



Reading Ecclesiastes from Asia and Pasifika

Jione Havea and Peter H. W. Lau, editors

An invitation to read biblical texts as responses and conversations

This follow-up to *Reading Ruth in Asia* (2015) extends Qoheleth's question in Ecclesiastes 3:9 to the toils of biblical critics: Is there gain in reading? Contributors from Asia and Pasifika approach Ecclesiastes through oral (e.g., stories, legends, customs, ways) and written (e.g., Tamil and Chinese scriptures) texts as they ponder this question. Voices from Palestine, Pakistan, and Pasifika add to those from India, Malaysia, China, Sri Lanka, and Australia and expand the conversation in new directions through sources not usually encountered in biblical scholarship. Topics of wisdom, gender, justice, vanity, bitterness, life, death, labor, exile, pain, and philosophy invite readers to reconsider their own interpretations of this ancient text. *Reading Ecclesiastes from Asia and Pasifika* is a call for more contextual, intertextual, interscriptural, and postcolonial readings from within and beyond Asia and Pasifika.

Features:

- An introductory essay on contextual biblical interpretation
- Readings of Ecclesiastes cross-textually with Asian scriptures and philosophies
- A conversation around critiques of contextual biblical interpretation

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