

Warning

Literary Artistry in Leviticus

This study explores the vocabulary employed in the extant text of Leviticus. The chosen methodology of rhetorical analysis (with particular emphasis upon terminological patterns) shows a carefully composed text. The basic working hypothesis that Leviticus has been artistically structured around 37 divine speeches 'and the Lord spoke/said to Moses (and Aaron)'. With chapter 16 as its possible structural and theological center has been substantiated both on the microstructural and macrostructural levels. The plethora of significant micro- and macrostructural terminological patterns, suggests original literary cohesiveness and hence single-handed authorship. These findings are of special significance regarding so-called "P" and "H" passages, a "layer of priestly reworking", and, even more, the exegesis and theology of Leviticus.

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185,50 €

173,36 € (zzgl. MwSt.)

Lieferfrist: bis zu 10 Tage

Artikelnummer: 9789004112353

Medium: Buch

ISBN: 978-90-04-11235-3

Verlag: Brill

Erscheinungstermin: 01.12.1998

Sprache(n): Englisch

Auflage: Erscheinungsjahr 1998

Serie: Biblical Interpretation Series

Produktform: Gebunden

Gewicht: 640 g

Seiten: 256

Format (B x H): 165 x 244 mm

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Kundenservice Fachmedien Otto Schmidt

Neumannstraße 10, 40235 Düsseldorf | kundenservice@fachmedien.de | 0800 000-1637 (Inland)

25.07.2024 | 00:20 Uhr

