

Special Issue

Texts, Language, and Style in Biblical Literature, the Semitic Literatures of the Ancient Near East, and Post-Biblical Literature

Message from the Guest Editors

This issue seeks contributions that examine the correspondences and divergences between biblical texts and stylistic models and those of the Semitic literary corpus, with particular emphasis on Northwest Semitic traditions, highlighting developments and offering interpretive insights. The issue welcomes studies on the interactions between the Bible and post-biblical literature—especially rabbinic writings and the Book of Ben Sira—as well as on the Aramaic translations of the Bible, focusing on transformations prompted by theological and exegetical concerns. Content, linguistic, and stylistic affinities between the religious texts from Ugarit and biblical Hebrew literature;

Connections between the Aramaic proverbs of Ahikar and the didactic wisdom literature of the Hebrew Bible; Similarities and differences between the Book of Ben Sira and biblical literature in terms of content and language;

The efforts of biblical scribes to obscure pagan elements in ancient Near Eastern texts they adapted or incorporated;

The Sages' (H)azal's engagement with theological problems in the Bible;

Theological Modifications in the Aramaic Translations of the Hebrew Bible.

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Fresh developments in the disciplines that consistently make significant contributions to our understanding of religious personality, authority, devotion, and community – disciplines ranging from psychology, sociology, and anthropology to history, art history, philosophy, literary criticism, and political science – fuel general, as well as scholarly, interest in the world's religions.

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