



Anthology of World Scriptures: Western Religions

By Robert E. Van Voorst

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Anthology of World Scriptures: Western Religions By Robert E. Van Voorst Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #978307 in Books
- Brand: Wadsworth Publishing
- Published on: 2006-03-14
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.24" h x .55" w x 7.37" l, .89 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 219 pages

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Editorial Review

Review

Preface. Acknowledgments. 1. WESTERN SCRIPTURE AMONG THE WORLD'S RELIGIONS. A Brief History of Scripture Scholarship. The Nature and Definition of Scripture. The Uses of Western Scripture. Advantages and Disadvantages of Studying Western Religions through their Scriptures. Western Scriptures and Modern Scholarship. Western Scriptures and the World Wide Web. The Plan of This Book. Suggestions on How to Read Western Scriptures. Glossary. Questions for Study and Discussion. Suggestions for Further Reading. 2. ZOROASTRIANISM. A. Introduction. Overview of Structure. Origin and Development. Use. B. History. The Call of Zarathushtra (Yasna 29). A Hymn of Praise to Zarathushtra (Yasht 24: 87b?94). C. Teaching and Ethics. Hymn to Ahura and the Purifying Fire (Yasna 36). Hymn to Ahura Mazda the Creator (Yasna 37:1?5). The Choice between Good and Evil (Yasna 30). D. Worship and Ritual. The Place of the Gathas (Yasna 55:1?3). The Zoroastrian Confession (Yasna 12). The Four Great Prayers (From the Yasna). Disposal of the Dead (Vendidad, Fargard 6, section 5, 44?51). E. Later Developments of Scriptural Themes. Judgment of the Soul on Chinvat Bridge (Menok I Khrat 2.110-195). Glossary. Questions for Study and Discussion. Suggestions for Further Reading. 3. JUDAISM. A. Introduction. Names. Overview of Structure. Origin and Development. Use. B. History. The Call of Abraham (Genesis 12:1?9). The Call of Moses (Exodus 3:1?20). Crossing the Red Sea (Exodus 14:1?31). The Covenant with Israel (Exodus 19:1?8). A Psalm for David (Psalm 132). Ezra's Enforcement of Torah Observance (Ezra 9:1?7, 13?15; 10:1?12). C. Teaching. The Oneness of God (Deuteronomy 6:1?9). God's Creation of the World (Genesis 1:1?31; 2:1?9, 15?25). The Revolt of Humanity (Genesis 3:1?24). Prayer for Divine Deliverance (Psalm 5). The Messianic King (Isaiah 11:1?9). The Final Judgment of the World (Daniel 7:1?14). Resurrection of the Dead (Daniel 12:1?3). D. Ethics. The Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:1?14). Laws on Slaves, Violence, Property (Exodus 21:1?36; 22:15?26). Justice for All (Exodus 23:1?9). Holy War (Deuteronomy 20:1?20). Sexual Love (Song of Songs 1:1?2:17). God's Call to an Unfaithful People (Amos 4:1?13). Two Views of Wisdom (Proverbs 1:1?33; Ecclesiastes 1:1?9). The Virtuous Wife (Proverbs 31:10?31). E. Organization. The Ordination of Priests (Exodus 29:1?37). A Call to Be a Prophet (Isaiah 6:1?13). Women as Judges and Prophets (Judges 4:4?10, 14?16; II Kings 22:11?20). F. Ritual. The Establishment of Circumcision (Genesis 17:9?14, 23?27). The Establishment of the Passover (Exodus 12:1?19, 24?27). The Observance of the Sabbath (Exodus 31:12?17). Offerings for the Forgiveness of Sin (Leviticus 4:27?5:10). The Day of Atonement (Leviticus 16:1?5, 11?19, 29?34). Kosher and Nonkosher Foods (Leviticus 11:1?31, 41?47). G. Later Developments of Scriptural Themes. The Chain of Rabbinic Tradition: "Sayings of the Fathers" (Mishnah, Abot 1.1?18). The Replacement of Sacrifice by Study (Babylonian Talmud, Minahot 110a). The Duty to Marry and Have Children (Babylonian Talmud, Yebamoth 61b?63). Why Judaism Survives under Persecution (Maimonides, Letter to Yemen). Glossary. Questions for Study and Discussion. Scriptures in Film. Suggestions for Further Reading. 4. CHRISTIANITY. A. Introduction. Names. Overview of Structure. Origin and Development. Use. B. History. The Birth of Jesus the Messiah (Matthew 1:18?25). Jesus Denounces Pharisees and Lawyers (Luke 11:37?54). Jesus' Miracles (Luke 8:26?56). The Arrest, Trial, and Death of Jesus (Mark 14:43?50, 53?65; 15:1?41). The Resurrection of Jesus (Mark 16:1?8). The Ascension of Jesus (Acts 1:6?11). The Coming of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:1?21). Persecution of the Apostles (Acts 5:27?42). The Council at Jerusalem (Acts 15:1?21). C. Teaching. The Parables of Jesus (Mark 4:1?34). The Word Became Human (John 1:1?18). Nicodemus Visits Jesus (John 3:1?21). A Sinful Woman Forgiven (Luke 7:36?50). Results of Justification (Romans 5:1?11). The Resurrection of Christ and the Believer (I Corinthians 15:1?11, 35?58). The End of Time (Matthew 25:31?46; Revelation 20:1?21:4). D. Ethics. The Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5?7). Directions Concerning Marriage (I Corinthians 7:1?16, 25?40). Love (I Corinthians 13:1?13). Ethics in the Christian Household (Ephesians 5:21?6:9). Being Subject to Authorities (Romans

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Creation of the Universe (Divine Principle 1.1.3.1). The Spiritual and Physical Falls of Adam and Eve (Divine Principle 1.2.2.1-2). The Restoration of Humanity (Divine Principle 1.3. Introduction-1.1). Salvation through the Second Messiah, the True Parent (Divine Principle 2, Introduction). The Advent of the Second Messiah as a Korean (Divine Principle 2.6, Introduction; 2.6.3.2-3). Glossary. Questions for Study and Discussion. Scriptures in Film. Suggestions for Further Reading. Index.

About the Author

Dr. Robert E. Van Voorst is Professor of New Testament Studies at Western Theological Seminary in Holland, Michigan, and former professor of religion at Lycoming College in Williamsport, Pennsylvania, where he was named Teacher of the Year in 1995. He has served as a visiting professor in Oxford University and Zhejiang University in China. Van Voorst has written frequently on religious studies in noted journals and reference works. In addition, he has authored numerous books, including six with Cengage Learning: RELG: WORLD, 3rd Edition; READINGS IN CHRISTIANITY, 3rd Edition; ANTHOLOGY OF WORLD SCRIPTURES, 9th Edition; ANTHOLOGY OF WORLD SCRIPTURES: EASTERN RELIGIONS; ANTHOLOGY OF WORLD SCRIPTURES: WESTERN RELIGIONS; and READING THE NEW TESTAMENT TODAY, now also in a Chinese version. Other books by Van Voorst include BUILDING YOUR NEW TESTAMENT GREEK VOCABULARY, 3rd Edition; THE ASCENTS OF JAMES, a recovery and commentary on a second-century Jewish-Christian document; and JESUS OUTSIDE THE NEW TESTAMENT, an examination of traditions about Jesus in ancient classical and Jewish documents, now also in Italian.

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