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Priests and Cults in the Book of the Twelve

Lena-Sofia Tiemeyer, editor

Key essays that explore a range of attitudes toward clergy and ritual

This book discusses the depictions of the cult and its personnel in the twelve prophetic books commonly referred to as "The Book of the Twelve" or "The Minor Prophets." The articles in the volume explore the following questions: How did these prophetic writers envision the priests and the Levites? What did they think about the ritual aspects of ancient Israelite faith, including not only the official temple cult in Jerusalem but also cultic expressions outside the capital? What, in their views, characterized a faithful priest and what should the relationship be between his cultic performance and the ways in which he lived his life? How does the message of each individual author fit in with the wider Israelite traditions? Finally, who were these prophetic authors, in which historical contexts did they live and work, and what stylistic tools did they use to communicate their message?

Features:

- Essays investigate the ways in which key texts in the Book of the Twelve endorse, criticize, seek to reform, or seek to abolish the cult and clergy
- Articles focus on the books of Hosea, Joel, Amos, Zephaniah, Zechariah, and Malachi, but include other texts
- Exploration of how the attitudes towards cult and clergy in these key texts tie in with the attitudes found elsewhere in the Book of the Twelve

Lena-Sofia Tiemeyer is Reader in Hebrew Bible/Old Testament at the University of Aberdeen. She is the author of *For the Comfort of Zion: The Geographical and Theological Location of Isaiah 40-55* (Brill) and *Priestly Rites and Prophetic Rage: Post-Exilic Prophetic Critique of the Priesthood* (Mohr Siebeck).

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