

# Topoi Biblischer Theologie / Topics of Biblical Theology

Edited by Reinhard Feldmeier and Hermann Spieckermann

*Topics of Biblical Theology (TOBITH)* is a series whose purpose is to study key subjects of biblical literature in order to stimulate the dialogue among those conducting biblical studies.

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Feldmeier, Reinhard / Spieckermann, Hermann

## Menschwerdung

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Incarnation is an act of God's love in a world characterised by the rebellion of the created against their creator. Reinhard Feldmeier's and Hermann Spieckermann's new work pursues the diverse forms of this fundamental divide between God and his likeness. As expectations dwindle in Old Testament writings that existing intermediaries can bridge the gap, hope is increasingly placed on new forms of closeness to God. The proximity afforded in Jesus Christ is interpreted by New Testament witnesses in highly varying ways and culminates in the theologoumenon of the incarnation. If, as according to the story of the fall, paradise was lost because man wanted to be like God, the one reconciled with God in Christ is trusted to and entrusted with becoming a child of God in accordance with the Father who descended from the heavenly throne. Thus, the incarnation of God aims for becoming human.

Feldmeier, Reinhard / Spieckermann, Hermann

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»This work is the rigorous implementation of an insight that is beautiful in its simplicity and its fertility – namely, and I quote, that the »fundamental, without which God would not be God, is his specific desire for relationship with human beings and the world.« [...] I applaud this foundational restraint on their part, and I stand in awe of the enormous edifice that they erect upon this idea as foundation.«

Jack Miles, Pulitzer Prize winner

»This work is a profound contribution to a biblical understanding of God. The essays have an inner coherence drawn on the basis of the whole scripture. Readers will certainly benefit from both the content and linguistic construction of the book [...].«

Svetlana Khobnya in *Journal for the Study of the New Testament* 34(5) (2012), p.3–4