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Sacrifice, Cult, and Atonement in Early Judaism and Christianity Constituents and Critique

Henrietta L. Wiley and Christian A. Eberhart, editors

Critical and creative studies that offer fresh perspectives on ancient ideas and practices

The contributions to this volume deal in various ways with the cult at the Jerusalem Temple that epitomized the religious, cultural, and socio-political identity of Judaism for many centuries. Some essays examine ancient constitutive practices and concepts, such as purification rituals, sacrifices, atonement, or sacred authorities at the temple, with the goal of interpreting their meanings for modern readers. Other essays explore alternatives to ancient cultic meaning and practice. Essays critique established traditions, attempt to renegotiate them, or use metaphor and spiritualization to expand the potential of these phenomena to serve as terminological and ideological resources. Thus they examine and affirm the continuing relevance of ancient Jewish cultic notions long after the destruction of the Second Temple in 70 CE. An international group of contributors representing different fields and diverse religious backgrounds includes David Calabro, Nicole Wilkinson Duran, Christian A. Eberhart, Göran Eidevall, Dorothea Erbele-Küster, Aaron Glaim, Hannah K. Harrington, Maricel S. Ibita, Joshua M. Vis, Timothy Wardle, Jarvis J. Williams, and Ross E. Winkle.

Features:

- A thorough examination of traditions as through the lens of contemporaneous interpretive traditions such as Jewish prophecy, the Dead Sea Scrolls, and Early Christian literature
- Examination of topics such as purification, sacrifice, and atonement, and the depiction and development of sacred authority throughout the Bible

Henrietta L. Wiley is Associate Professor of Sacred Scripture in the Religious Studies department at Notre Dame of Maryland University and a priest in the Episcopal Diocese of Maryland. Her area of scholarship is ancient Israelite religious experience and cultic practice.

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