

Myth, History, and Metaphor in the Hebrew Bible

This book examines the long-debated issue of the relationship between the Hebrew Bible and ancient Near Eastern myths. Using an innovative, interdisciplinary methodology that combines theories of metaphor and narrative, Paul K.-K. Cho argues that the Hebrew Bible is more deeply mythological than previously recognized. Because the Hebrew Bible contains fragments of the sea myth but no continuous narrative, the study of myth in the Hebrew Bible is usually circumscribed to the level of motifs and themes. Cho challenges this practice and demonstrates that the Hebrew Bible contains shorter and longer compositions that are studded with mythic imagery and structured by the plot of sea myths. Through close analysis of key Near Eastern myths and biblical texts, Cho shows that myth had a more fundamental influence on the plot structure and conceptual framework of the Hebrew Bible than has been recognized.

Paul K.-K. Cho is an assistant professor of Hebrew Bible at Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington, DC. His articles have been published in *Catholic Biblical Quarterly* and *Journal of Biblical Literature*.

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PAUL K.-K. CHO
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To
my parents
조천희
박순자

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Abbreviations

AB	Anchor Bible
ABD	<i>Anchor Bible Dictionary</i>
ABRL	Anchor Bible Reference Library
AJSL	<i>American Journal of Semitic Languages and Literature</i>
AJSR	<i>Association for Jewish Studies Review</i>
AnBib	Analecta biblica
ANET	<i>The Ancient Near Eastern Texts Relating to the Old Testament</i>
AnOr	Analecta orientalia
ArBib	The Aramaic Bible
BA	<i>Biblical Archaeologist</i>
BAR	<i>Biblical Archaeology Review</i>
BASOR	<i>Bulletin of the American Schools of Oriental Research</i>
BETL	Bibliotheca ephemeridum theologiarum lovaniensium
BHS	<i>Biblical Hebraica Stuttgartensia</i>
Bib	<i>Biblica</i>
BSac	<i>Bibliotheca sacra</i>
BZAW	Beihefte zur Zeitschrift für die alttestamentliche Wissenschaft
CBQ	<i>Catholic Biblical Quarterly</i>
CC	Continental Commentaries
ConBOT	Coniectanea biblica: Old Testament Series
COS	<i>The Context of Scripture</i>
EEC	Eerdmans Critical Commentary
ErIsr	<i>Eretz-Israel</i>
ETL	<i>Ephemerides theologicae lovanienses</i>

Abbreviations

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FAT	Forschungen zum Alten Testament
FOTL	Forms of the Old Testament Literature
FRLANT	Forschungen zur Religion und Literatur des Alten und Neuen Testaments
HAR	<i>Hebrew Annual Review</i>
HeyJ	<i>Heythrop Journal</i>
HSM	Harvard Semitic Monographs
HSS	Harvard Semitic Studies
HTR	<i>Harvard Theological Review</i>
Int	<i>Interpretation</i>
JAOS	<i>Journal of the American Oriental Society</i>
JBL	<i>Journal of Biblical Literature</i>
JETS	<i>Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society</i>
JQR	<i>Jewish Quarterly Review</i>
JSOT	<i>Journal for the Study of the Old Testament</i>
JSOTSupp	Journal for the Study of the Old Testament: Supplement Series
JSS	<i>Journal of Semitic Studies</i>
JTS	<i>Journal of Theological Studies</i>
MARI	<i>Mari: Annales de Recherches interdisciplinaires</i>
Numen	<i>Numen: International Review for the History of Religions</i>
OLP	Orientalia lovaniensia periodica
OTL	Old Testament Library
QR	<i>Quarterly Review</i>
SAOC	Studies in Ancient Oriental Civilizations
SBA	Studies in Biblical Archaeology
SBL	Society of Biblical Literature
SBLABS	Society of Biblical Literature Archaeology and Biblical Studies
SBLAIL	Society of Biblical Literature Ancient Israel and Its Literature
SBLSymS	Society of Biblical Literature Symposium Series
SBLWAW	Society of Biblical Literature Writings from the Ancient World
SBS	Stuttgarter Bibelstudien
SBT	Studies in Biblical Theology
SJT	<i>Scottish Journal of Theology</i>
TB	Theologische Bücherei
UF	<i>Ugarit-Forschungen</i>
VT	<i>Vetus Testamentum</i>
VTSupp	Vetus Testamentum Supplements

WBC	Word Biblical Commentary
WTJ	<i>Westminster Theological Journal</i>
ZAW	<i>Zeitschrift für die alttestamentliche Wissenschaft</i>
ZBK	Zürcher Bibelkommentare
ZS	<i>Zeitschrift für Semitistik und verwandte Gebeite</i>