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a tribute to america s preeminent scholar of hittite language and culture professor harry a hoffner jr of the oriental institute of the university of chicago the thirty four contributors students and colleagues treat topics as diverse as hittite contacts with the mycenaean greeks the topography of the hittite capital and various aspects of hittite grammar and etymology

this two volume commentary on 1 2 samuel presents renowned scholar harry a hoffner jr s final work an expert hittitologist hoffner brings his understanding of ancient near eastern cultures to the text of 1 2 samuel providing an enduring commentary

for much of the history of both judaism and christianity the pentateuch first five books of the bible was understood to be the unified work of a single inspired author moses yet the standard view in modern biblical scholarship contends that the pentateuch is a composite text made up of fragments from diverse and even discrepant sources that originated centuries after the events it purports to describe in murmuring against moses john bergsma and jeffrey morrow provide a critical narrative of the emergence of modern pentateuchal studies and challenge the scholarly consensus by highlighting the weaknesses of the modern paradigms and mustering an array of new evidence for the pentateuch s antiquity by shedding light on the past history of research and the present developments in the field bergsma and morrow give fresh voice to a growing scholarly dissatisfaction with standard critical approaches and make an important contribution toward charting a more promising future for pentateuchal studies

detailed historical and archaeological essays give insight into the many people groups who interacted with and influenced ancient israel

the exhibition beyond babylon art trade and diplomacy in the second millennium b c held in 2008 2009 at the metropolitan museum of art demonstrated the cultural enrichment that emerged from the intensive interaction of civilizations from western asia to egypt and the aegean in the middle and late bronze ages during this critical period in human history powerful kingdoms and large territorial states were formed rising social elites created a demand for copper and tin as well as for precious gold and silver and exotic materials such as lapis lazuli and ivory to create elite objects fashioned in styles that reflected contacts with foreign lands this quest for metals along with the desire for foreign textiles was the driving force that led to the establishment of merchant colonies and a vast trading network throughout central anatolia during the early second millennium b c texts from palaces at sites from hattusa modern bogazköy in hittite anatolia to amarna in egypt attest to the volume and variety of interactions that took place some centuries later creating the impetus for the circulation of precious goods stimulating the exchange of ideas and inspiring artistic creativity perhaps the most dramatic evidence for these far flung connections emerges out of tragedy the wreckage of the oldest known seagoing ship discovered in a treacherous stretch off the southern coast of turkey near the promontory known as uluburun among its extraordinary cargo of copper glass and exotic raw materials and luxury goods is a gilded bronze statuette of a goddess perhaps the patron deity on board who failed in her mission to protect the ship to explore the themes of the exhibition art trade and diplomacy viewed from an international perspective a two day symposium and related scholarly events allowed colleagues to explore many facets of the multicultural societies that developed in the second millennium b c their insights which dramatically illustrate the incipient phases of our intensely interactive world are presented largely in symposium order beginning with broad regional overviews and examination of particular archeological contexts and then drawing attention to specific artists and literary evidence for interconnections in this introduction however their contributions are viewed from a somewhat more synthetic perspective one that focuses attention on the ways in which ideas in this volume intersect to enrich the ongoing discourse on the themes elucidated in the exhibition

according to deuteronomy 7 god commands israel to exterminate the indigenous population of canaan in the command to exterminate the canaanites deuteronomy 7 arie versluis offers an analysis and evaluation of this command following an exegesis of the chapter the historical background possible motives and the place of the nations of canaan in the hebrew bible are investigated the theme of religiously inspired violence continues to be a topic of interest the present volume discusses the consequences of the command to exterminate the canaanites for the old testament view of god and for the question whether the bible legitimizes violence in the present finally the author shows how he reads this text as a christian theologian

to your tents o israel examines the function form and symbolism of ancient tents specifically in the hebrew bible but also in the greater context of the ancient near east terminology associated with tents and the blending of terms for domiciles are initially explored then using historical mythological archaeological and anthropological insights tents are examined in their manifold usage domiciliary military nuptial and religious various parallels and models of the tabernacle will be assessed and the tabernacle s historicity will be examined the book ends by analyzing a biblical phrase that dismisses councils to your tents o israel

this volume honors theo van den hout the arthur and joann rasmussen professor emeritus of hittite and anatolian languages at the university of chicago s institute for the study of ancient cultures and a preeminent philologist linguist and historian the thirty six essays offered here reflect the wide range of professor van den hout s research interests and include text editions studies on religion and writing and investigations into diverse lexical linguistic and literary topics

lost to history for millennia the hittites have regained their position among the great civilizations of the late bronze age near east thanks to a century of archaeological discovery and philological investigation the hittites and their world provides a concise current and engaging introduction to the history society and religion of this anatolian empire taking the reader from its beginnings in the period of the assyrian colonies in the nineteenth century b c e to the eclipse of the neo hittite cities at the end of the eighth century b c e the numerous analogues with the biblical world featured throughout the volume together represent a comprehensive and up to date survey of the varied and significant contributions of hittite studies to biblical interpretation

this collection of essays honors the life and work of gary beckman professor of hittite and mesopotamian studies at the university of michigan the essays were contributed by his colleagues students and friends and their breadth traversing ancient anatolia syria mesopotamia and beyond are a measure of the range of his influence as a scholar his interest in the reception and adaptation of syro mesopotamian culture by the hittites in particular inspired this offering

this striking new contribution to gender studies demonstrates the essential role of israelite and near east law in the historical analysis of gender the theme of these studies of babylonian hittite assyrian and israelite law is this what is the significance

of gender in the formulation of ancient law and custom feminist scholarship is enriched by these studies in family history and the status of women in antiquity at the same time conventional legal history is repositioned as new and classical texts are interpreted from the vantage point of feminist theory and social history papers from sbl biblical law section form the core of this collection

how international is international humanitarian law the laws of yesterday s wars 4 from mesopotamia to somalia together with its companion volumes attempts to answer that question it offers a culture by culture account of various unique restrictions placed on warfare over time containing essays by a range of laws of war academics and practitioners it approaches the laws of yesterday s wars from a wide cross section of history and culture seeking to find any common ground and to demonstrate a history of international law outside the usual confines of its development by europeans and its later contributions this volume includes studies on egyptian jewish and somali rules of war

in this book aren m wilson wright proposes a new model for studying gods in the ancient near east he 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 back of book

the most up to date sourcebook on warfare in the ancient near east fighting for the king and the gods provides an introduction to the topic of war and the variety of texts concerning many aspects of warfare in the ancient near east these texts illustrate various viewpoints of war and show how warfare was an integral part of life trimm examines not only the victors and the famous battles but also the hardship that war brought to many while several of these texts treated here are well known i e ramses ii s battle against the hittites at qadesh others are known only to specialists this work will allow a broader audience to access and appreciate these important texts as they relate to the history and ideology of warfare features references to recent secondary literature for further study early greek and chinese illustrative texts for comparisons with other cultures indices to help guide the reader

beyond babel provides a general introduction to and overview of the languages that are significant for the study of the hebrew bible and ancient israel included are essays on biblical and inscriptional hebrew akkadian northwest semitic dialects ammonite edomite and moabite arabic aramaic egyptian hittite phoenician postbiblical hebrew and ugaritic each chapter in the volume shares a common format including an overview of the language a discussion of its significance for the hebrew bible and a list of ancient sources and modern resources for further study of the language a general introduction by john huehnergard discusses the importance of the study of near eastern languages for biblical scholarship helping to make the volume an ideal resource for persons beginning an in depth study of the hebrew bible

this volume collects and reprints many of delbert r hillers s most important published essays and articles his long out of print treaty curses and the old testament prophets and three previously unpublished essays including the

aforementioned poets before homer archaeology and the western literary tradition hillers gave the latter as the 1992 william foxwell albright lecture at the johns hopkins university and in it uses ernst robert curtius s european literature and the latin middle ages with its topological method as a model for exploring the connections of the most ancient near eastern literatures including the bible to later western literature though one of his latest pieces of writing poets before homer represents as hillers himself recognized a fairly clear statement of what he had been doing in much of his earlier scholarship and the volume collects the best of this earlier scholarship most of these essays work themselves out from a particular passage theme topos image or grammatical issue and gain their interpretive vantage point by reading said passage etc comparatively whether in light of relevant ancient near eastern and or more recent european literary parallels or with reference to some more theoretical interest such as modern linguistic theory hillers s habit of mind ran toward the particular toward the individual detail his genius if this word may be used was in his capacity to seize upon one aspect of some larger entity problem or topic to work it through thoroughly and as often as not decisively all the while resisting the temptation to take up the larger perhaps un re solvable complex of which the detail or problem was but a part the worked example is the hillersian trademark exemplum followed by moralisatio and poets before homer collects all of his best

a monumental history of asia minor from the stone age to the roman empire in this critically acclaimed book christian marek masterfully provides the first comprehensive history of asia minor from prehistory to the roman imperial period blending rich narrative with in depth analyses in the land of a thousand gods shows asia minor s shifting orientation between east and west and its role as both a melting pot of nations and a bridge for cultural transmission marek employs ancient sources to illuminate civic institutions urban and rural society agriculture trade and money the influential greek writers of the second sophistic the notoriously bloody exhibitions of the gladiatorial arena and more he draws on the latest research in fields ranging from demography and economics to architecture and religion to describe how asia minor became a center of culture and wealth in the roman empire a breathtaking work of scholarship in the land of a thousand gods will become the standard reference book on the subject in english

mit pax hethitica erscheint die festschrift fur itamar singer langjahriger professor an der universitat tel aviv und fuhrender hethitologe und historiker des alten orients die festschrift enthalt 34 beitrage von seinen kollegen aus der altanatolistik und altorientalistik vor allem zu hethitologischen aber auch zu assyriologischen syrischen indogermanischen und agaischen themen die vielfaltigen beitrage entsprechen den umfassenden forschungsinteressen des jubilars die weit uber die grenzen anatoliens und der hethitologie hinausreichen mit beitragen von a altman a archi t bryce b j collins I d alfonso s de martino a dincol b dincol y feder m forlanini m giorgieri s gordin j d hawkins v haas s heinhold krahmer h a hoffner jr c karasu h c melchert c mora n oettinger i peled f pecchioli daddi m poetto m popko a f rainey e rieken d schwemer o soysal i tati vili p taracha g torri t van den hout g wilhelm i yakubovich a yasur landau und r zadok

in recent times biblical archaeology has been heavily criticised by some camp who maintain that it has little to offer near eastern archaeology however some scholars carry on the fight to change people s views and this collection of essays continues the trend towards reassessing and reemphasising the link between the bible and archaeology

a fresh exploration of apologetic material that pushes beyond form criticism andrew knapp applies modern genre theory to seven ancient near eastern royal apologies that served to defend the legitimacy of kings who came to power under irregular circumstances knapp examines texts and inscriptions related to telipinu hattusili iii david solomon hazael esarhaddon and nabonidus to identify transhistorical common issues that unite each discourse features compares hittite israelite aramean assyrian and babylonian apologies examination of apologetic as a mode instead of a genre charts and illustrations

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