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978-0-521-13047-9 - Cosmology and Eschatology in Hebrews: The Settings of the Sacrifice

Kenneth L. Schenck

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COSMOLOGY AND ESCHATOLOGY IN HEBREWS

Scholars argue over where Hebrews fits in the first-century world. Kenneth L. Schenck works towards resolving this question by approaching Hebrews' cosmology and eschatology from a text-orientated perspective. After observing that the key passages in the background debate mostly relate to the 'settings' of the story of salvation history evoked by Hebrews, Schenck attempts to delineate those settings by asking how the 'rhetorical world' of Hebrews engages that underlying narrative. Hebrews largely argues from an eschatology of two ages, which correspond to two covenants. The new age has come despite the continuance of some old-age elements. The most characteristic elements of Hebrews' settings, however, are its spatial settings, where we find an underlying metaphysical dualism between the highest heaven, which is the domain of spirit, and the created realm, including the created heavens. This creation will be removed at the eschaton, leaving only the unshakeable heaven.

KENNETH L. SCHENCK is Professor of Religion and Philosophy at Indiana Wesleyan University.

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To Jimmy Dunn, Loren Stuckenbruck
and Hermann Lichtenberger, who started me on
this journey . . .

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ABBREVIATIONS

ALGHJ	Arbeiten zur Literatur und Geschichte des hellenistischen Judentums
AUSS	<i>Andrews University Seminary Studies</i>
BFCT	Beiträge zur Förderung christlicher Theologie
BGBE	Beiträge zur Geschichte der biblischen Exegese
<i>Bib</i>	<i>Biblica</i>
<i>BZ</i>	<i>Biblische Zeitschrift</i>
BZNW	Beihefte zur Zeitschrift für die neutestamentliche Wissenschaft
CBQMS	<i>Catholic Biblical Quarterly</i> , Monograph Series
<i>CJT</i>	<i>Canadian Journal of Theology</i>
ConBNT	Coniectanea biblica: New Testament Series
CRINT	Compendia rerum iudaicarum ad Novum Testamentum
<i>CTM</i>	<i>Concordia Theological Monthly</i>
<i>EBib</i>	<i>Etudes bibliques</i>
<i>ExpTim</i>	<i>Expository Times</i>
HNT	Handbuch zum Neuen Testament
HSNT	Die Heilige Schrift des Neuen Testaments
<i>HTR</i>	<i>Harvard Theological Review</i>
<i>Int</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>
<i>JBL</i>	<i>Journal of Biblical Literature</i>
<i>JJS</i>	<i>Journal of Jewish Studies</i>
<i>JNES</i>	<i>Journal of Near Eastern Studies</i>
<i>JSNT</i>	<i>Journal for the Study of the New Testament</i>
JSNTSS	Journal for the Study of the New Testament Supplement Series
<i>JTS</i>	<i>Journal of Theological Studies</i>
<i>LQ</i>	<i>Lutheran Quarterly</i>
<i>NovT</i>	<i>Novum Testamentum</i>
NovTSup	Novum Testamentum Supplements
<i>NTS</i>	<i>New Testament Studies</i>

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<i>PhRev</i>	<i>Philosophical Review</i>
PTMS	Pittsburgh Theological Monograph Series
<i>PTR</i>	<i>Princeton Theological Review</i>
<i>RB</i>	<i>Revue biblique</i>
<i>RBén</i>	<i>Revue bénédictine</i>
<i>RevQ</i>	<i>Revue de Qumran</i>
SBLDS	Society of Biblical Literature Dissertation Series
SBLMS	Society of Biblical Literature Monograph Series
<i>SBLSP</i>	<i>Society of Biblical Literature Seminar Papers</i>
ScrHier	Scripta hierosolymitana
SNTSMS	Society for New Testament Studies Monograph Series
<i>SPhA</i>	<i>Studia Philonica Annual</i>
StudNeot	Studia neotestamentica
<i>TLZ</i>	<i>Theologische Literaturzeitung</i>
<i>TRu</i>	<i>Theologische Rundschau</i>
<i>TSK</i>	<i>Theologische Studien und Kritiken</i>
<i>TTZ</i>	<i>Trierer theologische Zeitschrift</i>
<i>TU</i>	<i>Texte und Untersuchungen</i>
WMANT	Wissenschaftliche Monographien zum Alten und Neuen Testament
<i>WTJ</i>	<i>Westminster Theological Journal</i>
WUNT	Wissenschaftliche Untersuchungen zum Neuen Testament
<i>ZNW</i>	<i>Zeitschrift für die neutestamentliche Wissenschaft und die Kunde der älteren Kirche</i>
<i>ZST</i>	<i>Zeitschrift für systematische Theologie</i>