

## Abraham Cohen De Herrera Gate Of Heaven Brill 2002

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Heavenly Priesthood in the Apocalypse of Abraham  
Levitical Sacrifice and  
Heavenly Cult in Hebrews  
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the present study explores the role of heavenly imagery and symbolism in the gospel of matthew historical background and narrative criticism are my main methods because the old testament and second temple jewish texts form the historical backgrounds for the understanding of matthew s heaven and matthew uses heavenly imagery and symbolism to highlight his main themes in the gospel as a whole this study investigates matthew s distinctive materials and important texts having to do with heaven exploring their meanings and establishing their roles in each narrative section matthew describes heaven as the space where certain events reveal god s plan of salvation heaven is associated with such key matters as revelation and judgment each major discourse of matthew focuses on heavenly imagery with judgment at its end culminating in the parable of the sheep and the goats matt 25 31 46

the apocalypse of abraham is a vital source for understanding both jewish apocalypticism and mysticism written anonymously soon after the destruction of the second jerusalem temple the text envisions heaven as the true place of worship and depicts abraham as an initiate of celestial priesthood andrei a orlov focuses on the central rite of the abraham story the scapegoat ritual that receives a striking eschatological reinterpretation in the text he demonstrates that the development of the sacerdotal traditions in the apocalypse of abraham along with a cluster of jewish mystical motifs represents an important transition from jewish apocalypticism to the symbols of early jewish mysticism in this way orlov offers unique insight into the complex world of the jewish sacerdotal debates in the early centuries of the common era the book will be of interest to scholars of early judaism and christianity old testament studies and jewish mysticism and magic

this monograph examines hebrews understanding of the relationship between old covenant sacrifices and christ s new covenant sacrifice especially as it relates to the question of efficacy most scholars think the author of hebrews strips the levitical sacrifices of most if not all efficacy but this work affirms a more positive depiction of the levitical sacrifices a mystical apocalyptic tradition stands

behind hebrews description of the heavenly cult which establishes the framework for relating the levitical sacrifice to christ s sacrifice the earthly levitical cult was efficacious when it corresponded to or synchronized with the heavenly sacrifice of christ still the author of hebrews develops the notion of the heavenly cult in unique ways as christ s sacrifice both validates the earthly practice but also due to his new covenant theology calls for its end ribbens bold proposal joins a growing number of scholars that place hebrews in the mystical apocalyptic tradition highlights positive statements in hebrews related to the efficacy of levitical sacrifices that are often overlooked and relies on the heavenly cult to reconcile the positive and negative descriptions of the levitical cult

across the ancient and medieval literature of judaism christianity and islam one finds references to the antediluvian sage enoch both the book of the watchers and the astronomical book were long known from their ethiopic versions which are preserved as part of mashafa henok nabyi book of enoch the prophet an enochic compendium known in the west as 1 enoch since the discovery of aramaic fragments among the dead sea scrolls these books have attracted renewed attention as important sources for ancient judaism among the results has been the recognition of the surprisingly long and varied tradition surrounding enoch within 1 enoch alone for instance we find evidence for intensive literary creativity this volume provides a comprehensive set of core references for easy and accessible consultation it shows that the rich afterlives of enochic texts and traditions can be studied more thoroughly by scholars of second temple judaism and early christianity as well as by scholars of late antique and medieval religions specialists in the second temple period the era in which enochic literature first appears will be able to trace or discount the survival of enochic motifs and mythemes within jewish literary circles from late antiquity into the middle ages thereby shedding light on the trajectories of jewish apocalypticism and its possible intersections with jewish mysticism students of near eastern esotericism and hellenistic philosophies will have further data for exploring the origins of gnosticism and its possible impact upon sectarian currents in judaism christianity and islam those interested in the intellectual symbiosis among jews christians and muslims in the middle ages and especially in the transmission of the ancient sciences associated with hermeticism e g astrology theurgy divinatory techniques

alchemy angelology demonology will be able to view a chain of tradition reconstructed in its entirety for the first time in textual form in the process we hope to provide historians of religion with a new tool for assessing the intertextual relationships between different religious corpora and for understanding the intertwined histories of the major religious communities of the ancient and medieval near east

the temple of solomon has been a source of fascination and spiritual reverence for over three thousand years from its bronze age antecedents in the shrines of nomadic tribes through countless permutations in judaism christianity and islam this lively account is guaranteed to intrigue everyone with a sense of history both real and imagined the building itself was destroyed more than once on the last occasion by the romans yet the great church of hagia sophia the dome of the rock the headquarters of the templars and numerous medieval cathedrals were all conceived as symbolic re creations of the original mystics of all faiths had visions of a celestial temple where divine secrets would be revealed to mankind solomon s temple myth and history draws on holy texts and mystic writings works of art and architecture modern reconstructions and photographs to unravel both scholarly histories and the more speculative modern myth making of tales like the da vinci code and raiders of the lost ark

an internationally renowned set of experts on epigram offers an introduction fresh approaches and new direction to the study of hellenistic era epigram by exploring the models forms poetology sub genera intertexts and ancient and modern reception of hellenistic epigram

this work is a first of its kind historical introduction to the major religions of africa the vast majorities of africa s peoples have been muslim christian or traditionalist for a great deal of time making an inclusive study of these religions essential isichei s work gives equal attention to all three religions and balances the elements of each to construct an easily accessible overview it is also the first book to provide a comprehensive look at the traditional religion in africa filling the void in the literature on african religious history

written by a pioneering scholar in the african religious experience this volume blends in depth research and personnel accounts to explore the origins and effects of religion in africa while primarily a work of history this book also incorporates the latest findings while engaging with current issues such as the interface of neo traditional religion and contemporary cultures this work includes four sections each dedicated to a separate religion detailed maps a glossary and a guide to further reading

tracing the movements of the sephardic jews to the balkans following their expulsion from spain during the inquisition schwartz draws on place names historical chronicles epitaphs folk ballads banned books and the media he explores these communities who hundreds of years after forced exile were almost entirely destroyed in the holocaust

presenting a study of the nature and significance of idolatry this work covers theoretical perspectives the old testament early judaism the new testament and christian theology the contributors include tim jenkins robert hayward john barclay and james dunn it is aimed at scholars students clergy church workers and educated lay people

this volume explores the formative theophanic patterns found in pseudepigraphical writings as 2 enoch apocalypse of abraham and the ladder of jacob where the visual tradition of the divine form and the aural tradition of the divine name undergo their creative conflation and thus provide the rich conceptual soil for the subsequent elaborations prominent in later patristic and rabbinic traditions the visionary and aural traditions found in the slavonic pseudepigrapha are especially important for understanding the evolution of the theophanic trends inside the eastern christian environment where these jewish apocalyptic materials were copied and transmitted by generations of monks

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