



A Covenant with Death: Death in the Iron Age II and Its Rhetorical Uses in Proto-Isaiah

By Christopher B. Hays



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Shows how ancient Near Eastern attitudes toward death illumine the Hebrew Bible

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Hays first summarizes what is known about death in the ancient Near East during the Second Iron Age, covering beliefs and practices in Mesopotamia, Egypt, Syria-Palestine, and Judah/Israel. He then shows how select passages in the first part of Isaiah employ the rhetorical imagery of death that was part of their cultural context; further, he identifies ways in which these texts break new creative ground.

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- Rank: #1922700 in Books
- Published on: 2015-11-15
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.90" h x 1.00" w x 6.00" l, .0 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 465 pages

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— Humboldt University of Berlin, Germany

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"The appearance of this accessible and affordable volume is a welcome event in biblical studies and an important advancement in the ongoing work on death in the ancient world."

About the Author

Christopher B. Hays is D. Wilson Moore Associate Professor of Ancient Near Eastern Studies at Fuller Theological Seminary. He is also the author of *Hidden Riches: A Sourcebook for the Comparative Study of the Hebrew Bible and Ancient Near East*.

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