

Cambridge University Press & Assessment

978-1-108-48316-2 — The Cambridge Companion to Biblical Wisdom Literature

Edited by Katherine J. Dell , Edited in association with Suzanna R. Millar , Arthur Jan Keefer
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THE CAMBRIDGE COMPANION TO BIBLICAL WISDOM LITERATURE

Study of the wisdom literature in the Hebrew Bible and in the contemporary cultures of the ancient Near Eastern world is evolving rapidly as old definitions and assumptions are being questioned. Scholars are now interrogating the role of oral culture, the rhetoric of teaching and didacticism, the understanding of genre and the relationship of these factors to the corpus of wisdom writings. The scribal culture in which wisdom literature arose is also under investigation, alongside questions of social context and character formation. This *Companion* serves as an essential guide to wisdom texts, a body of biblical literature with ancient origins that continue to have universal and timeless appeal. Reflecting new interpretive approaches, including virtue ethics and intertextuality, the volume includes essays by an international team of leading scholars. They engage with the texts, provide authoritative summaries of the state of the field and open up to readers the exciting world of biblical wisdom.

Katharine J. Dell is Professor of Old Testament Literature and Theology at the University of Cambridge and Fellow of St Catharine's College. She is the author of *The Book of Proverbs in Social and Theological Context* (Cambridge University Press, 2006), *Interpreting Ecclesiastes: Readers Old and New* (Eisenbrauns, 2013) and *The Solomonic Corpus of 'Wisdom' and Its Influence* (Oxford University Press, 2020).

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This volume is the culmination of three years' work in planning, writing, compiling, editing and, at last, publishing a work that the editors hope will be an impressive addition to the fields both of wisdom literature and of Hebrew Bible/Old Testament studies as a whole, not to mention its intersections with many other fields within and outside biblical studies and theology. We would like to thank all the contributors to the volume who have produced material to deadlines and word lengths and who have given us some fascinating and fresh insights into the subject area of wisdom. We are grateful to them and to each other for friendly and efficient editorial interaction. Lastly, we would like to thank Beatrice Rehl at Cambridge University Press for being prepared to take on this project and to take it forward with great efficiency. This is an exciting and timely contribution to the Cambridge Companion series and to the field of biblical wisdom literature.

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Abbreviations

<i>AAeg</i>	<i>Analecta Aegyptiaca</i>
<i>AB</i>	Anchor Bible
<i>ABRL</i>	Anchor Bible Reference Library
<i>ABS</i>	Archaeology and Biblical Studies
<i>AIL</i>	Ancient Israel and Its Literature
<i>AnBib</i>	<i>Analecta Biblica</i>
<i>AMD</i>	Ancient Magic and Divination
<i>AOAT</i>	Alter Orient und Altes Testament
<i>AOTC</i>	Abingdon Old Testament Commentaries
<i>ASJ</i>	<i>Acta Sumerologica</i>
<i>ATANT</i>	Abhandlungen zur Theologie des Alten und Neuen Testaments
<i>AThR</i>	<i>Anglican Theological Review</i>
<i>AuOr</i>	<i>Aula Orientalis</i>
<i>BBR</i>	<i>Bulletin for Biblical Research</i>
<i>BBRSup</i>	<i>Bulletin for Biblical Research, Supplements</i>
<i>BCOTWP</i>	Baker Commentary on the Old Testament Wisdom and Psalms
<i>BETL</i>	<i>Bibliotheca Ephemeridum Theologicarum Lovaniensium</i>
<i>BibInt</i>	<i>Biblical Interpretation</i>
<i>BJRL</i>	<i>Bulletin of the John Rylands University Library of Manchester</i>
<i>BJS</i>	Brown Judaic Studies
<i>BKAT</i>	Biblischer Kommentar, Altes Testament
<i>BZAW</i>	Beihefte zur Zeitschrift für die alttestamentliche Wissenschaft
<i>BZNW</i>	Beihefte zur Zeitschrift für die neutestamentliche Wissenschaft
<i>CANE</i>	<i>Civilizations of the Ancient Near East</i>
<i>CBQ</i>	<i>Catholic Biblical Quarterly</i>
<i>CBQMS</i>	Catholic Biblical Quarterly Monograph Series

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<i>CurBR</i>	<i>Currents in Biblical Research</i>
CHANE	Culture and History of the Ancient Near East
ConBOT	Coniectanea Biblica: Old Testament Series
<i>CurBS</i>	<i>Currents in Research: Biblical Studies</i>
CSHJ	Chicago Studies in the History of Judaism
CTM	<i>Concordia Theological Monthly</i>
<i>CurBR</i>	<i>Currents in Biblical Research</i>
<i>CurBS</i>	<i>Currents in Research: Biblical Studies</i>
CUSAS	Cornell University Studies in Assyriology and Sumerology
DCLS	Deuterocanonical and Cognate Literature Studies
DSD	<i>Dead Sea Discoveries</i>
EJL	Early Judaism and Its Literature
ETL	<i>Ephemerides Theologicae Lovanienses</i>
<i>ExpTim</i>	<i>Expository Times</i>
FAT	Forschungen zum Alten Testament
FCB	Feminist Companion to the Bible
FOTL	Forms of the Old Testament Literature
FRLANT	Forschungen zur Religion und Literatur des Alten und Neuen Testaments
GBS	Guides to Biblical Scholarship
GTJ	<i>Grace Theological Journal</i>
HAT	Handbuch zum Alten Testament
HBM	Hebrew Bible Monographs
HBT	<i>Horizons in Biblical Theology</i>
HKAT	Handkommentar zum Alten Testament
HS	<i>Hebrew Studies</i>
HSM	Harvard Semitic Monographs
HSS	Harvard Semitic Studies
HThKAT	Herders Theologischer Kommentar zum Alten Testament
HTR	<i>Harvard Theological Review</i>
HTS	Harvard Theological Studies
HUCA	<i>Hebrew Union College Annual</i>
IB	Interpreter's Bible
IBC	Interpretation: A Bible Commentary for Teaching and Preaching
ICC	International Critical Commentary
IEKAT	Internationaler Exegetischer Kommentar Zum Alten Testament
<i>Int</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>
JAJ	<i>Journal of Ancient Judaism</i>
JAAR	<i>Journal of the American Academy of Religion</i>

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JAJSup	<i>Journal of Ancient Judaism, Supplements</i>
JANESCU	<i>Journal of the Ancient Near Eastern Society of Columbia University</i>
JAOS	<i>Journal of the American Oriental Society</i>
JBL	<i>Journal of Biblical Literature</i>
JBQ	<i>Jewish Bible Quarterly</i>
JBR	<i>Journal of Bible and Religion</i>
JEA	<i>Journal of Egyptian Archaeology</i>
JHS	<i>Journal of Hellenic Studies</i>
JQR	<i>Jewish Quarterly Review</i>
JSJ	<i>Journal for the Study of Judaism in the Persian, Hellenistic, and Roman Periods</i>
JSJSup	<i>Journal for the Study of Judaism, Supplements</i>
JSNTSup	<i>Journal for the Study of the New Testament Supplement Series</i>
JSOT	<i>Journal for the Study of the Old Testament</i>
JSOTSup	<i>Journal for the Study of the Old Testament Supplement Series</i>
JSS	<i>Journal of Semitic Studies</i>
JTISup	<i>Journal for Theological Interpretation, Supplements</i>
KAT	<i>Kommentar zum Alten Testament</i>
LCL	<i>Loeb Classical Library</i>
LHBOTS	<i>The Library of Hebrew Bible/Old Testament Studies</i>
MTSR	<i>Method and Theory in the Study of Religion</i>
NCB	<i>New Century Bible</i>
NEchtB	<i>Neue Echter Bibel</i>
NICOT	<i>New International Commentary on the Old Testament</i>
OBC	<i>Orientalia Biblica et Christiana</i>
OBO	<i>Orbis Biblicus et Orientalis</i>
ÖBS	<i>Österreichische biblische Studien</i>
OBT	<i>Overtures to Biblical Theology</i>
OLA	<i>Orientalia Lovaniensia Analecta</i>
ORA	<i>Orientalische Religionen in der Antike</i>
OTE	<i>Old Testament Essays</i>
OTL	<i>Old Testament Library</i>
OtSt	<i>Oudtestamentische Studiën</i>
PAe	<i>Probleme der Ägyptologie</i>
RB	<i>Revue biblique</i>
RelSoc	<i>Religion and Society</i>
RIPBC	Routledge Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Biblical Criticism

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SAACT	State Archives of Assyria Cuneiform Texts
SAOC	Studies in Ancient Oriental Civilizations
SB	<i>Sammelbuch griechischer Urkunden aus Aegypten</i>
SBLDS	Society of Biblical Literature Dissertation Series
SBLRBS	Society of Biblical Literature Resources for Biblical Study
SBLSymS	Society of Biblical Literature Symposium Series
SBS	Stuttgarter Bibelstudien
SBT	Studies in Biblical Theology
SHBC	Smyth and Helwys Bible Commentary
SJT	<i>Scottish Journal of Theology</i>
SOTSMS	Society for Old Testament Studies Monograph Series
SPA W	Sitzungberichte der Preussischen Akademie der Wissenschaften
SR	<i>Studies in Religion</i>
StBibLit	Studies in Biblical Literature (Lang)
STDJ	Studies on the Texts of the Desert of Judah
SymS	Symposium Series
THOTC	Two Horizons Old Testament Commentary
TLZ	<i>Theologische Literaturzeitung</i>
TOTC	Tyndale Old Testament Commentaries
TUMSR	Trinity University Monograph Series in Religion
TynBul	<i>Tyndale Bulletin</i>
UF	<i>Ugarit-Forschungen</i>
VT	<i>Vetus Testamentum</i>
VTSup	Supplements to <i>Vetus Testamentum</i>
WAW	Writings from the Ancient World
WBC	Word Biblical Commentary
WLAW	Wisdom Literature from the Ancient World
WMANT	Wissenschaftliche Monographien zum Alten und Neuen Testament
WUNT	Wissenschaftliche Untersuchungen zum Neuen Testament
ZA	<i>Zeitschrift für Assyriologie</i>
ZÄS	<i>Zeitschrift für ägyptische Sprache und Altertumskunde</i>
ZAW	<i>Zeitschrift für die alttestamentliche Wissenschaft</i>
ZBK	Zürcher Bibelkommentare
ZTK	<i>Zeitschrift für Theologie und Kirche</i>