Covenant Relationship – the Anticipation of Universal Divine Justice
5 Inner Turmoil – Divine Abandonment and Yearning for Right Relationship
6 Blamefixing – Maintaining Innocence by Blaming the Fathers
7 Failure of Covenant Obligations – Divine Justice as Correction
8 Theological Resolution – the Ingathering of God's Opponent
9 Conclusion
10 Appendix – a Contextual Word Study of נִשָּׁח in the Hebrew Bible

Innovation in Persian Period Judah

Royal and Temple Ideology in Comparative Perspective

Edited by Jill Middlemas

Volume 144
2023. VIII, 216 pages.

ISBN 9783161612367
sewn paper 84,00 €

ISBN 9783161622519
eBook PDF 84,00 €

The essays in this volume, which has emerged from the Persian Period Seminar of the Society of Biblical Literature, explore biblical and comparative evidence to show how the Iron Age institutions of monarchy and temple shifted in both form and function in the Persian period. The weight given to the Davidic monarchy and Jerusalem temple in the historiography of the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament invites a new examination of attitudes towards the same in Achaemenid Yehud in comparative perspective. The essays uncover new attitudes relating to the monarchy and cultic site as well as the influence, but also rejection of, Persian ideas and contribute to scholarly interest in the extent of Persian influence on the literature of ancient/biblical Israel. As such, the volume participates in, lays the groundwork for, and also shapes discussions of Persian period Yehud and its literature.

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Jill Middlemas: Introduction: The Restoration of the King and Temple in Persian Period Yehud

I. Conceptions of the King and Kingship

Louis Jonker: Is the book of Chronicles Yehud's equivalent of Bisitun? Or Is the book of Chronicles Yehud's equivalent of Bisitun? Interaction between biblical writings and royal Persian inscriptions from the late Achaemenid period – *Bernard Gosse:* David and Moses in Postexilic Times – *W. Dennis Tucker:* Creation, Kingship, and the Reframing of the Monarchy in the Psalter: A Comparative Analysis – *Deirdre N. Fulton:* »Seeking the God of his Father«: Examining King Josiah's Early Reforms in 2 Chronicles 34 in Light of Persian Period Kingship

II. Conceptions of the Temple

Jason M. Silverman: Imperial Chapels or Oratories of Resistance? Differential Integration of Temples in the Persian Empire – *Daniel Bodi*: The Temple in Persian Times as a Viable Economic Entity: A Comparison of Jerusalem's Temple and Uruk's Eanna – *Samasoni Moleli*: Cultic worship with a נכרי according to 1 Kings 8:41–43 – *Gard Granerød*: What were the Elephantine Judeans' Conceptions of YHW? Aspects of Elephantine Judean Temple Theology

Lee, James Seung-Hyun

Reimagining Exile in Daniel

A Literary-Historical Study

Volume 143
2023. XIV, 192 pages.

ISBN 9783161623370
paper 79,00 €

ISBN 9783161624636
eBook PDF 79,00 €

The widely accepted view of exile in the Book of Daniel is that it was an ongoing reality which went beyond the initial return of the Babylonian *golah* (based on Dan. 9). James Seung-Hyun Lee's study, however, reaches deeper to tread the insufficiently explored territory of how the book reconceptualizes exile and how this informs the self-identity of the Danielic group, the final editors of the book. Proposing that for the Danielic group, exile is a place of privilege and a locus of God's revelation and presence, the author shows how this creates a middle space for them that provides a unique historical perspective that both embraces and critiques Babylon and Jerusalem. By identifying themselves with those remaining in exile, the Danielic group claims the legitimacy of their prophetic identity and teaching during the Antiochene persecution.

Giffone, Benjamin D.

Storymaking, Textual Development, and Varying Cultic Centralizations

Gathering and Fitting Unhewn Stones

Volume 142
2023. XVIII, 269 pages.

ISBN 9783161562389
sewn paper 94,00 €

ISBN 9783161562396
eBook PDF 94,00 €

In this volume, Benjamin D. Giffone shows that the coexistence of at least three cultic centralization models within the Pentateuch, including Northern, Benjaminite, and Southern traditions, helps to calibrate the level of theological consistency that may reasonably be expected of biblical texts. The scholarly tendency to view biblical narratives as late, tendentious fictions is not sufficient to explain the texts' final forms. The author explains how the use of earlier narrative and legal material within Chronicles and other Second Temple texts illumines instances of unevenness that later interpreters smoothed to a degree but retained in the text. Community memory existing outside the written texts provided limits on the changes that could be introduced by scribes but was sufficiently malleable to allow for changes. Narrativity as a key feature of the texts allowed certain memories to be retained, framed by various techniques to suit the storymakers' aims.

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- 1.3 Structure of the Book

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Mohr Siebeck

Forschungen zum Alten Testament 2. Reihe
Last updated: 13/03/2024

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10.5 Shechem in Joshua 24
10.6 Summary: Burial of Northern Sites at the Seams of »Books« and of Collections

Chapter 11: Conclusions: Round Stones Forming a Square Altar

11.1 Danite Shrine Aetiology: A Thought Experiment
11.2 Summary of Key Theses
11.3 Synthesis: Heresthetic to Achieve Elite and Popular Support for Judah's Bible
11.4 Implications for Further Study
11.5 Epilogue: Modern Discomfort with »Unhewn Stones«

Casagrande, Alessandro G. K.

Das Amosbuch als epische Erzählung im dramatischen Modus

Ein Beitrag zu den synchronen Lesarten der Prophetenbücher

Volume 141
2023. XVII, 438 pages.

ISBN 9783161621598
sewn paper 114,00 €

ISBN 9783161623561
eBook PDF 114,00 €

Drama or narrative? This question aptly summarizes the recent debate within literary approaches to the prophetic books. In this work Alessandro G. K. Casagrande goes beyond this dichotomy and analyzes the Book of Amos as a narrative using the dramatic mode of narration.

Survey of contents

I: Dramen- und erzähltheoretische Zugänge zu den Prophetenbüchern und deren Anwendung auf das Amosbuch
II: Methodisches zum Amosbuch als Erzählung
III: Zur Makrogliederung des Amosbuches
IV-VII: Erzähltheoretische Analysen zu Am 1–2; 3–6; 7,1–9,6 und 9,7–15
VIII-IX: Beitrag für synchrone Lesarten der Prophetenbücher und ein diachroner Ausblick

Pedersen, Håkon Sunde

The Retributive and Suffering God of the Book of Jeremiah

A Study of YHWH's 'Āzab-Complaints

Volume 140
2023. XII, 207 pages.

ISBN 9783161623318
sewn paper 84,00 €

ISBN 9783161624773
eBook PDF 84,00 €

Portraits of YHWH as a retributive and a suffering God appear side by side in the book of Jeremiah. Not surprisingly, scholars usually emphasize the contrast and conflict between them. In addition to obvious differences, they also tend to feature in different types of literary material in the book; that is, in prose and poetry. Håkon Sunde Pedersen's study challenges the common view by offering a new interpretation of some of the portraits in which not only radical differences but points of unity and connection between them come to light. Based on these observations, the author suggests that the portraits' juxtaposition in the book may ultimately contribute to highlighting central theological concerns in the book in its present (MT) form.

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Chapter I: Introduction
Chapter II: YHWH's Poetic 'Āzab -Complaints
Chapter III: YHWH's Prosaic 'Āzab -Complaints
Chapter IV: Outlook: The Retributive and Suffering God of The Book of Jeremiah

Inscribe It in a Book

Scribal Practice, Cultural Memory, and the Making of the Hebrew Scriptures

Edited by Johannes Unsok Ro and Benjamin D. Giffone

Volume 139
2022. XIII, 339 pages.

ISBN 9783161615245
sewn paper 104,00 €
ISBN 9783161615252
eBook PDF 104,00 €

The subfield of orality and scribal culture within Hebrew Bible studies is leading to gradual shifts in the field, and the nuancing or displacement of entrenched ideas and approaches. The theoretical and empirical essays in this volume contribute to the ongoing conversation within biblical and cognate studies concerning the scribal processes that produced biblical texts. The topics in this volume include scribal education and scribal culture, including comparative studies; the interaction between scribal texts and cultural or collective memory within an oral culture; the overlap and intersections of the roles »prophet,» »priest,» and »scribe» in ancient Israel and beyond; and descriptions of writing and scribal process within biblical texts themselves.

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Johannes Unsok Ro and Benjamin D. Giffone: Introduction

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Power, Cian

The Significance of Linguistic Diversity in the Hebrew Bible

Language and Boundaries of Self and Other

Volume 138
2022. XIX, 345 pages.

ISBN 9783161593246
sewn paper 99,00 €
ISBN 9783161616259
eBook PDF 99,00 €

Cian J. Power explores how the biblical authors viewed and presented a fundamental human reality: the existence of the world's many languages. By examining explicit references to this diversity – such as the ambivalent account of its origins in the Tower of Babel episode – and implicit acknowledgements that included the use of strange-sounding speech to portray alien peoples, he illuminates ideas about Aramaic, Egyptian, Akkadian, and other ancient languages. Drawing on sociolinguistics, Power detects a consistent link between language and – ethnic, political, religious, and divine/human boundaries, and argues that changing historical circumstances are key to the Bible's varying attitudes. Furthermore, the study's findings regarding the biblical authors' ideas about their own language and its importance challenge our very notion of Hebrew.

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Lorenzen, Søren

Spoken into Being

Self and Name(s) in the Hebrew Bible

Volume 137
2022. XIII, 327 pages.

ISBN 9783161614644
sewn paper 94,00 €

ISBN 9783161616204
eBook PDF 94,00 €

How are names related to the self in the Hebrew Bible? Are names simply ornamental, or are they tied to the essence of the embodied bearer? To answer these questions, Søren Lorenzen traces various functions of proper names and explores how the lexeme »name« is conceptualized as an object to be perceived by the senses. With Paul Ricoeur as a dialogical partner, the author brings a new perspective on how the self is formed in the intentional relation between persons and name(s).

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Wetzel, Thomas

Violence and Divine Victory in the Book of Esther

Volume 136
2022. IX, 198 pages.

ISBN 9783161606601
sewn paper 74,00 €

ISBN 9783161606618
eBook PDF 74,00 €

Thomas Wetzel offers a new way to understand the violence and religious absence long emphasized in readings of the Hebrew version of the Esther story. By tracing the vestiges of Jewish liturgical activity described in the story as well as the story's reliance on the tradition of the Divine Combat myth, the author uncovers a profound, yet intentionally hidden, religious sensibility within the story's narrative world. These connections link the Esther story to the great acts of deliverance in the larger biblical tradition, but also bring into sharp focus the biblical view that Israel's survival and sometimes violent deliverance remain the definitive sign of the Lord's ongoing and active presence in creation. The author's conclusion suggests that this understanding has profound implications for Jewish-Christian dialogue and for the future existence and practice of the two communities.

Prophecy and Foreign Nations

Aspects of the Role of the »Nations« in the Books of Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel

Edited by Hannes Bezzel, Uwe Becker, and Matthijs de Jong

Volume 135
2022. VIII, 230 pages.

ISBN 9783161615962
sewn paper 84,00 €

ISBN 9783161616099
eBook PDF 84,00 €

This volume contains papers read at the EABS / SBL International meetings 2016 in Leuven, 2017 in Berlin, and 2018 in Helsinki. Contrary and complementary to a trend in contemporary research on prophetic literature to focus on questions concerning the origins of a prophetic theology of judgment, the research group addressed the seemingly stereotypic corpora of oracles concerning foreign nations. In diachronic as well as synchronic approaches to the books of Isaiah, Jeremiah, and Ezekiel, the contributors ask for the tension between standardisation in the corpus propheticum on the one side and maintaining or even creating a specific prophetic profile on the other. In so doing, the prophetic books may appear in a new light, both with respect to their literary-historical genesis and to a theological reading of their »final forms«.

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Aurin, Hans-Christoph

Benno Jacob zu Levitikus

Eine Studie zu seinem Nachlass mit Edition des Manuskripts »Leviticus 17–20«

Volume 134
2022. XIV, 461 pages.

ISBN 9783161610363
sewn paper 109,00 €

ISBN 9783161610370
eBook PDF 109,00 €

The well-known biblical phrase »Love your neighbour as yourself« from the Book of Leviticus played an important role in the dispute over Jewish ethics in the 19th century. In this work, Hans-Christoph Aurin edits and comments on a Leviticus manuscript by the important Jewish biblical scholar Benno Jacob (1862–1945).

Frohlich, James

The Relationship between MT and LXX in Jeremiah 39(46):1–41(48):3 and 52

Volume 133
2022. XVII, 239 pages.

ISBN 9783161607394
sewn paper 79,00 €

ISBN 9783161610844
eBook PDF 79,00 €

In this work, James Frohlich analyzes the Septuagint translation technique in Jeremiah 39(46)–41(48):3 and 52 in order to determine if the large-scale differences between MT and LXX in these chapters were caused by the LXX translator. Since the Hebrew text of Jeremiah 52 largely parallels that of 2 Kings 24:18–25:30, and Jeremiah 39(46)–41(48):3 has various parallels with 2 Kgs 25:22–26, the author also focuses on the differences between the Septuagint translations in these parallel texts. Along with a study of translation technique, he also considers the nature of the MT pluses and analyzes the agreements and disagreements between Jeremiah 39(46)–41(48):3 and 52 MT/LXX with the parallel text in 2 Kings 24:18–25:30 MT/LXX. James Frohlich concludes that the large-scale differences between MT and LXX in Jeremiah 39–41:3 and 52 are due to a divergent Hebrew *Vorlage* used by the Septuagint translator.

Lozinsky, Hryhoriy

The Feasts of the Calendar in the Book of Numbers

Num 28:16–30:1 in the Light of Related Biblical Texts and Some Ancient Sources of 200 BCE-100 CE

Volume 132
2022. XVII, 283 pages.

ISBN 9783161607820
sewn paper 79,00 €

ISBN 9783161607837
eBook PDF 79,00 €

In this monograph, Hryhoriy Lozinsky studies five feasts contained in Num 28:16–30:1. Each of them is first treated in the light of biblical calendars and other related texts. The calendar in Numbers is later than an earlier version of Leviticus 23; yet the final form of Lev 23:1–44 is also a result of some later additions that took place after Num 28:1–30:1 had been composed. The author also focuses on the history of interpretation: he examines several pseudepigrapha, the Dead Sea Scrolls, and ancient Jewish writers from 200 BCE to 100 CE. He shows how these ancient sources reworked the biblical texts by expansions, clarifications, and omissions. In sum, the calendar in Numbers employs several previous traditions that dealt with the feasts, sacrifices, and calendars in order to compose the detailed list of the offerings for the appointed times. Moreover, it is a text that has been used by many ancient sources, especially in the matter of the sacrifices.

McKenzie, Tracy J.

History as Harlotry in the Book of Ezekiel

Textual Expansion in Ezekiel 16

Volume 131
2022. XIII, 269 pages.

ISBN 9783161608735
sewn paper 79,00 €

ISBN 9783161608742
eBook PDF 79,00 €

Ezekiel 16 conveys a well-known portrayal of Israel's checkered history. Its borrowed metaphors, textual reuse, and developing content defy a transparent explanation of its origins. In this monograph, Tracy J. McKenzie explores the methods and motivations for textual expansions. After surveying how secondary literature has addressed the interpretive nature of additions, traditions, redactions, and *Fortschreibungen* in prophetic texts, he provides a new translation and text-critical judgment of Ezekiel 16. He then analyzes how linguistic elements diachronically achieve a composite unity in the passage. This composite unity sets up the analysis that explores the ways in which the expansions have built on pre-existing texts, rewritten them, and developed their content. The author's conclusion focuses on how the interpretive moves in the expansions disclose possible motives and social settings in *Yehud*.

Pain in Biblical Texts and Other Materials of the Ancient Mediterranean

Edited by Michaela Bauks and Saul M. Olyan

Volume 130
2021. VIII, 267 pages.

ISBN 9783161606410
sewn paper 94,00 €

ISBN 9783161606427
eBook PDF 94,00 €

This volume includes a wide range of studies on pain and its representation in texts and non-literary remains of the ancient Eastern Mediterranean, suggesting both the richness and complexity of the topic and the need for scholars to address it from a variety of perspectives. The essays engage the subject of pain and its representation in a multitude of ways, including consideration of the representation of physical pain, of psychological anguish, and the often complex relationship between the two. Several essays focus on the representation of pain in a particular genre of ancient literature such as Greek medical texts, narratives, prophetic texts, poetry, or legal texts. The volume also explores descriptions of concrete pain and the metaphorical use of pain imagery and idioms, as well as pain's relationship to shame, illness and torture. Finally, both communal and individual dimensions of pain are of interest to the contributors, as is the role pain might have had in ritual action and the part rites might play in the imposition of pain.

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Prophecy and Hellenism

Edited by Hannes Bezzel and Stefan Pfeiffer

Volume 129
2021. VIII, 201 pages.

ISBN 9783161565328
sewn paper 89,00 €

ISBN 9783161606830
eBook PDF 89,00 €

This volume contains papers read at the seventh meeting of the Aberdeen Prophecy Network, an interdisciplinary symposium held in June 2018 in Jena. From the points of view of Classical and Old Testament/Hebrew Bible studies, the contributions ask how phenomena of divination and concepts of prophecy were understood in the Mediterranean oecumene after the conquests of Alexander the Great.

Survey of contents

Hannes Bezzel/Stefan Pfeiffer: Introduction – *Stefan Pfeiffer:* Predictions on the Rise and Fall of Alexandria – *Meinolf Vielberg:* Philosophy and Religion in Cicero's Dialogue *De Divinatione* – *A. Graeme Auld:* 'Divination' in Hebrew and Greek Bibles: A Text-historical Overview – *Pancratius C. Beentjes:* Ben Sira and his Grandson on Prophets and Prophecy – *Uwe Becker:* Gibt es ein hellenistisches Jesajabuch? – *Andreas Schüle:* Third Isaiah: What's so Greek about it? – *Lena-Sofia Tiemeyer:* What can Isaiah 24–27, Ezekiel 38–39 and Zechariah 9–14 teach us about Late Persian / Early Hellenistic Scribal Practices? – *Hannes Bezzel:* Prophecy Concerning 'Foreign Nations' in the Hellenistic Period? Zech 9 as a Test Case – *Corinna Körting:* Is Malachi among the Prophets? – *Jutta Noetzel:* Prophetie als inspirierte Schriftauslegung. Mal 2,10–16 – eine Deutung der Jakobgeschichte im Kontext der Frage interreligiöser Ehen – *Joachim Schaper:* The Collective Rule of the Righteous in Hellenistic Jewish Prophecy

Röhrig, Meike J.

Innerbiblische Auslegung und priesterliche Fortschreibungen in Lev 8–10

Volume 128
2021. XII, 277 pages.

ISBN 9783161606861
sewn paper 94,00 €

ISBN 9783161606878
eBook PDF 94,00 €

Meike J. Röhrig demonstrates in a redaction-critical study how several layers of priestly additions and »inner-biblical interpretation« have successively formed the stories about the investiture of the Aaronides (Lev 8–10). The results contribute to a clearer demarcation of the term »inner-biblical interpretation« among multiple forms of diachronic text-text-relationships.

Exegetik des Alten Testaments

Bausteine für eine Theorie der Exegese

Herausgegeben von Joachim J. Krause und Kristin Weingart

Volume 127
2021. VIII, 277 pages.

ISBN 9783161565441
sewn paper 99,00 €

ISBN 9783161565458
eBook PDF 99,00 €

The contributions to this volume offer metacritical reflections on the methodology employed in historical criticism of the Hebrew Bible. Thus, they provide building blocks for a theory of exegesis.

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Joachim J. Krause/Kristin Weingart: Exegetik des Alten Testaments. Ein Problemhorizont – *Christof Hardmeier:* Elementarbausteine einer bibelwissenschaftlichen Exegetik – mit einer text-empirisch-narratologischen Sinnerschließung von Genesis 22,1–19 – *Matthias Köckert:* Was träumte Jakob in Genesis 28? Möglichkeiten und Grenzen historischer Exegese – *Shimon Gesundheit:* The Comparison of Innerbiblical Parallels as a Starting Point for Synchronic Exegesis and as an Instrument to Control Diachronic Analysis – *Hermann-Josef Stipp:* Die Erkennbarkeit intentionaler innerbiblischer Intertextualität am Beispiel von Jeremia 26 und 36 – *Walter Groß:* Augustins Umgang mit der Heiligen Schrift als aktuelles Modell der Schriftauslegung? Eine Gegenthese im Blick auf seine *quaestiones in heptateuchum* – *Helmut Utzschneider:* Performativität und Mündlichkeit als Kategorien alttestamentlicher Exegese – *David M. Carr:* On the Meaning and Uses of the Category of »Diachrony« in Exegesis – *Erhard Blum:* Von der Notwendigkeit einer disziplinären Selbstverständigung in der Exegese des Alten Testaments

Sin, Suffering, and the Problem of Evil

Edited by Blaženka Scheuer and David Willgren Davage

Volume 126
2021. X, 376 pages.

ISBN 9783161575389
sewn paper 104,00 €

ISBN 9783161575396
eBook PDF 104,00 €

This volume discusses the topics of sin, suffering, and evil in the Hebrew Bible. It gathers fresh and innovative perspectives provided by internationally renowned biblical scholars that not only demonstrate ways in which these topics are dealt with in the Hebrew Bible itself, but also map out their lasting impact on human experience of suffering throughout history. Put into dialogue with the thought-provoking work of Fredrik Lindström, the volume provides a diversity of methodological approaches to the question of human suffering and God's role in it, ranging from discussions of monism in the Hebrew Bible, through deconstructive readings of evil in the Exodus narrative, to the processing of suffering at the Dachau concentration camp, and ways that the dynamics of good and evil might play out in a technological future dominated by artificial intelligence.

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Eckstein, Juliane

Die Semantik von Ijob 6–7

Erschließung ihrer Struktur und einzelner Lexeme mittels Isotopieanalyse

Volume 125
2021. XXI, 306 pages.

ISBN 9783161598487
sewn paper 99,00 €

ISBN 9783161598494
eBook PDF 99,00 €

Juliane Eckstein explains several contested words in the Hebrew Book of Job. For this she combines well-established methods of exegetical research with an innovative method – the Isotopy Analysis. This she adapts to Biblical Hebrew in general and to the study of Job 6–7 in particular.

Schmidtkunz, Petra

Das Moselied des Deuteronomiums

Untersuchungen zu Text und Theologie von Dtn 32,1–43

Volume 124
2020. XVIII, 451 pages.

ISBN 9783161582936
sewn paper 129,00 €

ISBN 9783161582943
eBook PDF 129,00 €

In her analysis of the »Song of Moses« (Deut. 32:1–43), Petra Schmidtkunz combines classical exegesis with an enquiry into the textual pragmatics of the composition. As a result, the Song can be characterised as a religious exhortation, addressing the community of YHWH's followers in Persian-period Yehud (fifth century BC).

Kemp, Joel B.

Ezekiel, Law, and Judahite Identity

A Case for Identity in Ezekiel 1–33

Volume 123
2020. XI, 195 pages.

ISBN 9783161565793
sewn paper 69,00 €
ISBN 9783161565809
eBook PDF 69,00 €

The consistent presence of juridical diction, legal metaphors, and courtroom imagery reveals that Ezekiel 1–33 is set within a precise juridical framework. In this study, Joel B. Kemp argues that focusing upon these legal elements has two primary benefits for our understanding of the book. First, the juridical framework provides greater clarity and coherence to some passages within Ezekiel 1–33. Second, the book (especially Ezekiel 16) uses its legal elements to articulate a version of Judahite identity under Neo-Babylonian hegemony. To connect these legal elements to identity development, the author uses some insights from the works of Erik Erikson and Urie Bronfenbrenner. According to his analysis, Ezekiel 16 equates the *legal status* of the city with *Judahite identity* to prove that the experiences of Neo-Babylonian domination did not nullify or rescind the legal agreement (ברית) between the deity and Judahites. Rather, the punishment this chapter describes demonstrates the continuing validity of the contract and the version of Judahite identity rooted in it. Consequently, the Judahites' acceptance of the legal appropriateness of Neo-Babylonian domination is the *sine qua non* for remaining in the legal relationship that defines Judahite identity.

Johnson, Dylan R.

Sovereign Authority and the Elaboration of Law in the Bible and the Ancient Near East

Volume 122
2020. XVI, 367 pages.

ISBN 9783161595097
sewn paper 104,00 €
ISBN 9783161595103
eBook PDF 104,00 €

Five Pentateuchal texts (Lev 24:10–23; Num 9:6–14; Num 15:32–36; Num 27:1–11; Num 36:1–12) offer unique visions of the elaboration of law in Israel's formative past. In response to individual legal cases, Yahweh enacts impersonal and general statutes reminiscent of biblical and ancient Near Eastern law collections. From the perspective of comparative law, Dylan R. Johnson proposes a new understanding of these texts as biblical rescripts: a legislative technique that enabled sovereigns to enact general laws on the basis of particular legal cases. Typological parallels drawn from cuneiform and Roman law illustrate the complex ideology informing the content and the form of these five cases. The author explores how latent conceptions of law, justice, and legislative sovereignty shaped these texts, and how the Priestly vision of law interacted with and transformed earlier legal traditions.

Arena, Francesco

Prophetic Conflicts in Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and Micah

How Post-Exilic Ideologies Created the False (and the True) Prophets

Volume 121
2020. XIV, 209 pages.

ISBN 9783161595073
sewn paper 89,00 €
ISBN 9783161595080
eBook PDF 89,00 €

In this volume, Francesco Arena investigates false prophecy and prophetic conflicts, taking Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and Micah as the three books in the Bible most concerned with prophesying falsehood and false prophets. By building on the studies of G. Auld, R. Carroll, and G. Garbini, who first posited that the Writing Prophets were not prophets at all, but rather intellectuals or poets, the author puts the vexed question of false prophecy into a new perspective. If we accept that Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and Micah were not originally true prophets (or prophets at all) what should we do with their quarrels with the alleged false prophets? Can we still consider prophetic conflicts as expressions of a socio-religious phenomenon? Or should we instead consider them as some later creations to serve ideological purposes?

Yahwistic Diversity and the Hebrew Bible

Tracing Perspectives of Group Identity from Judah, Samaria, and the Diaspora in Biblical Traditions

Edited by Benedikt Hensel, Dany Nocquet, and Bartosz Adamczewski

Volume 120
2020. VIII, 337 pages.

ISBN 9783161583049
sewn paper 109,00 €
ISBN 9783161583056
eBook PDF 109,00 €

The underlying perspective of the present volume contributes to the recent historical debate on Yahwistic diversity in the Persian and the Hellenistic periods. A broad variety of different Yahwistic (and not necessarily Jewish) groups existed inside and outside Judah during the sixth to first century BCE, for example in Egypt (Elephantine/Jeb and Alexandria), Babylonia (al-Yahudu), Samaria, and Idumea.

The main objective of the volume lies in the literary-historical implications of this diversity: How did these groups or their interactions with one another influence the formation of the Hebrew Bible as well as its complex textual transmission? This perspective has not been sufficiently pursued in the more religious and historically oriented research before.

The volume comprises thirteen articles by renowned international specialists in the field, which aim at closing this gap in the scholarly discussion.

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Lo Sardo, Domenico

Post-Priestly Additions and Rewritings in Exodus 35–40

An Analysis of MT, LXX, and Vetus Latina

Volume 119
2020. XXI, 307 pages.

ISBN 9783161595868
sewn paper 99,00 €
ISBN 9783161595875
eBook PDF 99,00 €

In this study, Domenico Lo Sardo shows that the section of MT Exod 35–40 dedicated to the construction of the Tabernacle involves textual and literary problems. It has different textual forms according to MT, LXX, and Vetus Latina (Monacensis ms): LXX Exod 35–40 shows a different order of the literary material and its extension is shorter than the MT. One of the most important differences is the absence of MT Exod 36:8b–34 in the LXX. The Monacensis ms is even shorter than the Greek text. In a text-critical analysis, the author demonstrates that the 'Short Hebrew *Vorlage*' behind the Latin manuscript is the oldest text. In the MT there was post-priestly editorial work marked by expansions, rewritings, and reinterpretations. Employing literary criticism, the author proves that with the expansion of Exod 36:8b–34 and the stressed use of the term *miškān* (Tabernacle), MT points to legitimate the centralization of the Jerusalem Temple.

Sander, Paul J.

Alternate Delimitations in the Hebrew and Greek Psalters

A Theological Analysis

Volume 117
2020. XIII, 277 pages.

ISBN 9783161594212
sewn paper 89,00 €
ISBN 9783161594229
eBook PDF 89,00 €

In this study, Paul J. Sander examines the phenomenon of alternate psalm delimitation in the Hebrew and Greek psalters (Psalms 9, 10, 114, 115, 116, and 147 in the Hebrew and Psalms 9, 113, 114, 115, 146, and 147 in the Greek). The main goal of his analysis is to determine the literary, theological, and canonical significance of these alternate psalm delimitations. The author shows that combined delimitation of the received Hebrew text of Psalms 9–10 and 114–115 creates interpretative possibilities that are not present without the combined interplay of the respective psalms. Similarly, the separate delimitation of the received Hebrew text of Psalms 116 and 147 creates other interpretative possibilities based upon linkages with adjacent psalms and an increased focus on the specific themes in the separately delimited psalms. The Greek lexical differences have literary and theological effects that correlate to varying degrees with the alternate Greek delimitations and open up new interpretative possibilities for the respective texts.

Prokop, Daniel

The Pillars of the First Temple (1 Kgs 7,15–22)

A Study from Ancient Near Eastern, Biblical, Archaeological, and Iconographic Perspectives

Volume 116
2020. XVI, 255 pages.

ISBN 9783161593222
sewn paper 94,00 €
ISBN 9783161594526
eBook PDF 94,00 €

The columns referred to as Jachin and Boaz are certainly one of the most controversial features of the First Temple of Jerusalem. In this volume, Daniel Prokop examines the appearance and the meaning of the twin pillars by approaching them from different perspectives. He investigates the epigraphic evidence from Egypt, Mesopotamia, and Syria-Palestine, defines the relationship between the six different descriptions in the Hebrew Bible, and compares the most important textual witnesses of 1 Kgs 7,15–22, which will provide insight into the narrative development and transmission history of the texts. Studying iconographic data, the author explores a unique way to achieve a better understanding of the material, dimensions, names, location, and decoration of the pillars.

Lee, Chris W.

Death Warning in the Garden of Eden

The Early Reception History of Genesis 2:17



Volume 115
2020. X, 217 pages.

ISBN 9783161588587
sewn paper 89,00 €
ISBN 9783161588594
eBook PDF 89,00 €

In this book, Chris W. Lee examines the early Jewish reception of the divine death warning (Gen 2:16–17) in relation to its interpretative association with the introduction of physical death to humanity. The long-time rationale has been that the eating of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil brought sin and death 'for in the day that you eat of it, you shall surely die' (Gen 2:17). In this study, the author begins by examining the meaning of Gen 2:17 in its original context, then tracing its interpretation in subsequent Second Temple Jewish Literature. He examines the Greek translation of Gen 2:16–17 and its translational elements that expand the possible range of understanding of the death warning that would not have originated from the Hebrew text of Genesis. Chris W. Lee then continues with an exegetical analysis of allusions and references to the death warning in the Dead Sea Scrolls, the Book of Ben Sira, 1 Corinthians and Romans. He argues, firstly, that there are no explicit narrative clues in the HB as to the physical status of Adam and Eve either as immortal or mortal before their disobedience to God's command in Gen 2:17, and that the death warning itself does not provide textual support for the understanding of the death warning in the sense of becoming mortal. He also argues that Paul's explicit attribution of death to the disobedience of Adam and Eve (1 Cor 15:21–22; Rom 5:12) finds its earlier traces in the course of interpretation of the aforementioned literature: 1) clarification of the meaning of the death warning, i.e. death in the sense of becoming 'mortal' and death due to the violation of the command as applicable not only to Adam, but also to Eve and other human beings; 2) reinforcement of the presumptive association between the death warning and the introduction of death to humanity.

Intertextualität und die Entstehung des Psalters

Methodische Reflexionen – Theologiegeschichtliche Perspektiven

Herausgegeben von Alma Brodersen, Friederike Neumann und David Willgren

Volume 114
2020. VIII, 236 pages.

ISBN 9783161563430
sewn paper 94,00 €
ISBN 9783161563447
eBook PDF 94,00 €

Psalm research in recent decades has developed a new focus across nations and denominations: Psalm-Exegesis is complemented by Psalter-Exegesis. In this focus, the connection between intertextuality and the formation of the Psalter is highlighted, while at the same time the relation of the Masoretic Text to Psalms in the Dead Sea Scrolls and the Septuagint is critically reviewed.

This volume contains the revised papers given at an international conference at LMU Munich in April 2018. All papers reflect the current interest in questions about the composition and intention of the Psalter. The volume presents innovative methodological reflections as well as fresh perspectives on historical theology in order to illuminate the formation of the Psalter.

Survey of contents

Alma Brodersen/Friederike Neumann/David Willgren: Einführung

Teil I: Methodische Reflexionen

Alma Brodersen: Quellen und Intertextualität. Methodische Überlegungen zum Psalterende – *David Willgren:* A Teleological Fallacy in Psalms Studies? Decentralizing the »Masoretic« Psalms Sequence in the Formation of the »Book« of Psalms – *Johannes Bremer:* Armentheologie und Intertextualität. Zum Zusammenspiel von Thema, Textbezügen und Entstehung des Psalters

Teil II: Theologische Perspektiven

Martin Leuenberger: Eine zionstheologische Fortschreibung in Psalm 46, 48 und 76. Intertextuelle Befunde und redaktionsgeschichtliche Auswertungen – *Friederike Neumann:* Ein Loblied Jerusalems. Der theologiegeschichtliche Hintergrund von Psalm 147 und dessen Bedeutung für den Abschluss des Psalters – *Markus Saur:* Der gerechte König. Überlegungen zum Zusammenhang von Königpsalmen und JHWH-König-Psalmen – *Nancy Rahn:* Reich Gottes in der Liturgie. Liturgische Kontextualisierungen von Psalm 145 als Zeugen seiner Intertextualitätsgeschichte

Teil III: Kompositorische Zusammenhänge

Bernd Janowski: »Was ist der Mensch, dass du seiner gedenkst?« Psalm 8 und seine intertextuellen Bezüge – *Kathrin Liess:* »Und all sein Tun geschieht in Treue« (Ps 33,4). Zur Komposition der Teilsammlung Psalm 25–34 – *Johannes Schnocks:* Psalm 40 and the Construction of Individual and Collective Identity

Heasley, Peter A.

Prophetic Polyphony

Allusion Criticism of Isa 41,8–16.17–20; 43,1–7; 44,1–5 in a Dialogical Approach

Volume 113
2020. XXII, 366 pages.

ISBN 9783161592423
sewn paper 104,00 €
ISBN 9783161592430
eBook PDF 104,00 €

Uniting the study of allusion with that of literary form in a prophetic book, Peter A. Heasley treats three passages long compared in form criticism and overlooked in allusion studies: Isa 41,8–16.17–20, 43,1–7, and 44,1–5. Through the specific method of allusion criticism that he develops, he demonstrates how the author of these Salvation Oracles composes them using the stylistic patterns of the very passages to which they allude. This helps identify many new inner-biblical allusions, especially to the Psalms of Lament, Psalms of Praise, and Historical Hymns. The author brings these exegetical findings into an interpretative approach to form adapted from Bakhtinian dialogism, especially in its distinction between compositional form and architectonic form.



Blischke, Mareike Verena

Der Geist Gottes im Alten Testament

Volume 112
2019. XVII, 332 pages.

ISBN 9783161575242
sewn paper 94,00 €

ISBN 9783161575259
eBook PDF 94,00 €

In the Old Testament, God's spirit is the power which constitutes the relationship between God and man. In this work, Mareike Verena Blischke traces the development from first king Saul's selective possession of God's spirit to the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on all mankind in the prophetic texts.

Feldmar, Sonja

Eschatologische Fortschreibungen im Buch Hiob

Volume 111
2019. XIII, 316 pages.

ISBN 9783161568664
sewn paper 104,00 €

ISBN 9783161568671
eBook PDF 104,00 €

The Book of Job in the Old Testament poses the question, paradigmatically, of a meaningful relationship with God in view of unjust suffering. In this work, Sonja Feldmar studies those passages which were added during the later stages of writing, a process which took several hundred years, and provide an answer which had not been thought of up to that point: the hope of a relationship with God which transcends death and compensates for the suffering in this life.

LaMontagne, Nathan

The Song of Deborah in the Septuagint

Volume 110
2019. XIV, 137 pages.

ISBN 9783161555176
sewn paper 64,00 €

ISBN 9783161569791
eBook PDF 64,00 €

In this work, Nathan LaMontagne examines the Song of Deborah (Judges 5) as it existed in the Septuagint during the Hellenistic period. He examines first the text of Judges 5, and discusses the problems with the consensus that the Greek texts represent only one original translation. He then establishes a text-critical base text from which the rest of the work proceeds. After examining the Greek text's relationship to the Hebrew, the author also looks at the way that the translation preserves poetic structure in translation. Finally, he analyzes the meaning of the text in Hellenistic Judaism, and what relationship it has to other works of the Hellenistic period.

Krusche, Marcel

Göttliches und irdisches Königtum in den Psalmen

Volume 109
2019. XIV, 509 pages.

ISBN 9783161576119
sewn paper 104,00 €

ISBN 9783161576126
eBook PDF 104,00 €

Marcel Krusche examines the relationship between the kingship of YHWH and earthly kingship in the Book of Psalms by comparing their conceptions and by relating them to each other. Not only the individual psalms, but also their arrangement in the Psalter are largely characterized by a harmonic juxtaposition of divine and human kingship.

Schriftgelehrte Fortschreibungs- und Auslegungsprozesse

Textarbeit im Pentateuch, in Qumran, Ägypten und Mesopotamien

Hrsg. v. Walter Bührer

Volume 108
2019. VIII, 287 pages.

ISBN 9783161567384
sewn paper 89,00 €
ISBN 9783161567391
eBook PDF 89,00 €

The literary genesis of many texts within the Hebrew Bible can be explained as scriptural expansion («Fortschreibung») or exegesis: Later texts expand older texts and regularly adapt them to new situations inside or outside the texts. The literary techniques and hermeneutical reasons behind these processes are manifold, however not yet categorized comprehensively. The volume attempts to demonstrate and categorize such phenomena of scriptural expansion («Fortschreibung») or exegesis in the Pentateuch, its textual history, as well as in empirical examples from Qumran, Egypt and Mesopotamia in order to reveal their techniques, hermeneutics and theological intentions.

Survey of contents

Walter Bührer: Schriftgelehrte Fortschreibungs- und Auslegungsprozesse. Ein Vorschlag und zugleich eine Einführung in den vorliegenden Band – *Eckart Frahm:* Textual Traditions in First Millennium BCE Mesopotamia between Reproduction, Adaptation, Commentary, and New Creation – *Andreas H. Pries:* Intertextualität, Interferenz und Kommentar als Parameter einer dynamischen Textüberlieferung im Alten Ägypten – *Peter Porzig:* Textgeleitete und gruppenbezogene Auslegungsprozesse in den Handschriften von Qumran. Ausgewählte Beispiele – *Stefan Schorch:* Die prä-samaritanischen Fortschreibungen – *Carsten Ziegert:* Das Wortfeld von Gnade, Barmherzigkeit, Güte und Treue. Auslegung theologischer Kernlexeme in den Narrativtexten der Pentateuch-Septuaginta – *Konrad Schmid:* Moses Geburt und ihr literarisches Nachleben. Die innerbiblische Rezeptionsgeschichte von Ex 2,1–10 in Ex 1 und Gen 6–9 – *Walter Bührer:* Die didaktische und geschichtstheologische Funktion des Mannas. Textextern und textintern motivierte Fortschreibungen in Ex 16 – *Christophe Nihan:* Narrative and Exegesis in Leviticus. On Leviticus 10 and 24,10–23 – *Katharina Pyschny:* »Rewriting History«. Phänomene textgeleiteter Fortschreibungs- und Auslegungsprozesse am Beispiel von Dtn 1–3

Psalmen und Chronik

Hrsg. v. Friedhelm Hartenstein u. Thomas Willi

Volume 107
2019. XXII, 434 pages.

ISBN 9783161540103
sewn paper 114,00 €
ISBN 9783161540110
eBook PDF 114,00 €

The Books of Psalms and Chronicles open and close the *ketubim* in the TENAK. They share some significant mutual linguistic and thematic threads, which demonstrate their cognate character in the Second Temple literature. This becomes even more obvious if one looks at both works as a special example of the relationship of poetics and prose in ancient Jewish tradition. Finally, it is important to note how the presentation of history in Chronicles uses Psalms (from the theocratic books 4 and 5) as interpreting doxologies while conversely certain Psalms show concepts of history comparable to 1–2Chr. This volume contains the contributions of an international conference held at the Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich where for the first time renowned scholars discussed aspects of the relationship between Psalms and Chronicles fundamentally and in detail.

Survey of contents

Matthew J. Lynch: Divine Supremacy and the Temple: 2 Chronicles 2 and the Fifth Book of Psalms – *Walter Dietrich:* David zwischen Poesie und Prosa in den Samuelbüchern – *Hans-Peter Mathys:* Die Tempelfinanzierung nach der Chronik – *Thomas Willi:* Die Gegenwart des Zukünftigen. David und die Psalmen in der chronistischen Geschichtsschreibung – *Hugh G. M. Williamson:* The Use of Psalm 132 at 2 Chronicles 6:41–42 – *Judith Gärtner:* »Und alles Volk sage: 'Amen!'...« (Ps 106:48) – Buchgrenze oder Übergang? Zur Kompositionsgeschichte des vierten und fünften Psalmenbuchs – *Friedhelm Hartenstein:* Der König auf dem Thron Gottes im Psalter und in der Chronik – *Jutta Hausmann:* »Danket dem Herrn...« (Ps 106:1 und seine Rezeption im Psalter wie in der Chronik – *Frank-Lothar Hossfeld:* David im Wallfahrtspsalter, David in der Chronik – Ein Vergleich – *Bernd Janowski:* »Die Hindin der Morgenröte« (Ps 22:1). Ein Beitrag zum Verständnis der Psalmenüberschriften – *Reinhard Müller:* David und die Lade, Zion und der Gesalbte. Geschichte und Zukunft des Königtums nach Ps 132 – *Johannes Schnocks:* »Singet für JHWH, ganze Erde« (Ps 96:1b/1Chr 16:23). Psalm 96 im Kontext des Psalmenbuchs und der Chronik – *Beat Weber:* Asaph im Psalter und in der Chronik. Erwägungen zu »Schnittstellen«, Trägerkreisen und Redaktionsprozessen – *Dirk Human:* Ps 132 and its compositional context(s) – *Isaac Kalimi:* The Rise of Solomon in the Ancient Israelite Historiography – *Zipora Talshir:* The Art of Quotation in the Book of Chronicles – *Ehud Ben Zvi:* Psalms, Chronicles and Matters of Social Memory in the Early Second Temple Period: Some Introductory Considerations

Scialabba, Daniela

Creation and Salvation

Models of Relationship Between the God of Israel and the Nations in the Book of Jonah, in Psalm 33 (MT and LXX) and in the Novel »Joseph and Aseneth«

Volume 106
2019. XIV, 354 pages.

ISBN 9783161562617
sewn paper 99,00 €
ISBN 9783161562624
eBook PDF 99,00 €

In recent decades, the debate on monotheism and religious pluralism has been strongly influenced by the idea that monotheism originating in the Old Testament is the root of intolerance and violence. In this study, Daniela Scialabba investigates inclusive tendencies in Old Testament monotheism, in particular theological principles motivating and supporting the possibility of a positive relationship between non-Israelites and the God of Israel. Thus, she examines three texts thoroughly: the Book of Jonah, Psalm 33 (MT and LXX), and the novel »Joseph and Aseneth«. Despite their difference concerning genre, date of origin and provenance, these texts have important ideas in common: the relationship between the God of Israel and non-Israelites as well as the concept of God as a universal creator who has pity with all his creatures.

Story and History

The Kings of Israel and Judah in Context

Ed. by Johannes Unsok Ro

Volume 105
2019. XI, 190 pages.

ISBN 9783161575549
sewn paper 89,00 €

ISBN 9783161575556
eBook PDF 89,00 €

In recent centuries, and especially the last decades, critical scholarship on the Hebrew Bible has brought to light a large gap between biblical portrayals of the historical reality of ancient Israel (story) on the one hand, and historical-critical reconstructions of the actual past (history) on the other. The scientific presentation of ancient Israel's history can no longer be considered as a more or less critical narration of the accounts in the Hebrew Bible. The problems the so-called »minimalists« and »maximalists« struggled to solve still remain unsettled, and students as well as scholars of the Hebrew Bible cannot ignore or even remain indifferent to the gap and overlap between story and history. Could and should Hebrew Bible scholarship in the future move beyond the milieu of the debate between minimalists and maximalists? This volume, consisting of nine articles by authors with different institutional and religious backgrounds, articulates that there are ways to overcome the increasing gap between story and history.

Survey of contents

Johannes Unsok Ro: Introduction: The Gap and Overlap between Story and History – *Israel Finkelstein:* History, Historicity and Historiography in Ancient Israel – *Shuichi Hasegawa:* The Qualification of Evaluations of the Kings of Israel and Judah in the Books of Kings – *Thomas Römer:* Biblical Historiography and History: The Books of Kings – *Jin H. Han:* Josiah's Death in Megiddo: A Touchstone Case of Historiography – *Konrad Schmid:* The Conquests of Jerusalem 597 BCE and 587 BCE in History and in Biblical Interpretation (2 Kings 24–25) – *Johannes Unsok Ro:* Did Jeremiah Preach at the Temple of Jerusalem in the Year 609 BCE? – An Inquiry into the 'Deuteronomistic Editorial Layer' in the Book of Jeremiah – *Yigal Levin:* The Chronicler as an Historian: The Chronicler's Reinterpretation of the Deuteronomistic History of Israel – *Yoshinori Sano:* The Meeting of Croesus and Solon in Herodotus' Histories I

Lasater, Phillip Michael

Facets of Fear

The Fear of God in Exilic and Post-Exilic Contexts

Volume 104
2019. XI, 243 pages.

ISBN 9783161566769
sewn paper 89,00 €

ISBN 9783161566776
eBook PDF 89,00 €

Die Vorstellung der Gottesfurcht ist innerhalb der hebräischen Bibel und über sie hinaus weit verbreitet. Was verstand man unter diesem Konzept und wie kamen antike jüdische Schriftgelehrte dazu, die Begriffe »Furcht« und »Gott« miteinander in Verbindung zu bringen? Und welche taxonomischen Probleme stellen sich dabei? Phillip Michael Lasater adressiert diese und andere Fragen mittels philologischer, ideengeschichtlicher und exegetischer Analysen, stellt sich der Forschungsgeschichte zu diesem Thema und eröffnet damit neue Perspektiven.

Images of Exile in the Prophetic Literature

Copenhagen Conference Proceedings 7–10 May 2017

Ed. by Jesper Høgenhaven, Frederik Poulsen, and Cian Power

Volume 103
2019. VI, 289 pages.

ISBN 9783161557491
sewn paper 99,00 €

ISBN 9783161566998
eBook PDF 99,00 €

Exile is a central concern in the Hebrew Bible. The fifteen essays in this volume, presented at an international conference in Copenhagen in May 2017, investigate and discuss images of exile in the prophetic books. Some deal with a specific passage or biblical book, while others approach the issue by comparing different books or by looking more closely at a particular metaphor or theme. The first group of essays focuses on exile in Isaiah, while the second group treats this topic in Jeremiah and Ezekiel as well as possible links between the two books. The third group consists of various studies, including nature and agricultural imagery for exile, deportations from the Northern Kingdom, and the prophet Jonah as a perpetual refugee. A recurrent question is what role language and metaphors play in the prophets' attempts to express, structure, and cope with experiences of exile.

Survey of contents

Jesper Høgenhaven/Frederik Poulsen/Cian Power: Introduction: Images of Exile in the Prophetic Literature

Part I: Isaiah

Francis Landy: Metaphors for Death and Exile in Isaiah – *Frederik Poulsen:* The Trope of Scattering in Isaiah: A Reading of Isaiah 11:11–16 and 27:7–13 – *Hyun Chul Paul Kim:* Metaphor, Memory, and Reality of the »Exile« in Deutero-Isaiah – *Ulrich Berges:* The Individualization of Exile in Trito-Isaiah: Some Reflections on Isaiah 55 and 58

Part II: Jeremiah and Ezekiel

Paul M. Joyce: A Rebirth of Images? Theme and Motif in Jeremiah and Ezekiel – *Else K. Holt:* Leave or Remain? A Theological Discussion in Jeremiah 29 and Beyond – *Martien A. Halvorson-Taylor:* Prophetic Images of Women as Metaphors for Exile: Jeremiah's Book of Consolation – *Sonja Ammann:* Voting with One's Feet: Emigration as a Matter of Choice in the Jeremiah Narratives – *Jesper Høgenhaven:* Departure and Return of the Divine Glory in Ezekiel? – *Søren Holst:* »You Shall Never Be

Clean Again Until I Have Satisfied My Fury Upon You» (Ezek 23:13): Exile, Impurity, and Purification in Ezekiel – *Anja Klein*: Uncovering the Nymphomaniac: The Verb *nʿla* and Exile as Sexual Violence in Ezekiel 16 and 23

Part III: Various Themes

Dalit Rom-Shiloni: Nature Imagery within Images of Exile: General Survey and Metaphoric Functions – *Göran Eidevall*: Trees and Traumas: On the Use of Phytomorphic Metaphors in Prophetic Descriptions of Deportation and Exile – *Cian Power*: Images of Northern Exile: The Deportations from the Kingdom of Israel in the Prophets – *Lena-Sofia Tiemeyer*: Jonah, the Eternal Fugitive: Exploring the Intertextuality of Jonah's Flight in the Bible and Its Later Reception

Lepesqueux, Guillaume

L'exposition du nom divin dans le livre de l'Exode

Étude exégétique d'Ex 3,1–4,18; 6,2–7,7; 33–34

Volume 102
2019. XV, 437 pages.

ISBN 9783161567346
sewn paper 114,00 €
ISBN 9783161567353
eBook PDF 114,00 €

Guillaume Lepesqueux présente dans ce livre l'interprétation d'Ex 3,14 dans le contexte d'énonciation du livre de l'Exode et de sa composition littéraire. L'histoire de la réception de ce verset en Occident montre en effet qu'il n'a été le plus souvent lu qu'au prisme de ses traductions grecque et latine, en étant presque toujours isolé du contexte littéraire dans lequel il fait prioritairement sens. L'auteur se propose ainsi de resituer et d'interpréter Ex 3,14 dans le cadre de la péricope du buisson ardent (Ex 3,1–4,18), puis d'élargir son propos aux deux autres passages de l'Exode dans lesquelles Dieu/Yhwh communique et explique lui-même son nom à Moïse (Ex 6,2–7,7 ; 33–34). L'exégèse détaillée de ces trois récits conduit à la mise au jour de quatre logiques d'exposition du nom divin, qui correspondent à quatre moments singuliers de la composition du livre.

On Dating Biblical Texts to the Persian Period

Discerning Criteria and Establishing Epochs

Ed. by Richard J. Bautch and Mark Lackowski

Volume 101
2019. VI, 189 pages.

ISBN 9783161556500
sewn paper 89,00 €
ISBN 9783161565830
eBook PDF 89,00 €

In the last two decades, increasing numbers of texts have been suggested as coming from or edited during the Persian period, but these discussions do not always reflect extensively on the assumptions used in making these claims or the implications on a broader scale. Earlier generations of scholars found it sufficient to categorize material in the biblical books simply as »late« or »postexilic« without adequately trying to determine when, by whom, and why the material was incorporated into the text at a fixed point in the Persian period. By grappling with these questions, the essays in this volume evince a greater degree of precision vis-à-vis dating and historical context. The authors introduce the designations early Persian, middle Persian, and late Persian in their textual analysis, and collectively they take significant steps toward developing criteria for locating a biblical text within the Persian period.

Survey of contents

David M. Carr: Criteria and Periodization in Dating Biblical Texts to Parts of the Persian Period – *Joseph Blenkinsopp*: The Earliest Persian Period Prophetic Texts – *Dalit Rom-Shiloni*: What is »Persian« in Late Sixth Century B.C.E. Prophetic Literature? Case Studies and Criteria – *Georg Fischer Sj*: Jeremiah's Relations with the »Minor Prophets«: A Window into the Formation of the Book of the Twelve – *Lena-Sofia Tiemeyer*: Dating Zechariah 1–8: The Evidence in Favour of and Against Understanding Zechariah 3 and 4 as Sixth Century Texts – *Yigal Levin*: Why Did Zerubbabel's Adversaries Emphasize Their Foreign Origins? – *Reinhard Achenbach*: The 'āmānāh of Nehemiah 10 between Deuteronomy and the Holiness Code – *Konrad Schmid*: How to Identify a Persian Period Text in the Pentateuch – *Raik Heckl*: The Aaronic Blessing (Numbers 6): Its Intention and Place in the Concept of the Pentateuch – *Richard J. Bautch*: Dating Texts to the Persian Period: The Case of Isaiah 63:7–64:11 – *Jill Middlemas*: Dating Esther: Historicity and the Provenance of Masoretic Esther

Mattison, Kevin

Rewriting and Revision as Amendment in the Laws of Deuteronomy

Volume 100
2018. XI, 208 pages.

ISBN 9783161558153
sewn paper 89,00 €
ISBN 9783161563614
eBook PDF 89,00 €

In this study, Kevin Mattison examines Deuteronomy's reworking of existing legal texts, arguing that Deuteronomy was designed to amend its main legal source, the Covenant Code (Exod 20:22–23:19). The model of amendment draws on existing models of replacement and supplementation in order to provide a more complete explanation of Deuteronomy's rewriting of the Covenant Code, which is characterized by a combination of presupposition, complementation, and contradiction. Internal revisions within the growing text of Deuteronomy exhibit a similar combination of these three factors. Deuteronomy's authors sought to amend the Covenant Code even as they continued to amend their own growing text. The author draws examples from laws governing sacrifice and slaughter (Deut 12:1–28), tithes and firstlings (Deut 14:22–29; 15:19–23; 26:12–15), and manslaughter and asylum (Deut 19:1–13).

Jiang, Zhenshuai

Critical Spatiality in Genesis 1–11

Volume 99
2018. XII, 227 pages.

ISBN 9783161563010
sewn paper 94,00 €

ISBN 9783161563652
eBook PDF 94,00 €

Space in the Hebrew Bible is increasingly studied from the perspective of critical spatiality, emphasizing the social and cultural dimension of space, how people experience space, and their creativity in constructing space. Zhenshuai Jiang investigates the discourses on space in Gen 1–11 and discusses the connection between social space and spatial narrative. He deals with various questions in different spatial terms, with a detailed textual analysis of Gen 1–11. How is space constructed in Gen 1–11? To what extent and how is this construction influenced by social and cultural elements? The author describes specifically how space in Gen 1–11 is constructed rhetorically, taking into account historical and social circumstances in which the texts were written.

Tucker, Paavo N.

The Holiness Composition in the Book of Exodus

Volume 98
2017. IX, 230 pages.

ISBN 9783161551901
sewn paper 94,00 €

ISBN 9783161555473
eBook PDF 94,00 €

In this study, Paavo N. Tucker considers the different models of formation for the Priestly literature of the Pentateuch through an analysis of the Priestly texts in Exodus and how they relate to the Holiness Code in Lev 17–26. The texts in Exodus that are traditionally assigned to the Priestly *Grundschrift* are not concerned with the priestly matters of Exod 25–Lev 16, but are better understood as relating to the language, theology, and concerns of Lev 17–26, and should be assigned to the same strata of H with Lev 17–26. The same applies to the Priestly narratives beginning in Gen 1. The Priestly literature in Gen 1–Lev 26 form a composition that develops the themes of creation, Sabbath, sanctuary, and covenant to their climactic expression and culmination in the legal promulgation and ethical paraenesis of H in Lev 17–26. The author shows that, rather than being a »Priestly composition« as Erhard Blum argues, it is more fitting to see this literature as an »H composition,« which weaves narrative and law together in order to motivate obedience to the laws of Lev 17–26.

Krawelitzki, Judith

Gottes Macht im Psalter

Volume 97
2017. XI, 319 pages.

ISBN 9783161545702
sewn paper 104,00 €

ISBN 9783161557804
eBook PDF 104,00 €

In this study Judith Krawelitzki shows that, within the Old Testament, clear and unambiguous speech about God's power finds its origin in the Book of Psalms, where three interrelated perspectives emerge: power as a quality of the divine essence, power as a gift God shares with human beings, and his actions and interactions in the world with humanity as proof of divine power. All three share the conviction that in its very essence, divine power is a »saving power« that manifests God's steadfast love for his people. This theology, developed in the Psalter through the language of prayer, shaped the discourse concerning God's power elsewhere in the Old Testament, while the concept of divine power continues to provide a compelling framework for understanding and elucidating the being and actions of God.

Tobolowsky, Andrew

The Sons of Jacob and the Sons of Herakles

The History of the Tribal System and the Organization of Biblical Identity

Volume 96
2017. IX, 283 pages.

ISBN 9783161551918
sewn paper 99,00 €

ISBN 9783161555978
eBook PDF 99,00 €

In this study, Andrew Tobolowsky offers a new approach to biblical descriptions of the tribes of Israel as the »sons of Jacob«. He reveals how shifting assumptions about early Israelite history and the absence of references to Jacob in most accounts of the tribes make it unlikely that this understanding was part of early tribal discourse. Instead, drawing on extensive similarities between the role Jacob's children plays in the biblical narrative and the role that shared descent from figures such as Hellen and Herakles play in the construction of ancient Greek histories, Andrew Tobolowsky concludes that the »tribal-genealogical« concept was first developed in the late Persian period as a tool for the production of a newly integrated, newly coherent account of a shared ethnic past: the first continuous biblical vision of Israelite history from Adam to the fall of Jerusalem and beyond.

Genung, Matthew C.

The Composition of Genesis 37

Incoherence and Meaning in the Exposition of the Joseph Story

Volume 95
2017. XXI, 247 pages.

ISBN 9783161551505
sewn paper 94,00 €
ISBN 9783161555411
eBook PDF 94,00 €

Genesis 37 is the exposition of the biblical Joseph Story and narrates the basis of Israel's descent into Egypt. From the beginning of critical research into the Pentateuch, literary tensions and contradictions encountered in this chapter, including the question of who sold Joseph to whom, have given rise to several incompatible explanations. At present no solution to its complex problems enjoys agreement. On top of a thorough history of research, Matthew C. Genung provides a fresh literary critical analysis of Genesis 37, treated passage by passage, guided by the literary tensions in the narrative in dialogue with the most important solution models. This method has led to a new explanation of the compositional history of Genesis 37 that contributes to an understanding of the meaning of the actual text, solves its elements of tension and incoherence, and identifies their originating historical milieu. The results impact Joseph Story exegesis and fundamental questions current in Pentateuchal criticism.

Weidner, Alexander

Das Ende Deuterocesajas

Eine literarkritische und redaktionsgeschichtliche Studie zur Entstehung von Jes 40–60

Volume 94
2017. XIV, 273 pages.

ISBN 9783161553950
sewn paper 94,00 €
ISBN 9783161553967
eBook PDF 94,00 €

Ever since Bernhard Duhm, Isa 55 is either taken to be the final chapter of Second Isaiah or of a Fortschreibung. Recently though, objections have increased and been raised on various sides. Alexander Weidner shows that this chapter builds a bridge between Isa 54 and Isa 60 although it is actually younger than both of these. Starting with Isa 55, the formation of Isa 40:46–55:60 is primarily considered. The core of Second Isaiah is to be found in 40:12–46:11, while Isa 48:20 is regarded as being considerably younger. The author also shows that chapters 40:48–52:54f have a multi-layered history of development behind them. A final look at the Septuaginta teaches that in many instances, this should not be taken as an imprecise translation, but rather that it not only perceives, but also deliberately smoothes over the places where modern Literarkritik begins.

Chan, Michael J.

The Wealth of Nations

A Tradition-Historical Study

Volume 93
2017. XVI, 273 pages.

ISBN 9783161540981
sewn paper 104,00 €
ISBN 9783161545436
eBook PDF 104,00 €

Michael J. Chan argues, on a methodological level, for the deeper integration of iconographic materials into the task of tradition history—a method that has tended to focus on textual evidence alone. Following the work of O.H. Steck, however, »tradition« is understood in more flexible terms, to refer to inherited concepts and constellations, which can exist across multiple media. The author undertakes a tradition-historical study of the »Wealth of Nations Tradition« – a series of texts in which the foreign nations of the earth bring their wealth to Zion (1 Kgs 10:1–10, 13, 15//2 Chr 9:1–9, 12, 14; 1 Kgs 10:23–25//2 Chr 9:22–24; Pss 68:19, 29–32; 72:10–11; 76:12; 96:7–8//1 Chr 16:28–29; Isa 18:7; 45:14; 60:4–17; 61:5–6; 66:12; Zeph 3:10; 2 Chr 32:23). The Wealth of Nations tradition is found throughout the ancient Near East. Michael J. Chan shows that in some cases, the biblical texts reflect this tradition with little to no modification while in others the tradition is recast in creative and disruptive ways.

Cranz, Isabel

Atonement and Purification

Priestly and Assyro-Babylonian Perspectives on Sin and its Consequences

Volume 92
2017. XIII, 178 pages.

ISBN 9783161549168
sewn paper 69,00 €
ISBN 9783161551147
eBook PDF 69,00 €

Biblical scholars frequently attempt to contextualize the Priestly ritual corpus by comparing it to other ancient Near Eastern ritual traditions. This comparative approach tends to detect a hidden polemic at work in the Priestly Source (P) which was meant to highlight its distinctly monotheistic outlook. Isabel Cranz reframes current understandings of P by comparing Priestly rituals of atonement to their Assyro-Babylonian counterparts. In this way she shows how the Priestly ritual corpus is highly specialized and concerns itself primarily with sanctuary maintenance. Viewing P in this new light in turn helps to demonstrate that the authors of P were not interested in discrediting foreign rituals or pushing a monotheistic agenda. Instead P primarily aimed to confirm the Aaronide priests as the only legitimate priestly group fit for service at the altar. Subsequently if a polemical agenda is present in P it can be shown to be directed against rivals and critics of the Aaronide priesthood, not other rituals of the ancient Near East.

The Book of the Twelve – One Book or Many?

Metz Conference Proceedings 5–7 November 2015

Ed. by Elena Di Pede and Donatella Scaiola



Volume 91
2016. VI, 209 pages.

ISBN 9783161545535
sewn paper 74,00 €
ISBN 9783161549427
eBook PDF 74,00 €

The minor prophets can be considered an interesting field of study both from an exegetical as well as a theological perspective. An international conference held at the Université de Lorraine in Metz in November 2015 was dedicated to the Book of the Twelve, and this volume contains its proceedings. The conference's principal goal was to explore the link between theory, unstated presuppositions and exegetical analysis. Two specific areas of interest were taken into consideration here: should the Book of the Twelve be read as one book, an anthology, or something else? And how should the individual texts of the minor prophets be interpreted and/or how should certain texts be analyzed? A distinctive characteristic of the conference was the interesting comparisons made by the participating authors through their exegetical presuppositions. These differing approaches and varied questions produced a diversity of answers.

Survey of contents

Donatella Scaiola/Elena Di Pedè: Introduction – *Ehud Ben Zvi:* Remembering Twelve Prophetic Characters from the Past – *James D. Nogalski:* The Book of the Twelve Is Not a Hypothesis – *Yair Zakovitch:* Do the Last Verses of Malachi (Mal 3:22–24) Have a Canonical Function? A Biblical Puzzle – *Innocent Himbaza:* Les thèmes théologiques de Malachie et le concept du livre des XII Prophètes – *Guido Benzi:* Rhetorical Analysis, Interpretation, and Location of Hosea 1–3 in its Relation to the Twelve Prophets Scroll – *Hervé Tremblay:* Vox clamantis in deserto? L'enseignement d'Amos sur la justice sociale dans le contexte de la théorie de l'unité des douze – *Claude Lichtert:* Entre rappels et renversements: les particularités littéraires et théologiques du récit de Jonas – *Christophe L. Nihan:* Remarques sur la question de l'"unité" des XII – *Jean-Daniel Macchi:* Ésaïe dans les XII: Ésaïe 2,2–5 et son parallèle de Michée 4,1–5 – *Donatella Scaiola:* The Twelve, one or many Books? A Theological Proposal

Wilson-Wright, Aren M.

Athtart

The Transmission and Transformation of a Goddess in the Late Bronze Age

Volume 90
2016. XV, 179 pages.

ISBN 9783161550102
sewn paper 64,00 €
ISBN 9783161550119
eBook PDF 64,00 €

In this book, Aren M. Wilson-Wright proposes a new model for studying gods in the Ancient Near East. The key insight of this model is that the roles, functions, and representations of deities correspond to the daily routines of their worshippers. Soldiers, for example, tend to worship martial gods, while farmers tend to worship agricultural gods. The author then illustrates the utility of this model by applying it to a detailed study of the goddess Athtart at three Late Bronze Age sites: Egypt, Emar, and Ugarit. In the process, he demonstrates that multiple, distinct forms of Athtart existed at all three sites in the Late Bronze Age, each corresponding to the daily routines of different social groups. He also considers the effect of daily routines on the transmission of Athtart.

Birdsong, Shelley L.

The Last King(s) of Judah

Zedekiah and Sedekias in the Hebrew and Old Greek Versions of Jeremiah 37(44):1–40(47):6

Volume 89
2017. XVII, 255 pages.

ISBN 9783161538889
sewn paper 99,00 €
ISBN 9783161538896
eBook PDF 99,00 €

Zedekiah ben Josiah was the last king of Judah, and under his leadership, in 586 BCE, Jerusalem was destroyed. Interestingly, the Hebrew and Old Greek versions of Jeremiah present very different portrayals of Zedekiah, prompting a variety of literary and historical-critical questions. In this study, Shelley L. Birdsong uses a multi-critical approach to highlight the two unique characterizations of Zedekiah and address their relationship text- and form-critically. She argues that the Greek text depicts Zedekiah as a manipulative and mysterious Machiavellian prince, whereas the Hebrew presents him as a hesitant and kind king who metaphorically mirrors the fall of his capital. Following this literary comparison, the author employs several scholarly methods to substantiate the claim that the Hebrew text is a later edited text. Overall, she demonstrates the importance of doing character studies in Septuagint scholarship and using multiple methods to create a more comprehensive picture of biblical characters.

Willgren, David

The Formation of the 'Book' of Psalms

Reconsidering the Transmission and Canonization of Psalmody in Light of Material Culture and the Poetics of Anthologies

Volume 88
2016. XVII, 491 pages.

ISBN 9783161547874
sewn paper 114,00 €
ISBN 9783161549373
eBook PDF 114,00 €

In this study, David Willgren attempts to provide answers to two fundamental questions in relation to the formation of the 'Book' of Psalms: »how?« and »why?«. The first relates to the diachronic growth of the collection (how are these processes to be reconstructed, and on what grounds?), while the second relates to questions of purpose (to what end are psalms being juxtaposed in a collection?).

By conceptualizing the 'Book' of Psalms as an anthology, and by inquiring into its poetics by means of paratextuality, David Willgren provides a fresh reconstruction of the formation of the 'Book' of Psalms and concludes, in contrast to the canonical approach, that it does not primarily provide a literary context for individual psalms. Rather, it preserves a dynamic selection of psalms that is best seen not as a *book* of psalms, but as a *canon* of psalms. This work was awarded with SEK 50.000 by *The Royal Swedish Academy of Letters, History and Antiquities* as a »« (förtjänt vetenskapligt arbete).

Mastnjak, Nathan

Deuteronomy and the Emergence of Textual Authority in Jeremiah

Volume 87
2016. XI, 261 pages.

ISBN 9783161544019
sewn paper 94,00 €

ISBN 9783161544026
eBook PDF 94,00 €

The close relationship between Jeremiah and Deuteronomy has stood near the center of Jeremiah scholarship for over a century. Nathan Mastnjak brings new light to this phenomenon by subjecting every credible allusion to Deuteronomy in Jeremiah to detailed analysis with particular attention to interpretative processes and the dynamics of authority. By locating each allusion in the history of the composition of the book, the author traces a discernible shift in the perspective on Deuteronomy's authority. While early texts in Jeremiah allude to Deuteronomy as merely one prestigious literary work among others, it emerges as a religious textual authority in the later layers. These later layers construct and deploy Deuteronomy as an authority but are simultaneously constrained to transform it in the interest of religious innovation.

Mulroney, James A.E.

The Translation Style of Old Greek Habakkuk

Methodological Advancement in Interpretative Studies of the Septuagint

Volume 86
2016. XVII, 264 pages.

ISBN 9783161543869
sewn paper 94,00 €

ISBN 9783161543876
eBook PDF 94,00 €

In this volume, James A. E. Mulroney explains the Greek style of the Old Greek (Septuagint) book of Habakkuk. Where previous studies have focused on an interlinear model, aligning the Hebrew with the Greek text, this study looks at the Greek text in its own right. Of first importance is the notion of transformation in linguistic/translation studies: all translation involves interpretation. Therefore, the Old Greek is an interpretation of its Hebrew base text. The author offers an extended analysis of present methodological issues in the field of Septuagint studies. The study shows that the translator was not following literalism as commonly understood, but a reading tradition that is exemplified in subtle theological details of the book. The translator's personal style is seen in his use of Greek rhetoric, with most textual features representing his habit of reading in both Hebrew and Greek.

Kwon, JiSeong James

Scribal Culture and Intertextuality

Literary and Historical Relationships between Job and Deutero-Isaiah

Volume 85
2016. XIX, 277 pages.

ISBN 9783161543975
sewn paper 94,00 €

ISBN 9783161543982
eBook PDF 94,00 €

In this work, JiSeong James Kwon examines a variety of scholarly arguments concerning the distinctive literary and historical relationship between the book of Job and the second part of the book of Isaiah (Isaiah 40–55), so-called Deutero-Isaiah. The general methodology in a comparative study between biblical texts has been the author-oriented approach which traces the complex interrelationships between corresponding texts, considering many verbal and thematic similarities, but this approach often arises from the misleading concepts of literary dependence from an early source to a later one. In this book, the author argues that scribes were writers of biblical materials and belonged to a group of the literate elite in Judahite society, and that resemblances between the two books result from the production of a scribal culture. This view may shed a light on traditional researches influenced by form-criticism, which divides the literate groups in Israelite society into different professional groups —priests, sages, and prophets. The proposed approach of the scribal culture has also resulted in a different way of interpreting the association with ancient Near Eastern literature which is supposed to be closely related to the two books. Similarities with non-Israelite sources have been suggested by scholars as unequivocal evidence of literary dependence or influence, but a careful examination of those extra-biblical compositions possibly affirms that scribes would have a broad awareness of other ancient texts. Finally, shared ideas and interests between the two books do offer insights into the theological views of the scribes in the Persian period. We may see the historical development of scribal ideas by comparing the two books with other biblical texts and by confirming the diversity and discrepancy within them.

Cocco, Francesco

The Torah as a Place of Refuge

Biblical Criminal Law and the Book of Numbers

Volume 84
2016. XII, 185 pages.

ISBN 9783161541384
sewn paper 69,00 €

ISBN 9783161543524
eBook PDF 69,00 €

The law on the »cities of refuge« contained in Num 35,9–34 is almost universally seen as a simple repetition of legal content that is basically already present in the legislation of other biblical books. Francesco Cocco demonstrates that we find ourselves here before a case of reformulation instead of simple repetition, the implications of which are extremely interesting for the understanding of biblical penal legislation. In this particular fragment, it exhibits traces of modernity so surprising as to be as good as the defence of civil liberties in the legal systems currently in force in the majority of democratic states. The author's enquiry takes its starting point and develops, therefore, from the novel contribution which the legislation in Num 35,9–34 confers on the entire biblical law of a penal character.

Petrany, Catherine

Pedagogy, Prayer and Praise

The Wisdom of the Psalms and Psalter

Volume 83
2015. IX, 249 pages.

ISBN 9783161542725
sewn paper 104,00 €

ISBN 9783161542732
eBook PDF 104,00 €

The presence of didactic, wisdom-like passages in the Book of Psalms presents a puzzle because it suggests a non-liturgical origin and pedagogical aim distinct from the more dominant psalmic language of lament and praise. Catherine Petrany argues for a literary and theological approach to the question of wisdom's role in the psalms that accounts for its meaningful integration with these other kinds of discourse. The unique contextualization of wisdom motifs in the psalms creates a pedagogical platform unique to the book, one related to but distinct from the pedagogies of the biblical wisdom corpus. Human wisdom speech in the psalms points beyond the classroom to the congregation and asks its hearers to become speakers, that is, to enter into conversation with the divine.

Johnson, Benjamin J. M.

Reading David and Goliath in Greek and Hebrew

A Literary Approach

Volume 82
2015. XIV, 270 pages.

ISBN 9783161540462
sewn paper 104,00 €

ISBN 9783161540479
eBook PDF 104,00 €

The story of David and Goliath existed in antiquity in two variant literary editions, a short version found in the Greek tradition of Codex Vaticanus (LXXB) and a longer version found in the Hebrew tradition of the MT. Benjamin J. M. Johnson proposes that each version is worthy of study in its own right and offers a close literary reading of the narrative of David and Goliath in the Greek text of 1 Reigns 16–18. The author explores a method for reading the Septuagint that recognizes it is both a document in its own right and a translation of a Hebrew original. In offering a reading of the septuagintal version of the David and Goliath narrative, the literary difference between the two versions of the story and the literary significance of the Greek translation are highlighted.

Min, Yoo Hong

Die Grundschrift des Ezechielbuches und ihre Botschaft

Volume 81
2015. XVII, 396 pages.

ISBN 9783161538582
sewn paper 119,00 €

ISBN 9783161577758
eBook PDF 119,00 €

Yoo Hong Min presents a new model for the origin of the Book of Ezekiel by reconstructing an original basic-text-version (Grundschrift). He employs compositional criticism to detect and explain what is probably the earliest composition found in the pericopes and throughout the book. Furthermore, focusing on the relevant passages, the author analyzes the literary revisions, editorial elements and intratextual as well as intertextual relationships within the Book of Ezekiel. The structural and linguistic elements which link individual texts and constitute a narrative context are also identified. On the basis of these results, the author determines the scope and structure of the basic-text-version and argues that this was written during Babylonian exile. The basic-text-version addressed the Israelites scattered in various countries of the Near East with its main intent being to overcome the spiritual and cultural crisis of faith in YHWH – which had been caused by the collapse of Judah and the resulting exile – and to establish a new foundation for the hope of a future with Israel's God YHWH. The argumentation of the basic-text-version is determined by a new theological understanding of history. Israel's existential crisis was a necessary part of its salvation history with YHWH: he was revealed as Israel's educator whose judgment was aimed at turning his rebellious people back to him and transforming them into God's true people.

Fulton, Deirdre N.

Reconsidering Nehemiah's Judah

The Case of MT and LXX Nehemia 11–12

Volume 80
2015. XV, 258 pages.

ISBN 9783161538810
sewn paper 104,00 €

ISBN 9783161538827
eBook PDF 104,00 €

In this work, Deirdre N. Fulton examines the differences in the MT and LXX texts of Nehemiah 11–12. She portrays the rebuilding of Judah by focusing on the people who settled in Jerusalem, a catalog of settlements in Judah, a list of temple personnel, and a narrative of the dedication and procession around the walls of Jerusalem. In this systematic study the author analyzes the textual divergences and changes these chapters underwent over time. While both traditions cast Nehemiah 11–12 in Persian period Judah, the textual divergences between the MT and LXX reveal intentional changes that occurred during the Hellenistic period.

Covenant and Election in Exilic and Post-Exilic Judaism

Studies of the Sofja Kovalevskaja Research Group on Early Jewish Monotheism Vol. V

Ed. by Nathan MacDonald

Volume 79
2015. XI, 193 pages.

ISBN 9783161532672
sewn paper 74,00 €

ISBN 9783161540363
eBook PDF 74,00 €

Covenant and election are two theological concepts that dominate the landscape of the Hebrew Bible. If they became the main structuring concepts of the Hebrew Bible, they were not so from the beginning. Their centrality was the result of their utilization by exilic and post-exilic scribes and tradents to focus Israel's traditions into a coherent structure as fitted the revelation of one God. The essays in this collection examine covenant and election across the biblical literature, from the priestly document through Deuteronomy to Jeremiah and the book of Chronicles. They show how the ideas were shaped and refined under the conditions of national disaster and rebuilding.

Survey of contents

Nathan MacDonald: Introduction – *Matthias Köckert:* Gottes »Bund« mit Abraham und die »Erwählung« Israels in Genesis 17 – *Christoph Koch:* Bundestheologie und autoritativer Text im Deuteronomium: Das Tafelmotiv in Deuteronomium 5,9–10 vor dem Hintergrund altorientalischer Vertragspraxis – *Anselm C. Hagedorn:* Covenant, Election, and War in Deuteronomy 7 – *Stephen B. Chapman:* The Covenant God of Israel: Joshua 8, Divine Concession, and Jesus – *Karin Finsterbusch:* Auszugs-Bund, neuer Bund und weitere Bünde: »Berit« im älteren (hebräische Vorlage LXX-Jer) und im jüngeren Jeremiabuch (MT-Jer) – *Sebastian Grätz:* Bund und Erwählung in Esra-Nehemia – *Gary N. Knoppers:* Judah, Levi, David, Solomon, Jerusalem, and the Temple: Election and Covenant in Chronicles – *Matthew J. Lynch:* The Davidic Covenant and Institutional Integration in Chronicles

Baziomo, Raoul

La Famille de Saül dans le conflit Saül versus David

Étude de la construction narrative des personnages de Jonathan, Mérav et Mikal

Volume 78
2015. XIII, 301 pages.

ISBN 9783161536823
sewn paper 109,00 €

ISBN 9783161536830
eBook PDF 109,00 €

Une bonne partie du premier livre de Samuel et le début du second racontent comment et pourquoi est intervenu le transfert de la royauté de Saül à David et à sa maison. Les événements relatés à ce sujet sont situés dans le contexte d'un conflit que Saül ouvre, lorsqu'il réalise que David représente une menace pour son trône. Raoul Baziomo investigate les rôles incarnés par les enfants de Saül et il éclaire sous un angle inédit le récit de l'opposition entre Saül et David, de manière à mettre davantage en lumière le message qu'il porte et le système de valeurs qu'il promeut. Cela fait ressortir également la stratégie narrative déployée par le récit pour amener le lecteur à adhérer à ses valeurs ou le transformer au plan cognitif.

The Family of Saul in the Conflict of Saul against David. A Study on the Narrative Construction of the Characters of Jonathan, Merab and Michal.

More than half of the first book of Samuel and the beginning of the second narrate how and why kingship in Israel was transferred from Saul to David and his house. Raoul Baziomo investigates the roles played by Saul's children and sheds fresh light on the narrative of the conflict opposing Saul to David and in so doing further highlights the message it conveys and the system of values it promotes.

Pouchelle, Patrick

Dieu éducateur

Une nouvelle approche d'un concept de la théologie biblique entre Bible Hébraïque, Septante et littérature grecque classique

Volume 77
2015. XX, 378 pages.

ISBN 9783161532382
sewn paper 114,00 €

ISBN 9783161535505
eBook PDF 114,00 €

Depuis les études de Bertram, on pense que l'utilisation de $\pi\alpha\iota\delta\epsilon\acute{\upsilon}\omega$ dans la Septante témoigne d'un changement dans la pensée religieuse juive de la période hellénistique. L'idée hébraïque d'un Dieu qui corrige (יָסַר) son peuple laisse la place à un Dieu qui l'éduque ($\pi\alpha\iota\delta\epsilon\acute{\upsilon}\omega$) vers la vertu. Pourtant, $\pi\alpha\iota\delta\epsilon\acute{\upsilon}\omega$ est clairement utilisé dans la Septante pour désigner une correction corporelle, sens qu'il ne possède pas en grec classique. Patrick Pouchelle tente une nouvelle approche: après avoir établi dans la Septante la correspondance entre יָסַר et $\pi\alpha\iota\delta\epsilon\acute{\upsilon}\omega$, il va analyser la racine יָסַר dans l'hébreu classique et les mots de la famille de $\pi\alpha\iota\delta\epsilon\acute{\upsilon}\omega$ dans le grec classique et la koinè. Il tâchera d'expliquer pourquoi les traducteurs ont choisi $\pi\alpha\iota\delta\epsilon\acute{\upsilon}\omega$ pour traduire יָסַר . L'auteur émet une nouvelle hypothèse: dans la Septante, Dieu »éducateur« est un dieu qui corrige, comme dans la bible hébraïque. Cependant, le choix de $\pi\alpha\iota\delta\epsilon\acute{\upsilon}\omega$ insiste sur la relation entre Dieu et son peuple perçue comme celle d'un père envers son fils, selon une nuance qu'on retrouve dans la littérature de Sagesse.

God, the Educator. A New Approach to a Concept of Biblical Theology between Hebrew Bible, Septuagint and Classical Greek Literature.

Was the God illustrated in the Septuagint the Hebrew idea of a God who disciplines or did he represent the Greek ideal of education? Patrick Pouchelle suggests a new approach to this issue. By establishing the lexical equivalence between יָסַר and $\pi\alpha\iota\delta\epsilon\acute{\upsilon}\omega$, he aims to explain why the Greek translators have rendered יָסַר as $\pi\alpha\iota\delta\epsilon\acute{\upsilon}\omega$ and thus link it to the Hebrew bible.



Mohr Siebeck

Forschungen zum Alten Testament 2. Reihe
Last updated: 13/03/2024

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Marzouk, Safwat

Egypt as a Monster in the Book of Ezekiel

Volume 76
2015. XVI, 289 pages.

ISBN 9783161532450
sewn paper 104,00 €
ISBN 9783161536281
eBook PDF 104,00 €

Appealing to Monster Theory and the ancient Near Eastern motif of »Chaoskampf,« Safwat Marzouk argues that the paradoxical character of the category of the monster is what prompts the portrayal of Egypt as a monster in the book of Ezekiel. While on the surface the monster seems to embody utter difference, underlying its otherness there is a disturbing sameness. Though the monster may be defeated and its body dismembered, it is never completely annihilated. Egypt is portrayed as a monster in the book of Ezekiel because Egypt represents the threat of religious assimilation. Although initially the monstrosity of Egypt is constructed because of the shared elements of identity between Egypt and Israel, the prophet flips this imagery of monster in order to embody Egypt as a monstrous Other. In a combat myth, YHWH defeats the monster and dismembers its body. Despite its near annihilation, Egypt, in Ezekiel's rhetoric, is not entirely obliterated. Rather, it is kept at bay, hovering at the periphery, questioning Israel's identity.

Brown, Ken

The Vision in Job 4 and Its Role in the Book

Reframing the Development of the Joban Dialogues. Studies of the Sofja Kovalevskaja Research Group on Early Jewish Monotheism. Vol. IV

Volume 75
2015. XI, 350 pages.

ISBN 9783161535338
sewn paper 109,00 €
ISBN 9783161536311
eBook PDF 109,00 €

Near the beginning of the Joban Dialogues, Job's friend Eliphaz is attributed a remarkably subversive vision (Job 4:12–21). Laced with images of divine judgment and deception, this vision undermines the very foundation of the friends' theology, and closely conforms to Job's. In particular, the vision's distinctive corporeal imagery and its conclusion that *anyone* can suddenly perish reflect Job's characteristic style, and form the basis for his accusations of divine injustice. In this study, Ken Brown argues that the tensions between the vision's present attribution to Eliphaz and its role in the dialogue run much deeper than is generally perceived, and can only be resolved through a reassessment of the book's development, both synchronic and diachronic. Brown suggests that the present order of Job 3–4 and 25–27 is neither original nor accidental, but reflects an intentional reframing of the dialogue, and anticipates similar moves across the earliest reception of the book. This work was awarded the Manfred Lautenschlaeger Award for Theological Promise 2016.

Middlemas, Jill

The Divine Image

Prophetic Aniconic Rhetoric and Its Contribution to the Aniconism Debate

Volume 74
2014. XI, 190 pages.

ISBN 9783161537240
sewn paper 74,00 €
ISBN 9783161537493
eBook PDF 74,00 €

Although attempts to understand the growth of aniconism focus on the Pentateuchal legal material, scholars increasingly make reference to the prophetic literature to illuminate the debate. Jill Middlemas provides the first comprehensive analysis of the prophets with attention to rhetorical strategies that reflect anti-iconic thought and promote iconoclasm. After illuminating the idol polemics, which is the rhetoric most often associated with aniconism, she draws out how prophecy also exposes a reticence towards cultic symbols and mental images of Yahweh. At the same time the theme of incomparability as well as the use of metaphor and multiple imaging, paradoxically, reveal additional ways to express aniconic belief or the destabilization of a single divine image. Middlemas' analysis of prophetic aniconism sheds new light on interpretations of the most iconic expression in the Old Testament, the *imago dei* passages in Genesis, where God is said to create humanity in the divine image.

Poulsen, Frederik

God, His Servant, and the Nations in Isaiah 42:1–9

Biblical Theological Reflections after Brevard S. Childs and Hans Hübner

Volume 73
2014. XIV, 269 pages.

ISBN 9783161536366
sewn paper 104,00 €
ISBN 9783161536373
eBook PDF 104,00 €

Frederik Poulsen investigates the role of the Old Testament in biblical theology. Analyzing the works of Brevard Childs and Hans Hübner, he addresses main issues regarding the different versions of the Old Testament (the Hebrew Bible and the Greek Septuagint) and the significance of the New Testament's use of the Old. The author explores the interpretative implications of these issues by focusing extensively on Isaiah 42:1–9. The Hebrew version as such is ambiguous regarding the servant figure being portrayed, his identity, and his task. The Septuagint renders several key terms and statements differently and the reception of the passage in the New Testament reveals a manifold of diverse interpretations. Common to all versions is the servant's role as a mediator between God and the nations. Frederik Poulsen shows that this central task is constantly being reapplied to new servant figures.

Monotheism in Late Prophetic and Early Apocalyptic Literature

Studies of the Sofja Kovalevskaja Research Group on Early Jewish Monotheism Vol. III

Ed. by Nathan MacDonald and Ken Brown

Volume 72
2014. XVII, 268 pages.

ISBN 9783161532405
sewn paper 94,00 €

ISBN 9783161536885
eBook PDF 94,00 €

Discussion of early Jewish monotheism has focused on its origins in earlier Israelite religion, while its development in late prophetic and early apocalyptic literature has received little attention. Yet the reflections of the concept of monotheism in these works are much more diverse than is generally recognized. This literature reflects a lively debate over the implications of Yhwh's supremacy, which extend to the full range of religious and socio-political experience. The authors of this volume explore that diversity by focusing on how particular texts and themes embody and shape the emerging concept of monotheism. Tackling issues ranging from divine violence to dualism, international relations to idolatry, these studies not only emphasize the diverse ways in which Yhwh's supremacy is portrayed in late prophetic and early apocalyptic literature, but also illustrate the necessity of adopting a range of methodological approaches to the problem.

Survey of contents

Ken Brown/Nathan MacDonald: Introduction – *Ulrich Berges/Bernd Obermayer:* Divine Violence in the Book of Isaiah – *Bernd Schipper:* 'The City by the Sea will be a Drying Place': Isaiah 19.1–25 in Light of Prophetic Texts from Ptolemaic Egypt – *Mark S. Gignilliat:* Who is a God like You? Refracting the One God in Jonah, Micah and Nahum – *Lena-Sofia Tiemeyer:* YHWH, the Divine Beings and Zechariah 1–6 – *Nathan MacDonald:* The Beginnings of One-ness Theology in Late Israelite Prophetic Literature – *Reinhard Achenbach:* Monotheistischer Universalismus und frühe Formen eines Völkerrechts in prophetischen Texten Israels aus achämenidischer Zeit – *Jakob Wöhrle:* The God(s) of the Nations in Late Prophecy – *John J. Collins:* Cognitive Dissonance and Eschatological Violence: Fantasized Solutions to a Theological Dilemma in Second Temple Judaism – *Stefan Beyerle:* Monotheism, Angelology, and Dualism in Ancient Jewish Apocalyptic Writings – *Jennie Grillo:* Worship and Idolatry in the Book of Daniel through the Lens of Tertullian's *De idololatria*

Chavel, Simeon

Oracular Law and Priestly Historiography in the Torah

Volume 71
2014. X, 353 pages.

ISBN 9783161533419
sewn paper 129,00 €

ISBN 9783161533426
eBook PDF 129,00 €

In this study, Simeon Chavel establishes the existence of a distinct type of story within the Torah, the »oracular novella,« traces its contours and poetics, identifies its historical background, and analyzes its use. The oracular novella is a very short story with a legal climax, in which divine adjudication and legislation resolves human complication. In a spartan style, the narrative recounts how an incident or set of circumstances in Israel led through oracular inquiry of Moses to legal resolution by Yahweh. The Torah contains four oracular novellas, all in the Priestly History, two action stories and two situation stories: a man curses Yahweh (Lev 24:10–23), a man gathers wood on the Sabbath (Num 15:32–36), impurity of certain Israelites at the time of the Pesah threatens to cut them off forever (Num 9:1–14), and the name of a man who died without sons to possess his portion in Canaan stands to go to oblivion (Num 27:1–11). Each utilizes the legal climax differently as an expressive ideological moment; each was composed, incorporated, and revised separately and differently; and each had a different effect on prior and subsequent biblical literature. But all function similarly within the Priestly History to dramatize a set of principles and themes in the immediately preceding divine legislative speeches and divinely directed activities. Ancient court records and biblical materials show the oracular novellas to adapt a form of priestly activity for historiographical purposes. As a group, they illuminate the Priestly History as a narrative founded on a deep and extensive troping of divine will as law and legislation, and highlight how Judean priests cherished oracular inquiry as the nexus of divine and human society.

Barker, William D.

Isaiah's Kingship Polemic

An Exegetical Study in Isaiah 24–27

Volume 70
2014. XV, 254 pages.

ISBN 9783161533471
sewn paper 79,00 €

ISBN 9783161577741
eBook PDF 79,00 €

William D. Barker analyzes a wide array of possible ancient Near Eastern backgrounds to Isaiah 24–27. He finds that there is a uniquely Ugaritic background to the chapters, with evidence of a literary framework and narrative progression that has been intentionally adopted and creatively adapted from either the Ba'al Myth (KTU 1.1–1.6) itself or a shared tradition between ancient Ugarit and ancient Israel. Barker also closely examines Isaiah 24–27 in the light of the Ugaritic material and thereby contributes to the resolution of some of the historic questions about the interpretation, genre, dating, and function of Isaiah 24–27. A new epithet for the chapters is also proposed.

Darby, Erin

Interpreting Judean Pillar Figurines

Gender and Empire in Judean Apotropaic Ritual



Mohr Siebeck

Volume 69
2014. XX, 588 pages.

ISBN 9783161524929
sewn paper 129,00 €
ISBN 9783161529894
eBook PDF 129,00 €

Judean pillar figurines are one of the most common ritual objects from Iron II Israel. These small terracotta females have received a great deal of scholarly attention, appearing in discussions about Israelite religion, monotheism, and women's practice. Yet the figurines are still poorly understood. Modern interpreters connect the figurines with goddesses, popular religion, and females but often base their arguments on the presumed significance of the figurines' breasts and the Hebrew Bible. In contrast, archaeological context is frequently overshadowed or oversimplified. In an attempt to address these problems and to understand figurine rituals in Jerusalem, Erin Darby evaluates relevant Near Eastern texts, archaeological context, biblical texts, and Near Eastern iconography. She also explores changes in figurine iconography, the function of the figurines in rituals of healing and protection and the gender of figurine users.

Weingart, Kristin

Stämmevolk – Staatsvolk – Gottesvolk?

Studien zur Verwendung des Israel-Namens im Alten Testament

Volume 68
2014. XVII, 439 pages.

ISBN 9783161532368
sewn paper 119,00 €
ISBN 9783161532375
eBook PDF 119,00 €

What is Israel? In the Old Testament it seems self-evident, yet the answers given by current research differ considerably. There are two reasons for this: the various uses of the name within the Old Testament itself and the differing hypotheses on the base of a common Israelite sense of belonging. Is it based on a shared faith in YHWH, on political-territorial circumstances or the belief in a common descent? Has it changed in the course of Israel's history? Kristin Weingart investigates the use of the name »Israel« within the Old Testament as well as the underlying concepts of Israel. She shows that the social construction of a common descent forms the base of Israelite collective identity in the pre- as well as post-exilic periods and stands behind the various usages of the name »Israel.«

Awabdy, Mark A.

Immigrants and Innovative Law

Deuteronomy's Theological and Social Vision for the גֵּר

Volume 67
2014. XI, 299 pages.

ISBN 9783161528354
sewn paper 104,00 €
ISBN 9783161577734
eBook PDF 104,00 €

Mark A. Awabdy provides a nuanced and extensive understanding of the noun גֵּר (*gēr*, engl. immigrant) in the book of Deuteronomy (D). He argues that a precise reconstruction of the historical referents of D's *gēr* is impossible and has led scholars to misread or overlook literary, theological, and sociological determinants. By analyzing D's *gēr* texts and contexts, evidence emerges for: the non-Israelite and non-Judahite origins of D's *gēr*; the distinction between the *gēr* in D's prologue-epilogue and legal core; and the different meanings and origins of D's »*gēr* -in-Egypt« and »*ēbed* -in-Egypt« formulae. Awabdy further contends that D's revision of Exodus' Decalogue and Covenant Code and independence from H reveal D's tendencies to accommodate the *gēr* and interface the *gēr* with YHWH's redemption of Israel. He concludes by defining how D integrates the *gēr* into the community of YHWH's people.

Rereading the relecture?

The Question of (Post)chronistic Influence in the Latest Redactions of the Books of Samuel

Ed. by Uwe Becker and Hannes Bezzel

Volume 66
2014. IX, 239 pages.

ISBN 9783161519956
sewn paper 64,00 €
ISBN 9783161529207
eBook PDF 64,00 €

This volume presents collected essays of a symposium held in Jena in August 2012 whose main question was whether there was something like a post-chronistic feedback into the Books of Samuel. The articles investigate the relationship between I-II Sam and I Chr in general aspects as well as by means of a number of case studies. Can I Chr be regarded as a *relecture* of some Samuel scroll? If so, is it possible to identify some of the latest layers in Samuel as chronistically influenced, that is: as a rereading of the *relecture*? And by which methods and criteria could that goal be achieved?

Survey of contents

I. General Questions

Isaac Kalimi: Die Quelle(n) der Textparallelen zwischen Samuel-Könige und Chronik – *Graeme Auld*: The Text of Chronicles and the Beginnings of Samuel – *Ehud Ben Zvi*: Chronicles and Samuel-Kings: Two Interacting Aspects of one Memory System in the Late Persian/Early Hellenistic Period – *Christophe Nihan*: Samuel, Chronicles, and »Postchronistic« Revisions: Some Remarks of Method

II. Case Studies

Georg Hentschel: Der Niedergang des Hauses Eli und der Aufstieg Zadoks – *Peter Porzig*: Postchronistic Traces in the Narratives about the Ark? – *Reinhard Müller*: Das theophore Element »Baal« zwischen Samuel und Chronik – *Uwe Becker*: Wie »deuteronomistisch« ist die Samuel-Rede in I Sam 12? – *Jürg Hutzli*: Elaborated Literary Violence: Genre and Ideology of the Two Stories I Sam 22,6–23 and II Sam 21,1–14 – *Cynthia Edenburg*: II Sam 21,1–14 and II Sam 23,1–7 as Post-Chr Additions to the Samuel Scroll – *Hannes Bezzel*: Chronistisch beeinflusste Korrekturen am Bild Sauls in den Samuelbüchern? – *Thilo Rudnig*: Späte Bearbeitungen in der Davidüberlieferung

White, Ellen

Yahweh's Council

Its Structure and Membership

Volume 65
2014. XV, 223 pages.

ISBN 9783161532931
sewn paper 79,00 €

ISBN 9783161532948
eBook PDF 79,00 €

How does God's government function and how is it structured? Ellen White helps one gain a better understanding of Yahweh's position and relationship to the other divine beings and contributes to the academic discussion surrounding monotheism and polytheism in the Hebrew Bible.

Lynch, Matthew

Monotheism and Institutions in the Book of Chronicles

Temple, Priesthood, and Kingship in Post-Exilic Perspective. Studies of the Sofja Kovalevskaja Research Group on Early Jewish Monotheism. Vol. I

Volume 64
2014. X, 307 pages.

ISBN 9783161521119
sewn paper 104,00 €

ISBN 9783161525537
eBook PDF 104,00 €

Matthew Lynch examines ways that the one God became known and experienced through institutions according to the book of Chronicles. Chronicles recasts Israel's earlier histories from the vantage point of vigorous commitments to the temple and its supporting institutions (the priesthood and royal house), and draws out the numerous ways that those institutions mediate divine power and inspire national unity. By understanding and participating in the reestablishment of these institutions, Chronicles suggests that post-exilic Judeans could reconnect to the powerful God of the past despite the appallingly impoverished state of post-exilic life. However, Chronicles contends that God was not beholden by those participating in the temple system. As such, it constitutes a via media between two regnant perspectives on the relationship between biblical monotheism and particularism, one which sees in monotheism an inherent move beyond particularism, and another which sees a problematic appeal to monotheism to legitimate powerful institutions. While Chronicles gives expression to the profound resonances between institutional and divine greatness, it is also careful to resist linking divine power and institutional power in absolute terms.

Thomas, Benjamin D.

Hezekiah and the Compositional History of the Book of Kings

Volume 63
2014. XIX, 508 pages.

ISBN 9783161529351
sewn paper 129,00 €

ISBN 9783161529559
eBook PDF 129,00 €

In this study, Benjamin D. Thomas explores one of the oldest and most central issues of the Hebrew Bible — the compositional history of 1–2 Kings. His approach does not proceed from the assumption prevalent since the time of de Wette, namely, that the origins of 1–2 Kings should be explained initially as a process of Deuteronomistic literary redaction rooted in the Josianic reform. Rather, the author reads 1–2 Kings through the lens of other texts with similar genres existing in its historical context. He also seeks to determine the extent of the original framework by mapping its opening and conclusion. Thomas' results indicate that the framework's opening was in Solomon's account and its original climax was in Hezekiah's account and represented the latter as a royal YHWHist *par excellence*, the restorer of order who limited sacrificial space to Jerusalem.

Torah and the Book of Numbers

Ed. by Christian Frevel, Thomas Pola and Aaron Schart

Volume 62
2013. VIII, 429 pages.

ISBN 9783161529474
sewn paper 104,00 €

ISBN 9783161529481
eBook PDF 104,00 €

The Documentary Hypothesis, which in the 20th century was the standard theory to explain the development of the Pentateuch, has been challenged from different angles. One important text corpus where new proposals have been brought into the debate is the Book of Numbers. The articles in this volume address the formation of the Book of Numbers from the earliest to the latest strata. They focus on topics like the source-critical placement of the texts in Deuteronomy that retell events from Numbers, the status of the late priestly halakhic legal adaptations and their relation to the books of Leviticus and Deuteronomy, the search for the redactor(s) who combined the Priestly and the non-priestly material, the relation to the Book of Joshua, and the status of the very late additions that formed the Pentateuch as Torah for the community. Thus, the volume contributes to the discussion on the normative background and identity formation in the late Persian period. Special attention is also given to the composition of the final text of the Book of Numbers and its understanding of law and narrative. The authors, among them outstanding researchers in the field, partially contributed to a symposium on the topic »Torah in the Book of Numbers« at the Ruhr-Universität Bochum, held on April 12–13, 2011.

Survey of contents

Christian Frevel: The Book of Numbers – Formation, Composition, and Interpretation of a Late Part of the Torah. Some Introductory Remarks – *Thomas Pola:* Back to the Future: The Twofold Priestly Concept of History – *Thomas Römer:* Egypt



Mohr Siebeck

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Last updated: 13/03/2024

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Nostalgia in Exodus 14-Numbers 21 – *Horst Seebass*: Numeri als eigene Komposition – *Christophe Nihan*: The Priestly Laws of Numbers, the Holiness Legislation, and the Pentateuch – *Christian Frevel*: Ending with the High Priest: The Hierarchy of Priests and Levites in the Book of Numbers – *Aaron Scharf*: The Spy Story and the Final Redaction of the Hexateuch – *Reinhard Achenbach*: Complementary Reading of the Torah in the Priestly Texts of Numbers 15 – *Joel S. Baden*: Source Stratification, Secondary Additions, and the Documentary Hypothesis in the Book of Numbers: The Case of Numbers 17 – *Adriane Leveen*: »Lo we perish«: A Reading of Numbers 17:27–20:29 – *Herbert Specht*: Die Verfehlung Moses und Aarons in Num 20,1–13* P – *Ludwig Schmidt*: Sihon und Og in Num 21,21ff.* und Dtn 2,24ff.* – Ein Beitrag zur Entstehung des Buches Numeri – *Jonathan Miles Robker*: The Balaam Narrative in the Pentateuch / Hexateuch / Enneateuch – *Olivier Artus*: Numbers 32: The Problem of the Two and a Half Transjordanian Tribes and the Final Composition of the Book of Numbers – *Eckart Otto*: The Books of Deuteronomy and Numbers in One Torah. The Book of Numbers Read in the Horizon of the Postexilic Fortschreibung in the Book of Deuteronomy: New Horizons in the Interpretation of the Pentateuch

Divine Presence and Absence in Exilic and Post-Exilic Judaism

Studies of the Sofja Kovalevskaja Research Group on Early Jewish Monotheism Vol. II

Ed. by Nathan MacDonald and Izaak J. de Hulster

Volume 61
2013. XVI, 323 pages.

ISBN 9783161524332
sewn paper 104,00 €
ISBN 9783161524349
eBook PDF 104,00 €

The catastrophic events at the beginning of the sixth century BCE resulted in a theological crisis for the Judean elite. The end of the only surviving Hebrew kingdom was explained by a theology of divine abandonment, a motif widely understood in the ancient Near East. Many years later Jewish exiles would return to rebuild and settle Jerusalem. During their time in Babylonia and in the Persian period this group redefined the traditional understanding of divine presence and developed various new understandings that could explain YHWH's commitment to Jerusalem as well as the cataclysmic events that they had experienced. This collection of essays from a conference held in Göttingen in May 2011 examines changing ideas of divine presence and absence in late biblical texts. The essays tackle subjects such as the understanding of divine presence in Deuteronomy, Ezekiel, the Psalms and Ezra-Nehemiah, as well as topics such as divine abandonment, aniconism, the exaltation of Torah and the spirit of God. These Judean perspectives are contextualized by essays that examine ideas of divine presence elsewhere in the ancient Levant and the Near East, and modern theological and philosophical attempts to speak about the presence or absence of God. This volume is the first publication in the context of the Sofja-Kovalevskaja Research Group under the leadership of Nathan MacDonald. This research group seeks to examine the considerable diversity in Israelite and Jewish monotheistic thought and practice during the exilic and Persian periods, particularly through an examination of the relevant biblical texts. The project consists of a small team of post-doctoral and doctoral researchers based at the Georg-August Universität Göttingen. The project has a strong contemporary resonance because of concerns expressed about the relationship between monotheism, hegemony and violence.

Survey of contents

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Jeon, Jaeyoung

The Call of Moses and the Exodus Story

A Redactional-Critical Study in Exodus 3–4 and 5–13

Volume 60
2013. XVI, 270 pages.

ISBN 9783161527265
sewn paper 89,00 €
ISBN 9783161528415
eBook PDF 89,00 €

Jaeyoung Jeon examines and assesses recently suggested models for the formation of the Pentateuch through a redactional-critical analysis of the Call of Moses (Exod. 3–4) and the Exodus story (Exod. 5–13). He observes that Exod. 3–4 was formed through a series of stages of Deuteronomistic composition and redaction, to which some post-Priestly additions were made. Comparative analysis suggests that the elements of Deuteronomistic formation precede P and that the direction of influence is from the non-P narrative (Exod. 3–4) to the P call narrative (Exod. 6). Jeon also shows that although some of the literary layers in Exod. 3–4 extend through the Exodus story (Exod. 5–13), the present form of the latter has been shaped by a post-Deuteronomistic but pre-Priestly composition based on an earlier proto-Exodus story. He therefore concludes that the Pentateuch or Hexateuch might be the product of a more complicated process of development than the current models describe.

Stone, Timothy J.

The Compilational History of the Megilloth

Canon, Contoured Intertextuality and Meaning in the Writings

Volume 59
2013. XIII, 258 pages.

ISBN 9783161523755
sewn paper 79,00 €

ISBN 9783161523762
eBook PDF 79,00 €

Timothy J. Stone explores the canonical shape of the third part of the Hebrew canon, the Writings, challenging the common assumption that the collection is an anthology of unrelated books. First he analyzes the formation and various orders for the Writings in antiquity. Conceptions of sacred literature differed in Judaism, but within temple circles, the Writings and the Hebrew canon were likely solidified prior to the end of the first century. Despite the consensus that there are a large number of orders for the Writings, there is only evidence of the Masoretic and the Talmudic orders prior to the twelfth century. Stone also examines the books of the »Megilloth« for signs of their compilation, especially Ruth and Esther. He concludes that the codification of the »Megilloth« into a collection is integral to the canonical process and preserved in the shape of the Writings' ancient arrangements.

Wildgruber, Regina

Daniel 10–12 als Schlüssel zum Buch

Volume 58
2013. XI, 325 pages.

ISBN 9783161519666
sewn paper 104,00 €

ISBN 9783161523670
eBook PDF 104,00 €

Is the final vision in the Book of Daniel a visionary look at the future or a review of history? This was a topic of controversy between Hieronymus and Prophyry. From the 18th century on, reading Daniel 10–12 as a historical source was seen alongside a fundamentalist understanding of the text. More recent studies of Antioch IV demonstrate the problems of a historical interpretation of the Daniel text. With the help of a literary approach, Regina Wildgruber shows that the final vision can be seen as a historical interpretation in the context of biblical theology. At the same time the text once more becomes plausible as a final vision of the Hebrew-Aramaic Book of Daniel.

Huddleston, Jonathan

Eschatology in Genesis

Volume 57
2012. XIII, 315 pages.

ISBN 9783161519833
sewn paper 89,00 €

ISBN 9783161523496
eBook PDF 89,00 €

In this study, Jonathan Huddleston examines Genesis as a rhetorical whole, addressing Persian-era Judean expectations. While some have contrasted Genesis' account of origins with prophetic accounts of the future, literary and historical evidence suggests that Genesis narrates Israel's origins precisely in order to ground Judea's hopes for an eschatological restoration. Promises to the ancestors semiotically apply to those who preserved, composed, and received the text of Genesis. Judea imagines its mythic destiny as a great nation exemplifying and spreading blessing among the families of the earth. Genesis' vision of Israel's destiny coheres with the postexilic prophetic eschatology, identifying Israel as a precious seed to carry forward promises of a yet-to-be-realized creation fruitfulness. Because this future requires a coming divine visitation, Genesis cannot be attributed to an anti-eschatological hierarchy. Rather, it reflects the same Persian-era Judean synthesis that produced the temple-oriented restoration eschatology of the prophetic corpus.

Deuteronomy in the Pentateuch, Hexateuch, and the Deuteronomistic History

Ed. by Konrad Schmid and Raymond F. Person, Jr.

Volume 56
2012. IX, 179 pages.

ISBN 9783161510083
sewn paper 54,00 €

ISBN 9783161524233
eBook PDF 54,00 €

The earlier consensus concerning the Pentateuch and the Deuteronomistic History has been significantly challenged in recent scholarship. Because of its canonical placement, the book of Deuteronomy plays an important role in these discussions. The earlier consensus was that the D source in the Pentateuch was primarily (if not only) found in Deuteronomy and that Deuteronomy was the founding source for the Deuteronomistic History. Recently, however, some scholars are once again talking about the D source in books before and after Deuteronomy, while others are questioning the centrality of the D source for the formation of the so-called Deuteronomistic History. This volume brings together various voices in these recent debates concerning the role of Deuteronomy in the larger literary works incorporating material before and after the book of Deuteronomy. Contributors include Reinhard Kratz, Jeffrey Stackert, Sandra Richter, Christophe Nihan, Cynthia Edenburg, Juha Pakkala, and Konrad Schmid.

Survey of contents

Konrad Schmid and Raymond F. Person, Jr.: Introduction – Reinhard G. Kratz: The Headings of the Book of Deuteronomy – Jeffrey Stackert: Mosaic Prophecy and the Deuteronomistic Source of the Torah – Sandra L. Richter: Placing the Name, Pushing the Paradigm: A Decade with the Deuteronomistic Name Formula – Christophe Nihan: The Literary Relationship between Deuteronomy and Joshua: A Reassessment – Cynthia Edenburg: Joshua 9 and Deuteronomy; an Intertextual Conundrum: the Chicken or the Egg? – Juha Pakkala: Deuteronomy and 1–2 Kings in the Redaction of the Pentateuch and Former Prophets – Konrad Schmid: Deuteronomy within the 'Deuteronomistic Histories' in Genesis-2 Kings

Lyu, Sun Myung

Righteousness in the Book of Proverbs

Volume 55
2012. XI, 154 pages.

ISBN 9783161498725
sewn paper 59,00 €

ISBN 9783161523472
eBook PDF 59,00 €

This study brings insights from character ethics in addition to the much discussed biblical scholarship on social justice in order to elucidate the concept of righteousness present in the book of Proverbs. The author's choice of Proverbs as a wisdom text in relation to the concept of righteousness reflects the realization that previous scholarship has not dealt with righteousness as a concept in its own right but as a corollary to the issue of social justice. Like character ethics, Proverbs use its depiction of the righteous person as its prominent pedagogic device of moral discourse. In other words, instead of offering abstract statements about morality, Sun Myung Lyu portrays the life of the righteous person as the paradigm of moral life, which is pregnant with numerous realizations into specific actions befitting diverse life situations. What the righteous person embodies is righteousness, the character *in toto*, which encompasses yet transcends specific virtues and actions. After presenting a comparative study of Proverbs with the Psalms and the ancient Egyptian wisdom texts, the author concludes that despite many similarities and parallels, Proverbs still stands out in its strong emphasis on character formation and internalization of virtues as foundations of morality in general and righteousness in particular.

Law and Narrative in the Bible and in Neighbouring Ancient Cultures

Ed. by Klaus-Peter Adam, Friedrich Avemarie and Nili Wazana, co-ed. by Dorit Felsch

Volume 54
2012. XVII, 414 pages.

ISBN 9783161508431
sewn paper 99,00 €

ISBN 9783161521232
eBook PDF 99,00 €

Law is not only conveyed in codified clauses; it is often featured as a pivotal topic in literary texts. Existing legal relationships can determine the historical or the fictive setting of a drama or a plot, narratives can propagate laws or demonstrate their inherent problems. Literature can be used as an integral part of a strategy to implement legally justified demands, it can aim at correcting or even at denouncing legal rules. The authors of this volume examine literary and functional texts from the bible, the Ancient Near East, early Judaism and classical antiquity. They choose from the fields of constitutional law, litigation, family law, property and inheritance law, damages, punishment, privilege and maintenance.

Survey of contents

Cornelia Wunsch: Legal Narrative in the Neo-Babylonian Trial Documents: Text Reconstruction, Interpretation, and Assyriological Method – *Wolfgang Oswald*: Die Exodus-Gottesberg-Erzählung als Gründungsurkunde der jüdischen Bürgergemeinde – *Udo Rüterswörden*: Gesetz und Erzählung anhand der Josephsgeschichte – *Nili Wazana*: »For an Impaled Body is a Curse of God« (Deut 21:23): Impaled Bodies in Biblical Law and Conquest Narratives – *Klaus-Peter Adam*: A Didactic Case Narrative on Homicide Law: 1 Samuel 26 – *Rachel Magdalene*: The Reader as Judge in the Book of Job: Interpretation and the Narrativity of Case Law – *Joachim Hengstl*: Rechtliche Anliegen in biblischen Schilderungen. Methodische Gesichtspunkte – *Susanne Gödde*: Recht ohne Gesetz? Szenarien der Rechtssprechung bei Homer, Hesiod und Aischylos – *Stefan Krauter*: Rechtsnorm und Beispielerzählung im Dienste der Überzeugung. M. Tullius Cicero, *De domo sua ad pontifices* – *Beate Ego*: »Diejenigen, welche die Wahrheit tun, werden Gelingen haben in ihren Werken« (Tob 4,6). »Law« und »narrative« im Buch Tobit – *Cana Werman*: Narrative in the Service of Halakha: Abraham, Prince Mastema, and the Paschal Offering in *Jubilees* – *Lutz Doering*: Reinheit und Tempel. Ein Beitrag zum Verhältnis von Law und Narrative im Jubiläenbuch – *Tal Ilan*: Babatha the Killer-Wife: Literature, Folk Religion and Documentary Papyri – *Catherine Hezser*: Orality, Textuality, and Memory in the Transmission of Rabbinic Legal Narratives – *Lukas Bormann*: Das Lukasevangelium als tragische Geschichtserzählung vom Zusammenbruch der Rechtsgemeinschaft des Judentums in Galiläa und Judäa – *Douglas A. Hume*: »Sharing All Things in Common«: Narrative, Alienation, and the Friendship Ethos in Acts 2:41–47 and 4:32–35 – *Eyal Regev*: The Gradual Conversion of Gentiles in Acts and Luke's Paradox of the Gentile Mission – *Friedrich Avemarie*: The Apostolic Decree and the Jewishness of Luke's Paul: On the Narrative Function of Acts 15:23–29

Texts, Contexts and Readings in Postexilic Literature

Explorations into Historiography and Identity Negotiation in Hebrew Bible and Related Texts

Ed. by Louis C. Jonker

Volume 53
2011. XI, 317 pages.

ISBN 9783161509759
sewn paper 89,00 €

ISBN 9783161518522
eBook PDF 89,00 €

Periods of socio-historical change often prompt renewed interest in history-writing. Interest in the past is then driven by processes of identity negotiation which facilitate a new orientation in changed circumstances. The Hebrew Bible is an excellent example, containing historiographical writings from different socio-historical periods. Dramatic socio-political and socio-religious changes took place from the sixth to the fourth centuries B.C.E. in Ancient Israel. These changes prompted different processes of identity negotiation through historiographical literature. The authors of the essays collected here explore historiographical and related texts and their contexts in these tumultuous times in order to come to a better understanding of the dynamic relationship between ancient historiography and identity negotiation. They also investigate how this literature could be interpreted in contemporary contexts of socio-historical change.

Contributors:

Johann Cook, Izak Cornelius, Louis Jonker, Gary Knoppers, Oded Lipschits, Gerrie Snyman, Robert Vosloo, Josef Wieshöfer, Ehud Ben Zvi

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Mohr Siebeck

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Tooman, William A.

Gog of Magog

Reuse of Scripture and Compositional Technique in Ezekiel 38–39

Volume 52
2011. XI, 343 pages.

ISBN 9783161508578
sewn paper 104,00 €

ISBN 9783161517525
eBook PDF 104,00 €

The Gog Oracles' (Ezek 38–39) reuse of antecedent scripture is crucial to their purpose and meaning. The pattern of continuous allusion in the Gog Oracles reflects something more than a writer saturated with scriptural idiom. It is a practice of disciplined and deliberate reference to select texts on select themes. William A. Tooman shows that recognizing the volume and density of scriptural reuse within the Gog Oracles is indispensable for understanding these chapters' role within the book, its composition, and its place within Second Temple literature. A close examination of the methods, effects, and motives of scriptural reuse that are evident within the Gog oracles reveals that these chapters are a unified composition that was crafted as a supplement to a book of Ezekiel, in order to fill gaps in the book's message and to harmonize the book with other traditions of prophetic revelation.

Galvin, Garrett

Egypt as a Place of Refuge

Volume 51
2011. XV, 230 pages.

ISBN 9783161508165
sewn paper 74,00 €

ISBN 9783161511493
eBook PDF 74,00 €

The Old Testament often presents Egypt as a place of bondage, but the picture is not monolithic. Upon closer examination, one can argue that many biblical figures flee to Egypt as a place of refuge. Garrett Galvin examines biblical texts from a number of different time periods (1 Kgs 11:14–12:24; Jeremiah 46; Matt 2:13–15, 19–21) in order to highlight the importance of literary genre for understanding the phenomenon of Egypt as a place of refuge in the Old Testament. For his study of Egypt the author focuses on the broad sweep of ancient Near Eastern history through literary, historical, and textual criticism of selected texts. His aim in doing so is to draw the reader's attention to the complexity of Egypt in the Bible and to help understanding the situation of refugees in the Bible. He also highlights the evolving relationship between Israel and Egypt as well as the influence of the ancient Near East on Israel.

Hundley, Michael B.

Keeping Heaven on Earth

Safeguarding the Divine Presence in the Priestly Tabernacle

Volume 50
2011. XVI, 250 pages.

ISBN 9783161506970
sewn paper 74,00 €

ISBN 9783161511486
eBook PDF 74,00 €

Michael B. Hundley examines the Priestly system designed to keep heaven on earth – more specifically, to secure and safeguard the divine presence at the heart of the Israelite community—through a comprehensive analysis of its constituent parts. His study examines how the Priestly writers describe the nature of divine presence, elicit that presence and prepare for its arrival, and maintain it through regular service and damage control rites. Rather than comparing individual Priestly rites in isolation from their surrounding contexts, his work compares the Priestly system with various ancient Near Eastern systems (Egyptian, Mesopotamian, Hittite, and Syro-Palestinian). Using a multifaceted approach, Hundley reveals the genius of the Priestly writers lies not in their total originality but in their ability to co-opt elements present in the surrounding cultures and adapt them to serve their own rhetorical purposes.

Pilger, Tanja

Erziehung im Leiden

Komposition und Theologie der Elihureden in Hiob 32–37

Volume 49
2010. X, 275 pages.

ISBN 9783161506116
sewn paper 74,00 €
ISBN 9783161511479
eBook PDF 74,00 €

Based on a precise analysis of the Elihu speeches, Tanja Pilger shows their redaction-critical composition and describes a theology according to the different topics mentioned by Elihu. The concept of the divine as a merciful redeemer and the understanding of suffering as education can be regarded as unique concepts in the Elihu speeches. These are combined with the appearance of a merciful angel mediating between suffering mankind and God intending humankind's redemption. Furthermore, the Elihu speeches shed light on the idea of God's justice and righteousness as well as on the concept of God as the creator and humankind as God's creature. The Elihu speeches can be seen as the first theological debate and reflection on Job and his fate.

Suriano, Matthew J.

The Politics of Dead Kings

Dynastic Ancestors in the Book of Kings and Ancient Israel

Volume 48
2010. XVI, 211 pages.

ISBN 9783161504730
sewn paper 69,00 €
ISBN 9783161511462
eBook PDF 69,00 €

In the narrative of Israel and Judah found in the Book of Kings, the end of a king's rule is summed up in a series of stock statements that begin with the poetic idiom for death: »and [the king] lay with his fathers.« The summary statements all revolve around the problem of royal death and succession, encapsulated in a brief epilogue that consisted typically of a notice of burial (in the royal tombs) and the introduction of the successor. As such, the formulaic statements conveyed royal legitimacy through the ideals of political continuity and the linear descent of power. The formulaic epilogues reflected the importance of funerary rituals and royal tombs in their ability to confront the political problem posed by a king's death and the subsequent act of dynastic succession. This political ideology found in the epilogues of Kings was consistent with the political landscape of the Levant during the Iron Age.

Saxegaard, Kristin Moen

Character Complexity in the Book of Ruth

Kristin Moen Saxegaard demonstrates how character complexity is portrayed in the Old Testament, exemplified by the Book of Ruth. Each character in the story has its specific voice which raises a particular topic; Naomi proclaims her bitterness, Boaz is the merry character, Ruth stresses that she is a foreigner, and Yahweh is silent. Thus, character complexity generates theological themes, such as the problem of being a foreigner, and the question of God's silence. The interaction between the characters' voices elaborates multiple and nuanced perspectives to these themes which offer new approaches and alternative answers to the reading of Ruth. The biblical characters stand as examples of how certain problems are dealt with in the biblical literature, and, to the modern reader, they might stand as an example of how real life is as well.

Volume 47
2010. XV, 240 pages.

ISBN 9783161503856
sewn paper 74,00 €
ISBN 9783161511455
eBook PDF 74,00 €

Driver, Daniel R.

Brevard Childs, Biblical Theologian

For the Church's One Bible

Volume 46
2010. XIV, 328 pages.

ISBN 9783161503689
sewn paper 89,00 €
ISBN 9783161511448
eBook PDF 89,00 €

In pursuit of the oneness of scripture's scope, Brevard Childs (1923–2007) ranged across the Christian Bible, writing Introductions to the Old and New Testaments before attempting a landmark Biblical Theology of the same. For him the canon is a christological rule of faith, though perceiving the »family resemblance« in its historic formation and impress in the life of the church as well as, mysteriously, the synagogue, is always a great struggle. Yet Childs' argument for final form exegesis rose out of his form-critical training: Hermann Gunkel is a crucial antecedent. Childs' work has been much discussed, and in the wake of James Barr's criticism much misunderstood. Driver gives its total profile for the first time, from its background and controversy to its later development, analyzing all published titles and filling out this record with a number of previously unseen letters and papers.

Radine, Jason

The Book of Amos in Emergent Judah

Recent developments in the study of ancient Near Eastern prophecy, as well as new archaeological models of the development of ancient Judah and Israel, have significant implications for biblical prophetic literature. Jason Radine proposes a reassessment of the book of Amos in light of these developments. In comparison with the evidence for prophecy in the ancient Near East (including ancient Israel), biblical prophetic literature stands out as a distinctly different phenomenon. The author proposes that the book of Amos is not a work of »prophecy« as the phenomenon is known from the ancient Near East, but rather a religio-political document explaining and justifying the withdrawal of divine favor from the northern kingdom. The book of Amos uses lamentation language to describe the Assyrian conquest of Israel, but also makes social justice accusations that justify the northern kingdom's destruction.

Volume 45
2010. XII, 270 pages.

ISBN 9783161501142
sewn paper 74,00 €
ISBN 9783161511431
eBook PDF 74,00 €

Radebach-Huonker, Christiane

Opferterminologie im Psalter

Volume 44
2010. IX, 276 pages.

ISBN 9783161504334
sewn paper 74,00 €

ISBN 9783161511424
eBook PDF 74,00 €

Sacrifice terminology in the psalms differs substantially from that in the priestly texts and in prophetic cult criticism. The meaning of sacrifice derived from these makes it clear that the psalms go their own way in their perception and interpretation of sacrifice. The reason for the new definition of sacrifice was the templeless era during the Babylonian exile and the unchanged diaspora situation with the Second Temple as a new religious centre. This made it necessary to redefine the relationship between the cult of material sacrifice, prayer and praising God. The psalm poets were not searching for an alternative to the official cult of the Second Temple, even if a certain distance to this was apparent. The fact that the authors of the psalms remained a part of the official cult and set their own priorities is expressed in the psalms by the preference given to offerings of thanks or votive offering as well as by the particular emphasis on the offering of praise to God and the personal relationship between the individual and God in the form of spiritualized sacrifices.

Mayfield, Tyler D.

Literary Structure and Setting in Ezekiel

Volume 43
2010. XI, 236 pages.

ISBN 9783161502729
sewn paper 69,00 €

ISBN 9783161511417
eBook PDF 69,00 €

Historically, form critical studies of prophetic literature have answered mainly historical questions. However, scholars recently have begun to address literary topics as well. This study of the book of Ezekiel addresses two such topics—literary structure and literary setting—in order to read Ezekiel as a deliberate work of literature, a prophetic composition with a highly-structured form and an intentional placement of units. Mayfield provides a discussion of the role of literary markers in structure and proposes a literary structure of the book based on two formulas: the chronological formula, which divides the book into 13 macrounits, and the prophetic word formula. Then, the author argues for contextual readings of selected Ezekiel passages using literary structure to highlight literary settings. One of these contextual readings presents the unlikely macrounits, Ezek 24–25 and Ezek 32:17–33:20, as transitional units within the book.

Kerr, Robert M.

Latino-Punic Epigraphy

A Descriptive Study of the Inscriptions

Volume 42
2010. XVI, 253 pages.

ISBN 9783161511400
eBook PDF 79,00 €

Robert M. Kerr presents a complete edition of all known Latino (and Graeco)-Punic inscriptions along with a detailed, comparative grammatical analysis, esp. with regard to phonology and orthographic practice. Several texts are presented here for the first time. These texts from Roman-era Tripolitania (the first centuries A.D.) render Punic systematically, although written with Latin graphemes. Until now they have been largely neglected by Semitists. They thus provide, among other things, fully vocalised material, unusual for alphabetically written Semitic languages, which can provide us with insight into the historical and diachronic development of the (North-West) Semitic languages, esp. biblical Hebrew. At the same time, these texts are also interesting epigraphic texts documenting the spread of the Punic language into the African interior. A glossary and comprehensive indices help make this work accessible for reference purposes.

Green, Douglas J.

»I Undertook Great Works«

The Ideology of Domestic Achievements in West Semitic Royal Inscriptions

Volume 41
2010. XV, 358 pages.

ISBN 9783161501685
sewn paper 94,00 €

ISBN 9783161511394
eBook PDF 94,00 €

Traditionally, scholars study ancient Near Eastern royal inscriptions to reconstruct the events they narrate. In recent decades, however, a new approach has analyzed these inscriptions as products of royal ideology and has delineated the way that ideology has shaped their narration of historical events. This ideologically-sensitive approach has focused on kings' accounts of their military campaigns. This study applies this approach to the narration of royal *domestic* achievements, first in the Neo-Assyrian inscriptional tradition, but especially in nine West Semitic inscriptions from the 10th to 7th centuries B.C.E. and describes how these accounts also function as the products of royal ideology.

Dyma, Oliver

Die Wallfahrt zum Zweiten Tempel

Untersuchungen zur Entwicklung der Wallfahrtsfeste in vorhasmonäischer Zeit



Volume 40
2009. XIV, 393 pages.

ISBN 9783161497728
sewn paper 94,00 €
ISBN 9783161511387
eBook PDF 94,00 €

Oliver Dyma investigates whether pilgrims from all over the world came to Jerusalem on the occasion of the three pilgrimage festivals Passah, Shavuot and Sukkoth prior to the time of the Hasmoneans. He begins by examining the cult calendars, as they are the normative foundation for the development of a pilgrimage practice. Analyzing the Passah accounts in Chronicles and the retrospection found in the book of Tobit, he draws some conclusions regarding when these works were written. Both share an interest in the pilgrims who came from the north. However, pilgrimages from abroad were not common at that time. It is hardly possible to consider the psalms of ascent (Ps 120–134) as an historical source. Oliver Dyma shows that there were not many pilgrims in pre-Hasmonean times, and substantiates this by analyzing the terminology related to pilgrimages.

Uhlig, Torsten

The Theme of Hardening in the Book of Isaiah

An Analysis of Communicative Action

Volume 39
2009. XV, 423 pages.

ISBN 9783161501432
sewn paper 109,00 €
ISBN 9783161511370
eBook PDF 109,00 €

»Make the heart of this people dull, and their ears heavy, and blind their eyes; lest they see with their eyes, and hear with their hearts and turn and be healed.« This call of the prophet Isaiah in Isaiah 6 has perplexed readers of all times. Torsten Uhlig reconsiders this text and other related passages. Applying a communicative approach and engaging with recent studies on righteousness, the author presents a new interpretation of the theme of hardening in the Book of Isaiah. He argues that hardening is to be understood in the context of the communicative aspect of righteousness and elucidates the communicative acts involved in the hardening of the people. Describing the role of these passages within the communicative strategy of larger units, this monograph offers a distinctive contribution to the interpretation of the Book of Isaiah as a whole.

Orakel und Gebete

Interdisziplinäre Studien zur Sprache der Religion in Ägypten, Vorderasien und Griechenland in hellenistischer Zeit

Hrsg. v. Markus Witte u. Johannes F. Diehl

Volume 38
2009. X, 303 pages.

ISBN 9783161500442
sewn paper 69,00 €
ISBN 9783161511363
eBook PDF 69,00 €

This volume deals with the two basic forms of religious communication in antiquity. The first of these is prayer, which can be seen as an appeal and an expression of gratitude, a lament and praise, addressed to God or the gods by human beings. The second is the oracle, which can be seen as the discourse of a deity which is imparted by humans and which predicts the future. The authors examine these from the perspective of Egyptology, Ancient Oriental studies, Biblical studies and Classics. They focus on Hellenism as an era of an intense cultural encounter between the Orient and the Occident and the changes in intellectual and literary history associated with this which were also reflected in religions and their forms of language. Thus the articles in this volume provide a general view of the forms and structures of oracles and prayers in Hellenistic Egypt, the Near East, Israel and Greece as well as some interpretations of selected sources.

Blair, Judit

De-Demonising the Old Testament

An Investigation of Azazel, Lilith, Deber, Qeteb and Reshef in the Hebrew Bible

Volume 37
2009. XVI, 266 pages.

ISBN 9783161501319
sewn paper 74,00 €
ISBN 9783161511356
eBook PDF 74,00 €

Judit M. Blair challenges the common view that *azazel*, *lilith*, *deber*, *qeteb* and *reshef* are names of 'demons' in the Hebrew Bible, claiming that major works on the subject proceed from the assumption that these terms were demons in the ancient Near East and /or later, or that they were deities who became 'demonised' by the authors of the Hebrew Bible. Without questioning the validity of traditional methods she supplements the existing works by making an exegesis based on a close reading of all the relevant texts of the Hebrew Bible in which these five terms occur. Close attention is paid to the linguistic, semantic, and structural levels of the texts. The emphasis is on a close examination of the immediate context in order to determine the function of each term. The author notes different signals within the texts, especially the use of the various poetical/rhetorical devices: personification, parallelism, similes, irony, and mythological elements.

de Hulster, Izaak J.

Iconographic Exegesis and Third Isaiah



Mohr Siebeck

Volume 36
2009. XV, 353 pages.

ISBN 9783161500299
sewn paper 89,00 €
ISBN 9783161511349
eBook PDF 89,00 €

Although scholars employ pictorial material in biblical exegesis, the question of how images from the Ancient Near East can contribute to a better understanding of the Bible has been left unanswered. This is the first monograph to outline a historical method for iconographic exegesis. The methodological study includes both responses to important theoretical questions such as »What is an image?« and »What is culture?« and an interdisciplinary exploration of issues of history, art history, archaeology and cultural anthropology. The three-stage method proposed is embedded in hermeneutical and exegetical reflections. The application of iconographical exegesis to the interpretation of metaphors is also considered. In demonstrating the method and its application, Izaak J. de Hulster focuses on Third Isaiah and develops three iconographical exegetical studies on *yad* in Isaiah 56:5, light in Isaiah 60 and grape processing in Isaiah 63.

The Dynamics of Language and Exegesis at Qumran

Ed. by Devorah Dimant and Reinhard Gregor Kratz

Volume 35
2009. VIII, 226 pages.

ISBN 9783161498497
sewn paper 64,00 €
ISBN 9783161511332
eBook PDF 64,00 €

The discovery of the Qumran scrolls sixty years ago revolutionized our understanding of the development and exegesis of the Hebrew Bible. It became clear that both are mutually involved processes which started during the final stages of the Hebrew Bible and went on until its final canonization around 100 CA. Dated as they are between 300 BCE – 50 CA, the Qumran documents are placed precisely at the crucial stages of these developments. The recent publication of the entire collection of the scrolls illuminates these stages and opens new vistas on the early exegesis of the Hebrew Bible and its dynamics. In this volume, the authors deal with these issues in the light of the new material. Several articles trace the development from inner biblical interpretation to its follow-up in the scrolls and other ancient Jewish writings. Other contributions examine how various biblical narratives and figures are interpreted by the scrolls. The exegetical technique of the Pesharim, the particular interpretation of the biblical prophets, nurtured by the owners of the Qumran scrolls, is the subject of other discussions, while the relationship of the Book of Tobit and Qumran is the object of two of the studies in this volume.

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Beyond Eden

The Biblical Story of Paradise (Genesis 2–3) and Its Reception History

Ed. by Konrad Schmid and Christoph Riedweg

Volume 34
2008. XIV, 293 pages.

ISBN 9783161496462
sewn paper 79,00 €
ISBN 9783161511325
eBook PDF 79,00 €

The biblical story of paradise (Genesis 2–3) is probably one of the best known texts in world literature. It has had a rich reception history over many centuries. Genesis 2–3 formulates fundamental premises and problems of human self-understanding in the Western world. The biblical text of Genesis 2–3 itself has almost been buried under its traditional interpretations. In the Christian realm, it is commonly known as the story of Adam, Eve, the apple, the fall and the punishment of humankind with mortality. However, only Eve is really present in the biblical text, all the other elements are the result of a productive history of reception in later periods. The forbidden fruit is never identified in terms of botany. It was the Latin reception history that transformed it into an apple (*malum*), because evil (*malum*) came into the world through it. The so-called fall is not described in terms of sin in Genesis 2–3, since sin is mentioned for the first time in the Bible in Genesis 4:6–7, and the first human beings are made mortal from the very beginning, as their formation out of dust and the formulation of Gen. 2:16–17 as a traditional legal sentence implying death penalty indicate. Thus the penalty for eating from the forbidden fruit is death, not mortality. However, the meaning of the story has been substantially transformed in this point throughout the centuries, and it is claimed that mortality is the result of the fall. The authors of this volume explain both the theological profiles of the biblical text and its consequences. Its contributions stem from the fields of Biblical Studies, Religious Studies, Art History, Jewish Studies, Classical Studies, the History of Christianity and Philosophy.

Survey of contents

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Divine Wrath and Divine Mercy in the World of Antiquity

Ed. by Reinhard Gregor Kratz and Hermann Spieckermann

Volume 33
2008. VIII, 279 pages.

ISBN 9783161498206
sewn paper 34,00 €

ISBN 9783161511318
eBook PDF 34,00 €

Wrath and mercy of the gods were some of the significant religious features in antiquity. They interpret human experiences of suffering and affliction as well as those of protection and welfare. Due to the different characters and responsibilities of the deities, a remarkable range of constellations of divine benevolence and malevolence becomes evident, sometimes without allowing insight into the motives of the decisions made. This is why the actions of the gods are often viewed as emotional and arbitrary, lacking any degree of transparency. Consequently, the gods are subjected to philosophical and theological criticism. They are regarded by some as unreliable and obscure in any case, while others launch an attack on them, questioning their existence. The relationship between divine wrath and mercy requires a great deal of perception in the monotheistic religions, as it is no longer possible to attribute wrath and mercy to different deities. Wrath and mercy become characteristic features of one god only. In all monotheistic religions, it is a matter of theological concern to question the relationship between wrath and mercy on the basis of authoritative texts and religious experience. The comparison of these approaches provides valuable information on the very essence of the religions investigated from this central perspective.

Survey of contents

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Hermann Spieckermann: Wrath and Mercy as Crucial Terms of Theological Hermeneutics

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Løland, Hanne

Silent or Salient Gender?

The Interpretation of Gendered God-Language in the Hebrew Bible, Exemplified in Isaiah 42, 46, and 49

Volume 32
2008. XIV, 224 pages.

ISBN 9783161497056
sewn paper 69,00 €

ISBN 9783161511301
eBook PDF 69,00 €

Hanne Løland studies gendered god-language in the Hebrew Bible. She offers a theoretical framework that is helpful for the interpretation of biblical language used in reference to God and for the broader theological and scholarly debate on God and gender. One of the main questions Løland discusses is whether and how *gender* is salient – that is, of significance – when gendered god-language occurs in a text. This is a new line of questioning in Hebrew Bible research, which so far has been mostly concerned with mapping the occurrences of feminine god-language. The question of gender significance is debated both in theoretical discussions on God, gender and language, and in three case studies (Isa 42:13–14, 46:3–4, and 49:14–15). These texts are chosen primarily because of today's research situation, where there has been a claim that Isa 40–55 (or 40–66) differs from the rest of the Hebrew Bible in its use of feminine god-language. Løland argues that there is in principle no difference between god-language formulated in similes or metaphors. Further, there is no significant difference between male and female god-language in the Hebrew Bible. These findings are also relevant for the contemporary debate concerning god-language in academia, church, and synagogue.

This volume was recognized with the John Templeton Award for Theological Promise in 2008.

Häggglund, Fredrik

Isaiah 53 in the Light of Homecoming after Exile



Volume 31
2008. X, 200 pages.

ISBN 9783161497735
sewn paper 34,00 €
ISBN 9783161511295
eBook PDF 34,00 €

In this study, Fredrik Häggglund presents an interpretation based on a hypothesis that conflicts emerged between the people in the land of Israel and those who returned from exile. He analyzes these conflicts with the help of contemporary refugee studies, other texts of the Old Testament, and also relevant passages in Isa 40–55. At the end of the exile, there was hope that the deported people would return to Israel, that it would be rebuilt, and that Jerusalem would again flourish. This hope is most clearly expressed in Isa 40:1–52:10. However, as time went by, there was a realization that the envisaged glorious return was in reality a rather limited return, and the joy of receiving those who returned had turned into conflicts, not least regarding the possession of land and the availability of places to live. In this situation, someone probably reflected on the message of Isa 40:1–52:10 and sought to understand what had gone wrong. Isa 53 was then inserted as an explanation of how the people in the land of Israel, i.e. the »we,« should have received those who returned, i.e. the servant. If this embrace had taken place, Mother Zion would have rejoiced, as described in Isa 54. Instead of these pictures painted for us in Isa 53 and 54, we encounter the reality of the conflicts described in Isa 56–66.

Turkanik, Andrzej S.

Of Kings and Reigns

A Study of Translation Technique in the Gamma/Gamma Section of 3 Reigns (1 Kings)

Volume 30
2008. XIV, 231 pages.

ISBN 9783161495410
sewn paper 89,00 €
ISBN 9783161511288
eBook PDF 89,00 €

In this study, Andrzej S. Turkanik examines the question of translation technique in the gamma/gamma-section (2.11–21.43) of 3 Reigns (1 Kings) in the Septuagint. There exists a number of differences between the main textual witnesses, that is the Masoretic Text on the one hand, and the Old Greek translation on the other. These include additions, omissions, reorganisation of the material, as well as grammatical and syntactical differences between the Old Greek translation and the Masoretic Text. These differences have an effect on how the Greek text should be understood and interpreted. Before studies on a literary level can be carried out on the text, the practice of textual criticism helps to determine the status of the material being dealt with. Since the section under consideration has been considered the work of one translator, it provides the possibility of investigating the translator's style of working. This study consists of a careful investigation of the text in both Greek and Hebrew in order to identify and categorise the differences between the Old Greek and the Masoretic Text. The author discusses and decides the evidence on a case-by-case basis. He proposes a profile of the translator's work and asks questions about the reliability of the Septuagint version of the text for the recovery of the original text of 1 Kings.

Bäckersten, Olof

Isaiah's Political Message

An Appraisal of His Alleged Social Critique

Volume 29
2008. VIII, 231 pages.

ISBN 9783161496370
sewn paper 74,00 €
ISBN 9783161511271
eBook PDF 74,00 €

Scholars have traditionally identified two fundamental, and somewhat separate, discourses in Isaiah 1–39. In what might be labelled the social-critical discourse, we supposedly encounter a prophet who condemns the Jerusalemite elite for their complacent attitudes and decadent life-style in general, and for their more or less systematic oppression of the less fortunate in particular. This lack of social justice, Isaiah emphasises, will indeed be punished by YHWH. In the discourse that might preferably be labelled foreign-political, scholars have found that the prophet repeatedly discourages Judahite participation in anti-Assyrian rebellions, since such strategies are offensive to YHWH and their plans will therefore come to nothing. Olof Bäckersten presents an attempt to question the existence of a social-critical discourse in Isaiah 1–39. He argues that the texts that have been proffered as proofs for such a discourse relate instead, with surprisingly few although notable exceptions, to the critique of Judah's anti-Assyrian policy. The result of this investigation has implications for our understanding of the book of Isaiah as a whole. A social-critical emphasis can only be detected in Isaiah 1 and Isaiah 56–66, whereas Isaiah 2–39(55) provides variations on a foreign-political theme in the sense that the focus falls on the relationship between nations in general and Judah's position on the international arena in particular.

Lund, Øystein

Way Metaphors and Way Topics in Isaiah 40–55

Volume 28
2007. XV, 331 pages.

ISBN 9783161490873
sewn paper 79,00 €
ISBN 9783161511264
eBook PDF 79,00 €

Øystein Lund gives a new approach to texts in Isaiah 40–55 that deal with ways and desert transformation. Earlier exegesis has mainly read these texts in a literal way. In recent years, exegetes have pointed out that the so-called 'exodus texts' should rather be interpreted metaphorically. The author supports this, and accordingly seeks to continue this discourse by systematizing, intensifying, and deepening the argumentation for a metaphorical reading. He argues that most of the way-texts in Isaiah 40–55 are interrelated, and gradually contribute to explore questions regarding the way-situation of the people. The way-theme appears in the prologue, and in 40:27 a problem approach is established when the people is addressed: »How can you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, 'My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right passes by my God'«? Several subsequent way-texts are related to this text, and together these draw a coherent picture in which the problematic way-situation of the people in the past and present is transformed. JHWH establishes new ways in which he leads his people through their difficult landscape. Øystein Lund argues that such a coherent reading of the way-texts gives good meaning, which is consistent with the over all message of Isaiah 40–55.

Petry, Sven

Die Entgrenzung JHWHs

Monolatrie, Bilderverbot und Monotheismus im Deuteronomium, in Deuteronesaja und im Ezechielbuch

Volume 27
2007. XIII, 463 pages.

ISBN 9783161494512
sewn paper 109,00 €
ISBN 9783161511257
eBook PDF 109,00 €

The origins and the development of biblical monotheism are the subject of an ongoing scholarly debate. For the last three decades, this has broadened our insight into the development of the Israelite religion and its literature. However, up to now there has been little consensus on this subject. Based on an analysis of the relevant biblical texts themselves, this volume explores the development of the JHWH religion from the de facto monolatrie of preexilic times to the monolatrie program of Deuteronomy and the well thought-out monotheism in Second Isaiah. It also takes a look at its reception in Second Temple Judaism as described in the Book of Ezekiel, and depicts the breaking down of JHWH's confines from his being regarded as a local deity, then to a local dynasty, a people and finally to the belief that the God of Israel is the only God of heaven and earth.

Blischke, Mareike Verena

Die Eschatologie in der Sapientia Salomonis

Volume 26
2007. XI, 309 pages.

ISBN 9783161494598
sewn paper 79,00 €
ISBN 9783161511240
eBook PDF 79,00 €

Eschatology is a central issue in the Wisdom of Solomon. In the first part of her study, Mareike Verena Blischke reconstructs the literary development of this work. In the second exegetical part, she deals with the main eschatological topics, showing their relationship to each other and to the stages of development in the Wisdom of Solomon. In the third part of this work, she tries to shed more light on the religious context of the Wisdom of Solomon by comparing it to the writings of Philo and the Jewish tomb inscriptions in Egypt and Palestine.

Nihan, Christophe

From Priestly Torah to Pentateuch

A Study in the Composition of the Book of Leviticus

Volume 25
2007. XVIII, 697 pages.

ISBN 9783161511233
eBook PDF 139,00 €

Christophe Nihan investigates the composition history of Leviticus, considered as a separate 'book' in the Torah/Pentateuch. In order to account for the distinct nature of the text, the author combines redaction criticism with comparative observations, cross-cultural studies in rituals, and inner-biblical exegesis. His analysis focuses on the sources used by the authors of Leviticus and the way in which they are re-interpreted in what is primarily a literary composition; on the book's relationship to the so-called 'priestly' literature in the Pentateuch; and, finally, on the place of Leviticus in the composition of the Torah as a whole. In particular, it is argued that Leviticus 1–16 (except for chapter 10) was initially composed as the conclusion to the priestly narrative in Genesis and Exodus. It reinterprets earlier ritual texts serving as check-lists for priests, transforming them into a revelation made to Moses on Mt Sinai for the whole community and thereby achieving the sacerdotal ideal of Israel as the 'priestly nation' of the world. Thus, reinterpretation of earlier sources in Lev 1–16 goes hand in hand with a redefinition of the community's identity that betrays the specific concerns of the priestly scribes in Jerusalem under Persian rule, probably during the reign of Darius I. The introduction of Lev 17–26 (27), for its part, betrays an entirely distinct historical and literary context. Through the systematic reception of Deuteronomy on one hand and the 'Book of the Covenant' (Ex 21–23) on the other, an attempt is made to close the revelation on Mt Sinai with a legislation that bridges the gap between P and other biblical codes at the time of the Torah's composition.

Bester, Dörte

Körperbilder in den Psalmen

Studien zu Psalm 22 und verwandten Texten

Volume 24
2007. XIII, 304 pages.

ISBN 9783161493614
sewn paper 69,00 €
ISBN 9783161578403
eBook PDF 69,00 €

Body images are a central element in the imagery of the Psalms. Using Psalm 22 as an example, Dörte Bester explains the significance of individual body images and their function in the procedure of prayer. After a text-critical, compositional and a literary analysis of Psalm 22, in which the author also deals with the »praying speaker« as a subject of the Psalm, the author focuses on an interpretation of the Psalm in which the emphasis is placed on the statements which refer to the body. Further Old Testament texts, in particular from Job and the Psalter, are used to add an additional dimension to these body images. The author shows that those processes which determine the dynamics of lamentation and supplication, praise and gratitude are depicted on the body of the »praying speaker.«



Eberhardt, Gönke

JHWH und die Unterwelt

Spuren einer Kompetenzausweitung JHWHs im Alten Testament

Volume 23
2007. XII, 450 pages.

ISBN 9783161493065
sewn paper 109,00 €

ISBN 9783161578410
eBook PDF 109,00 €

The Old Testament connects the God of Israel with the underworld in very different ways. Whereas the underworld seems to be a place which is completely remote from God in some texts, in other passages it is seen as something into which the power of God extends effectively. Gönke Eberhardt describes four parallel developments in Israel's religious history within whose context the understanding of God and the underworld changed: ranging from JHWH as a God who literally has no contact with death and the underworld to a God whose realm of power also includes the underworld and who leads into the underworld and then out again. For this thesis, the author was awarded the 2007 Lucas Prize for Young Scholars.

Gulde, Stefanie U.

Der Tod als Herrscher in Ugarit und Israel

Volume 22
2007. XIV, 283 pages.

ISBN 9783161492143
sewn paper 74,00 €

ISBN 9783161511202
eBook PDF 74,00 €

Human beings have always been interested in the phenomenon of »death«. Since no living person can have any knowledge about death itself, the exchange of information on this subject in all cultures and eras has largely been in pictures, and in particular metaphors. Using the phenomenon of »death« as an example, Stefanie Ulrike Gulde studies the special possibilities provided by pictorial language in the Old Testament. All the figures which symbolize death, whether as a glutton, an intruder or a robber, a shepherd or a partner in the covenant, have one thing in common: death is always shown as a ruler. As expected, this attribute reflects the helplessness of human beings where death and dying are concerned.

Sager, Dirk

Polyphonie des Elends

Psalms 9/10 im konzeptionellen Diskurs und literarischen Kontext

Volume 21
2006. XI, 294 pages.

ISBN 9783161490880
sewn paper 89,00 €

ISBN 9783161511196
eBook PDF 89,00 €

Dirk Sager sees Psalm 9/10 as a defining text which puts the existing expressions of prayer into a dialectical concept and interprets them as the voices of the 'poor and the wretched'. In these however the authors refer to older psalms in which the persons at prayer do not call themselves 'wretched and poor'. As a result, the conventional line of tradition which was known as the 'piety of the poor' turns out to be an integral part of Israel's religious history. The author compares the double Psalm with the drafts of psalms, prophecy and wisdom which originated at about the same time and had similar concepts and shows that it was written during the transition from the Persian to the Hellenistic epoch of post-exilic Judah.

Wilke, Alexa Friederike

Kronerben der Weisheit

Gott, König und Frommer in der didaktischen Literatur Ägyptens und Israels

Volume 20
2006. X, 334 pages.

ISBN 9783161489709
sewn paper 79,00 €

ISBN 9783161578441
eBook PDF 79,00 €

A study of the Old Testament proverbs and selected teachings of the Middle Kingdom of Egypt shows that the king of wisdom is the mediator between God and human beings. It is in the person of the king that a human being seeking wisdom, the order that is to be found and protected, and the God who creates this order are united. Alexa F. Wilke examines the interdependences among royal traditions in ancient oriental wisdom and also makes thematic and structural comparisons. She does a critical evaluation of the theories on the cosmic order of wisdom and her study of the proverbs provides a contribution to the discussion on the composition of this collection of aphorisms.



Tiemeyer, Lena-Sofia

Priestly Rites and Prophetic Rage

Post-Exilic Prophetic Critique of the Priesthood

Volume 19
2006. XVII, 318 pages.

ISBN 9783161490590
sewn paper 79,00 €

ISBN 9783161578434
eBook PDF 79,00 €

Although Judah's prophets and priests often stood united in their concerns for the cult, many prophetic texts from the 6th and the 5th century BC testify to a major disagreement between them as to how to worship God. Lena-Sofia Tiemeyer analyzes the critique of the priests as found in the prophetic texts from that period. In these texts, the prophets accused the priests of misdemeanours in both the cultic and the social realm. The author further explores how the same prophets envisioned a more righteous priesthood. The earlier promises in Isaiah 40–55 form the background of this critique. Much of the post-exilic prophetic literature sought to explain the non-fulfilment of these promises. The author shows that the shared focus of most of these explanations is a culpable priesthood. She further demonstrates a different picture of the post-exilic priesthood from the one often previously assumed. Rather than attributing cultic monolatry to the post-exilic priests, reformed through their suffering following the destruction of Jerusalem, she shows that the emerging new clergy were not so very different from their pre-exilic predecessors. In addition, in contrast to the common assumption that the prophetic literature displays contradictory views, the author stresses the similarity between the thoughts and ideas displayed throughout Isaiah 56–66, Haggai, Zechariah 1–8 and Malachi.

Hibbard, J. Todd

Intertextuality in Isaiah 24–27

The Reuse and Evocation of Earlier Texts and Traditions

Volume 16
2006. IX, 248 pages.

ISBN 9783161490279
sewn paper 74,00 €

ISBN 9783161578472
eBook PDF 74,00 €

J. Todd Hibbard examines the way in which Isaiah 24–27 reuses earlier texts and traditions as part of its literary strategy. He analyzes those literary connections under the rubric of intertextuality, an idea taken over from modern literary studies. Intertextuality is normally recognized as describing an orientation to one or more texts, but does not define a particular methodology. Moreover, because intertextuality is a term that is used in biblical studies in a variety of ways, the first part of this work seeks to define a methodology based on an intertextual approach that is useful for studying prophetic texts. This methodology attempts to understand the ways in which an ancient author may have appropriated an earlier text in a new composition. It requires that texts share common vocabulary and themes, be chronologically possible, and exegetically meaningful to be a true intertextual connection. In terms of literary technique, the author recognizes that intertextual connections may be forged through citations, allusions, and echoes. Finally, he considers several possible purposes for such intertextual connections. The major exegetical categories for understanding the intertextual connections noted in Isaiah 24–27 include texts which universalize earlier judgment passages, texts which universalize earlier restoration and salvation passages, and texts which respond to earlier prophetic texts that are considered unfulfilled.

Basson, Alec

Divine Metaphors in Selected Hebrew Psalms of Lamentation

Volume 15
2006. XII, 280 pages.

ISBN 9783161488542
sewn paper 74,00 €

ISBN 9783161578458
eBook PDF 74,00 €

In this book, Alec Basson examines the divine metaphors in a selection of biblical Hebrew Psalms of Lamentation from a cognitive-anthropological perspective. The study signals a move beyond the more traditional approaches to the Psalms and argues that the textual information in these poems is more than literary information as such; it is also a cognitive representation of the psalmist's world. The divine portrayals arise from the supplicant's cognitive organisation and utilisation of cultural information, which include the everyday experiences. In situations of affliction, the poet employs various cognitive strategies viz. cultural models, image-schemas and conceptual metaphors as a means of portraying the deity. The exploration illustrates the link between the psalmist's cultural experience, cognitive construal of reality and the metaphorical representations. The utilisation of the different cognitive tools gives rise to new and recurring images of the deity and accounts for the multiple depictions of Yahweh. The investigation arrives at the conclusion that, to appreciate fully the divine metaphors used in the Psalms of Lamentation, one has to examine the cognitive world of the poet.

Kakkanattu, Joy P.

God's Enduring Love in the Book of Hosea

A Synchronic and Diachronic Analysis of Hosea 11:1–11

Volume 14
2006. XV, 222 pages.

ISBN 9783161488863
sewn paper 69,00 €

ISBN 9783161578557
eBook PDF 69,00 €

Joy Philip Kakkanattu provides an exegetical and theological analysis of an important and difficult text of the Old Testament through a synchronic and diachronic reading. Detailed critical notes, which discuss the textual difficulties, accompany the translation of the text from Hebrew. In the detailed exegesis, special attention is given to study of the key terms theologically significant in Hos 11:1–11 against the context of the whole book. The exegesis shows that in Hos 11:8–9 it is not the repentance of Yahweh that causes the withholding of His anger against Israel, but Yahweh's constancy in His election of Israel as His son. More than a change of heart, the decision not to execute the deserved judgement witnesses Yahweh's divine nature. Special attention is dedicated to the parent metaphor employed in Hos 11:1–11. It is concluded that more than expressing the Yahweh-Israel relationship as a father-son relationship, the text speaks of it in terms of parent-child relationship. In the diachronic analysis, the author deals with the origin and formation of Hos 11:1–11.

Marttila, Marko

Collective Reinterpretation in the Psalms

A Study of the Redaction History of the Psalter

Volume 13
2006. IX, 275 pages.

ISBN 9783161488382
sewn paper 79,00 €

ISBN 9783161578465
eBook PDF 79,00 €

Marko Marttila reevaluates the extent and nature of the collective passages in the Psalter. Many of the complaint psalms written by an individual were reread at a later stage from a national point of view. In the altered religious, political and social circumstances, the earlier texts were reworked and reinterpreted so that they would comply more closely with the prevailing conditions. This collectivizing tendency probably began during the exile and continued until the final redaction of the Psalter (about 200–180 BCE). Collective features increased in late exilic and post-exilic theology even outside the Psalter. This can be seen in the national emphases in Lamentations, the nomistic theology of the Deuteronomistic history and the servant songs of Deutero-Isaiah. It even seems likely that the term *mashiach* (»the anointed«) has a collective reference in some passages. When the Davidic monarchy no longer existed, it was the people of Israel that became the recipient of the divine promises once given to David and his dynasty. Most of these ancient contributors are unknown to us, but the Hasideans at least may have played an important role in this process in its final stage, since there are some obvious passages where the Hasideans seem to represent the people of Israel exclusively.

Finlay, Timothy

The Birth Report Genre in the Hebrew Bible

Volume 12
2005. XI, 292 pages.

ISBN 9783161487453
sewn paper 79,00 €

ISBN 9783161578427
eBook PDF 79,00 €

Timothy D. Finlay integrates the disciplines of form criticism and narrative criticism in an analysis of the birth report genre in the Hebrew Bible. He first establishes the standard structure of the birth report as containing an introductory setting, a conception element, a birth element, a naming element, and an etiological element. There are typical formulae associated with each element. He then analyzes how the genre of the surrounding material – genealogical list, annunciation type-scene, account of prophetic symbolic actions – modifies the standard form of the birth report. Finally, he re-examines each individual narrative containing a birth report, paying particular attention to how the marked deviations from the standard pattern of a birth report contribute to the specific narratological aims of the larger passage.

Vos, Christiane de

Klage als Gotteslob aus der Tiefe

Der Mensch vor Gott in den individuellen Klagepsalmen

Volume 11
2005. X, 261 pages.

ISBN 9783161487002
sewn paper 69,00 €

ISBN 9783161578496
eBook PDF 69,00 €

Christiane de Vos examines the self-conception and the image of God conveyed by the person who is praying in the individual complaint psalms, the largest group of texts in the biblical Psalms. In order to understand the scope of the lament from a paradigmatic perspective, she begins with a cursory analysis of three very different individual complaint psalms (Ps 38, 56, 88). She then studies the linguistic phraseology and the theological ideas in the entire group of texts in order to provide a systematic description of the essential theological features of the relationship between God and human being as to be found in the individual complaints.

Medien im antiken Palästina

Materielle Kommunikation und Medialität als Thema der Palästinaarchäologie

Hrsg. v. Christian Frevel

Volume 10
2005. VIII, 276 pages.

ISBN 9783161485121
sewn paper 69,00 €

ISBN 9783161578588
eBook PDF 69,00 €

Does it make any sense to talk about 'the media of antiquity' or 'the media in antiquity', or is this an inappropriate modernism? Which term pertaining to the media is suitable for archaeology? Using the southern Levant, especially ancient Israel and Palestine as examples, the authors of the articles in this volume examine 'mediality', above all the 'mediality' of everyday material culture, and analyze the term 'media' to ascertain whether it can be applied to ancient communication structures. In addition to standard essays reflecting different concepts and terms of media, the work contains reflections on the 'media transfer' between Egypt and Palestine, and the authors use selected examples to study the mediality of burials, pictures on coins, seals, inscriptions and ornaments on buildings.

Wilson, Kevin A.

The Campaign of Pharaoh Shoshenq I into Palestine



Mohr Siebeck

Forschungen zum Alten Testament 2. Reihe
Last updated: 13/03/2024

Page 44 of 47

Volume 9
unrevised e-book edition 2019;
Original edition 2005 2005.
VIII, 151 pages.

ISBN 9783161578595
eBook PDF 54,00 €

The thesis of this book is that the campaign by Pharaoh Shoshenq I into Palestine in 926 B.C.E. was aimed solely at the kingdom of Judah with the purpose of supporting Jeroboam in his bid to rule Israel as a separate nation. The evidence for this campaign comes from the Hebrew Bible (1 Kgs 14:25–28; 2 Chr 12:1–12), a triumphal relief of Shoshenq at Karnak, and a fragment of a stele at Megiddo.

Prior studies have attempted to reconstruct the route of the Egyptian army's march through studies of the topographical list that accompanies the triumphal relief of Shoshenq. By contrast, Kevin Wilson examines several major examples of triumphal reliefs erected by pharaohs of the New Kingdom in order to understand the genre as a whole. After a survey of other Egyptian texts considered pertinent to the campaign, the rest of this study is devoted to an analysis of the biblical texts that record the attack. The data gleaned from these analyses are then used to reconstruct the aim and purpose of the campaign. The reconstruction offered suggests that Shoshenq made his attack as part of a concerted effort to bring disunity to the region through the support of Jeroboam, whom he had harbored as a political refugee from Solomon. This foreign policy led to Egypt's position vis-a-vis the southern Levant being greatly improved. It removed a powerful kingdom that could have been a threat to Egypt, left the nations of Palestine fighting among themselves, and provided Shoshenq with a vassal state in the region.

Widmer, Michael

Moses, God, and the Dynamics of Intercessory Prayer

A Study of Exodus 32–34 and Numbers 13–14

Volume 8
2004. XI, 403 pages.

ISBN 9783161484230
sewn paper 89,00 €

ISBN 9783161578519
eBook PDF 89,00 €

Michael Widmer reconsiders the significance of the canonical portrayal of Moses as intercessor in the aftermath of »documentary« pentateuchal criticism. Paying careful attention to both the diachronic and synchronic dimensions of the text, at the heart of this study is a close reading of Exodus 32–34 and Numbers 13–14 in their final form with particular focus on the nature and theological function of Moses' prayers. These intercessions evoke important theological questions, especially with regard to divine reputation, covenant loyalty, visitation, and mutability.

The author's investigation makes evident not only that Moses' prayers embody an important hermeneutical key to biblical theology, but also that Moses sets an important biblical paradigm for authentic prayer. Moreover, Michael Widmer argues that YHWH's fullest revelation of His name is enacted in a specific and concrete situation in the scout narrative (Nu. 13–14). Thus the latter stands as a kind of commentary on Exodus 34:6–7.

Süssenbach, Claudia

Der elohistische Psalter

Untersuchungen zu Komposition und Theologie von Ps 42–83

Volume 7
2005. X, 415 pages.

ISBN 9783161483561
sewn paper 104,00 €

ISBN 9783161578489
eBook PDF 104,00 €

Claudia Süssenbach deals with the composition and the theology of the so-called »Elohistic Psalter« (Ps 42–83). She examines the structure of the Psalter and, using the observations she has made, shows that the Elohistic Psalter was originally a separate composition. The second Psalter of David (Ps 51–72) is at the heart of this composition, and the book focuses on the analysis of this part in regard to its origins and its theological profile. The entire composition of the Elohistic Psalter reflects the paths in human lives and shows that even when humans think God is far away he remains close by to act as their savior.

Sals, Ulrike

Die Biographie der »Hure Babylon«

Studien zur Intertextualität der Babylon-Texte in der Bibel

Volume 6
2004. X, 567 pages.

ISBN 9783161484315
sewn paper 119,00 €

ISBN 9783161578571
eBook PDF 119,00 €

»Babylon« is a subject which has been dealt with explicitly in many biblical texts and has always been more than just a geographical entity. All the levels of »Babylon« have been dealt with differently in the various texts and do often blend together, in particular in Jer 50–51 and Rev 17–19, and then completely in the dominant European histories of reception. In detailed analyses of the various texts, Ulrike Sals shows how »Babylon« is depicted textually immanent and intertextual, since the biblical texts answer each other to such an extent that they provide a kind of biography of Babylon as a city or kingdom, woman and principle, as portrayed in Rev 17–19. In this work, the author makes an important contribution to the intertextuality debate on Old and New Testament texts as well as to the research on gender and the portrayal of cities.

Liess, Kathrin

Der Weg des Lebens

Psalm 16 und das Lebens- und Todesverständnis der Individualpsalmen

Volume 5
2004. XI, 504 pages.

ISBN 9783161483066
sewn paper 109,00 €

ISBN 9783161578564
eBook PDF 109,00 €

It was not until a long period of development had passed that the God of the Old Testament entered into a relationship with the dead and a hope for a life after death was beginning to develop. The individual Psalms are an important step along this path (the lamentations and hymns of thanksgiving by an individual, Psalms 16; 49 and 73). Kathrin Liess examines the concept of life and death in these Psalms as well as their contribution to the hope of life after death which found its expression in the resurrection texts in the late Old Testament era. Her study focuses on the exegesis and the classification of Psalm 16 from the perspective of the history of theology.

Weyde, Karl William

The Appointed Festivals of YHWH

The Festival Calendar in Leviticus 23 and the *sukkôt* Festival in Other Biblical Texts

Volume 4
2004. XI, 259 pages.

ISBN 9783161482625
sewn paper 69,00 €

ISBN 9783161578540
eBook PDF 69,00 €

In the first part of the book, Karl William Weyde analyses the festival calendar in Leviticus 23 and compares it with other festival calendars in the Hebrew Bible. On this basis, characteristic features of the Leviticus calendar appear, leading to the conclusion that Leviticus 23 presents the latest of the calendars and presupposes them. This holds good also vis-à-vis the priestly legal material in Numbers 28–29. Thus, the legislation for Passover and the festival of unleavened bread in Lev 23:5–8 is short because it builds on the detailed stipulations related in Exodus 12–13 and Deuteronomy 16. But it is also demonstrated that, for the sake of precision, the legislation for the grain festival in Leviticus 23 is more detailed than in other texts. Moreover, it is shown that the *sukkôt* festival is predominant in this calendar, together with other festivals in the seventh month. Without denying the possibility that the legislation was revised during the process of transmission, the author contends that some of the arguments used by recent researchers for such contention are not tenable. However, the Sabbath command (v. 3) and the *sukkôt* legislation in vv. 39ff are later additions inserted during the exile in Babylon. The second part of the book deals with texts related to the *sukkôt* festival in the Hebrew Bible. It gives examples of the significance of this festival in exilic and post-exilic times. Particular attention is paid to the question of whether it is possible to identify *sukkôt* psalms in the Psalter.

Müller, Reinhard

Königtum und Gottesherrschaft

Untersuchungen zur alttestamentlichen Monarchiekritik

Volume 3
2004. X, 309 pages.

ISBN 9783161483196
sewn paper 79,00 €

ISBN 9783161578533
eBook PDF 79,00 €

Kingship and God's reign – the Old Testament sees these two spheres as being complete opposites. This is unparalleled in the ancient Oriental world. It is especially challenging for the critical reconstruction of the history of theology of the Old Testament to try and explain the background of this theologoumenon. Reinhard Müller examines the texts concerned, and his diversified conclusions shed a new light on an area which is central to the history of the theology of the Old Testament. He places the conflicts surrounding kingship and the theological assessment of kingship in the early Persian era and shows that there are clear lines connecting these to the development of the covenant theology of the Old Testament.

Götterbilder – Gottesbilder – Weltbilder

Polytheismus und Monotheismus in der Welt der Antike. Band I: Ägypten, Mesopotamien, Persien, Kleinasien, Syrien, Palästina. Band II: Griechenland und Rom, Judentum, Christentum und Islam
Hrsg. v. Reinhard G. Kratz u. Hermann Spieckermann

Volume 17/18
2nd, reviewed edition 2009.
XXVIII, 713 pages.

ISBN 9783161498862
sewn paper 29,00 €
ISBN 9783161511509
eBook PDF 29,00 €

These volumes contribute to the manifold relationship between polytheism and monotheism in the religions of the Ancient Near East and the Mediterranean world including the current discussions in Zoroastrianism, Judaism, Christianity and Islam. In all the religions that are dealt with, the terms polytheism and monotheism prove to be too vague to describe the various manifestations appropriately.

Kiuchi, Nobuyoshi

A Study of Hata' and Hatta't in Leviticus 4–5

Volume 2
2003. X, 145 pages.

ISBN 9783161480553
sewn paper 54,00 €
ISBN 9783161578526
eBook PDF 39,00 €

Through a close semantic analysis of the Hebrew terms hata' and hatta't (commonly translated as 'sin') in Leviticus 4–5, this study reveals their lexical meanings, unknown for two millennia both in Judaism and in Christianity. 'Sin' has been commonly understood as referring mainly to a violation of God's commandment pertaining to personal conduct. However the revision Nobuyoshi Kiuchi proposes for the meanings of the terms has significant and far-reaching implications for other major themes such as uncleanness and atonement, meaning human salvation before God. The author also provides a solution to the question of the relationship between sin and uncleanness.

Philology and Textual Criticism

Proceedings of the Second International Colloquium of the Dominique Barthélemy Institute held at
Fribourg on 10–11 October, 2013

Edited by Innocent Himbaza and Jan Joosten

2020. VIII, 155 pages.

ISBN 9783161593239
sewn paper 89,00 €
ISBN 9783161595929
eBook PDF 89,00 €

The objective of the present volume is to put the connection between philology and textual criticism on the agenda once again. It addresses such questions as in what way philological study guides the textual critic and how textual criticism comes to the aid of the philologist; whether philology and textual criticism are necessarily linked, or the connections between them merely accidental; whether philology can justify conjectural emendations, and, if so, on what conditions; and inquires after the place of philological hypotheses in a text-critical apparatus or commentary. The contributors discuss these theoretical questions and analyze case studies illustrating the principles at issue.

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MacDonald, Nathan

Deuteronomy and the Meaning of »Monotheism«

Volume 1
2nd, corrected edition 2012.
XIII, 271 pages.

ISBN 9783161516801
sewn paper 64,00 €
ISBN 9783161578502
eBook PDF 64,00 €

Nathan MacDonald examines the term 'monotheism' and its appropriateness as a category for analysing the Old Testament. He traces the use of 'monotheism' since its coinage in 1660 and argues that its use in Old Testament scholarship frequently reflects a narrowed, intellectualistic conception of religion.