

The Messenger in the Ancient
Semitic World

S. A. Meier

BRILL

The Messenger In The Ancient Semitic World

David P. Melvin



The Messenger In The Ancient Semitic World:

The Messenger in the Ancient Semitic World Samuel A. Meier, 2018-07-17 Preliminary Material Introduction Preparation for the Mission The Messenger on the Road The Messenger's Arrival Presenting The Message After the Message is Delivered Conclusion Bibliography Indices

The Messenger in the Ancient Semitic World Samuel A. Meier, 1988 Originally presented as the author's thesis doctoral Harvard University 1986

The Interpreting Angel Motif in Prophetic and Apocalyptic Literature David P. Melvin, 2013-08-01 Melvin traces the emergence and development of the motif of angelic interpretation of visions from late prophetic literature Ezekiel 40 48 Zechariah 1 6 into early apocalyptic literature 1 Enoch 17 36 72 82 Daniel 7 8 Examining how the historical and socio political context of exilic and post exilic Judaism and the broader religious and cultural environment shaped Jewish angelology in general Melvin concludes that the motif of the interpreting angel served a particular function Building upon the work of Susan Niditch Melvin concludes that the interpreting angel motif served a polemical function in repudiating divination as a means of predicting the future while at the same time elevating the authority of the visionary revelation The literary effect is to reimagine God as an imperial monarch who rules and communicates through intermediaries a reimagination that profoundly influenced subsequent Jewish and Christian tradition

Angelomorphic Christology Gieschen, 2018-07-17 This study demonstrates that angel and angel related traditions especially those growing from the so called Angel of the Lord in the Hebrew Bible had a significant impact on the origins and early development of Christology to the point that an Angelomorphic Christology is discernable in several first century texts Significant effort is given to tracing the antecedents of this Christology in the angels and divine hypostases of the Hebrew Bible and Second Temple Jewish literature The primary content of this volume is the presentation of pre 150 CE textual evidence of Angelomorphic Christology This religio historical study does not spawn a new Christology among the many scholarly Christologies already extant Instead it shows the interrelationship of various Christological trajectories and their adaptation from Jewish angelomorphic traditions

Performance Criticism of the Pauline Letters Bernhard Oestreich, 2016-10-28 Receiving a letter from Paul was a major event in the early churches Given the orally oriented culture of the time a letter was designed to be read out loud in front of an audience The document was an intermediate state for the local transport of the message but the actual medium of communication was the performance event This event was embedded in the written text in a manner comparable to a theater script After careful preparation because of high expectations from ancient audiences a presenter embodied the message with his voice gazes and gestures and made it not only understood but jointly experienced After presenting a short history of performance criticism this book clarifies what is meant by the highly ambiguous term performance and develops steps to analyze ancient texts in order to find and understand the embedded signals of performance This leads to a critical assessment of the potential of performance criticism as a method Then the method is applied to the Pauline Epistles and other early Christian letters It proves to be highly rewarding

difficult passages become comprehensible new aspects come to light the text's impact on the audience is felt in short the texts come alive

Wenamun's Prophetic Mission Christopher B. Hays, 2025-05-27 The Story of Wenamun is an Egyptian travelogue from the early first millennium BCE that is enlivened by visits to exotic ports of call piracy intrigue and attempted murder It is also an underappreciated example of the intercultural exchange of theological ideas in the early Iron Age In *Wenamun's Prophetic Mission* Christopher B. Hays identifies striking similarities between theological rhetoric in the ancient Egyptian Story of Wenamun and that of the Hebrew prophets Hays challenges scholars of the ancient Mediterranean to reimagine the cultural milieu that gave rise to Iron Age Yahwism and ultimately to biblical monotheism arguing that the Hebrew Bible's theocratic and monotheizing rhetoric owes more to the influence of Egypt than is often recognized Along the way Hays makes Wenamun accessible to biblical scholars and non Egyptologists with the clarity of presentation that his acclaimed sourcebook *Hidden Riches* brought to other ancient Near Eastern texts This volume includes a thorough survey of past scholarship on Wenamun as well as an introduction to the historical situation of Egypt the Levant and the Mediterranean at the beginning of the first millennium BCE This provocative new study makes an important contribution to academic discourse on ancient Near Eastern prophecy and will appeal to scholars of the Hebrew Bible and the ancient Mediterranean

Zondervan Illustrated Bible Backgrounds Commentary John H. Walton, 2009 This series brings to life the world of the Old Testament through informative entries and full color photos and graphics Here readers find the premier commentary set for connecting with the historical and cultural context of the Old Testament

Amarna Diplomacy Raymond Cohen, Raymond Westbrook, 2002-10-23 Published in 1992 William L. Moran's definitive English translation The Amarna Letters raised as many questions as it answered How did Pharaoh run his empire Why did the god-king consent to deal with his fellow mortal monarchs as equals Indeed why did kings engage in diplomacy at all How did the great powers maintain international peace and order In *Amarna Diplomacy* Raymond Cohen and Raymond Westbrook have brought together a team of specialists both social scientists and ancient historians to explore the world of ancient Near Eastern statecraft portrayed in the letters Subjects discussed include Egyptian imperial and foreign policy international law and trade geopolitics and decision making intelligence and diplomacy This book will be of interest to scholars not only of the ancient Near East and the Bible but also of international relations and diplomatic studies Contributors are Pinhas Artzi Kevin Avruch Geoffrey Berridge Betsy M. Bryan Raymond Cohen Steven R. David Daniel Druckman Serdar G. Ner Alan James Christer J. Nilsson Mario Liverani Samuel A. Meier William J. Murnane Nadav Na'aman Rodolfo Ragnonieri Raymond Westbrook and Carlo Zaccagnini

Isaiah 1-39 Marvin Alan Sweeney, 1996 1 Samuel is Volume VII of The Forms of the Old Testament Literature a series that aims to present a form critical analysis of every book and each unit in the Hebrew Bible Fundamentally exegetical the FOTL volumes examine the structure genre setting and intention of the biblical literature in question They also study the history behind the form critical discussion of the material attempt to bring consistency to the terminology for the

genres and formulas of the biblical literature and expose the exegetical process so as to enable students and pastors to engage in their own analysis and interpretation of the Old Testament texts Antony Campbell's valuable form critical analysis of 1 Samuel highlights both the literary development of the text itself and its meanings for its audience A skilled student of the Hebrew scriptures and their ancient context Campbell shows modern readers the process of editing and reworking that shaped 1 Samuel's final form As Campbell's study reveals the tensions and contradictions that exist in the present text reflect a massive change in the way of life of ancient Israel Samuel the first prophet here emerges to preside over the rise of Saul Israel's first king to be the agent of Saul's rejection and to anoint David as Israel's next king and the first established head of a royal dynasty The book of 1 Samuel captures the work of God within this interplay of sociopolitical forces and Campbell fruitfully explores the text both as a repository of traditions of great significance for Israel and as a paradigm of Israel's use of narrative for theological expression

The Book of Proverbs and Virtue Ethics Arthur Jan Keefer, 2020-11-05 In this book Arthur Keefer offers a new interpretation of the book of Proverbs from the standpoint of virtue ethics Using an innovative method that bridges philosophy and biblical studies he argues that much of the instruction within Proverbs meets the criteria for moral and theological virtue as set out in Aristotle's Nicomachean Ethics and the works of St Thomas Aquinas Keefer presents the moral thought of Proverbs in its social historical and theological contexts He shows how these contexts shed light on the conceptualization of virtue the virtues that are promoted and omitted and the characteristics that make Proverbs a distinctive moral tradition In giving undivided attention to biblical virtue this volume opens the way for new avenues of study in biblical ethics including law narrative and other aspects of biblical instruction and wisdom

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