

# The Art Of Biblical Poetry

The Art of Biblical PoetryBiblical Poetry and the Art of Close ReadingAn Invitation to Biblical PoetryThe Art of Biblical PoetryOn Biblical PoetryThe Idea of Biblical PoetryThe Basics of Hebrew PoetryReading Biblical PoetryDirections in Biblical Hebrew PoetryThe Great Poems of the BibleArt Of Biblical PoetryThe Structural Analysis of Biblical and Canaanite PoetryThe Bible and PoetryInspirational & Biblical Poetry Enriching the Heart and Satisfying the SoulA New SongA Manual of Hebrew PoeticsWord–order Variation in Biblical Hebrew PoetryUnparalleled PoetryInterpreting Hebrew PoetryBeyond Orality Robert Alter J. Blake Couey Elaine T. James Robert Alter F.W. Dobbs–Allsopp James L. Kugel Samuel T. S. Goh Elaine R. Follis James L. Kugel Robert Alter Willem van der Meer Michael Edwards NATHAN WARE Stephen D. Campbell Luis Alonso Schökel Nicholas P. Lunn Emmylou J. Grosser David L. Petersen Jacqueline Vayntrub

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three decades ago renowned literary expert robert alter radically expanded the horizons of biblical scholarship by recasting the bible as not only a human creation but a work of literary art deserving studied criticism in the art of biblical poetry his companion to the seminal the art of biblical narrative alter takes his analysis beyond narrative craft to investigate the use of hebrew poetry in the bible updated with a new preface myriad revisions and passages from alter s own critically acclaimed biblical translations the art of biblical poetry is an indispensable tool for understanding the bible and its poetry

explores the aesthetic dimensions of biblical poetry offering close readings of poems across the hebrew bible old testament

an invitation to biblical poetry is an introduction to the aesthetic dimensions of the ancient poetry of the bible it argues that as art biblical poems engage their readers in embodied encounters that accomplish intellectual work it examines how this is achieved through the poems various techniques of voicing and address lines formal patterns figures such as metaphor personification and symbol and the crucial but elusive dimensions of historical and readerly

context its broad survey of biblical poetry and accessible style will benefit anyone interested in becoming a better reader of poetry

on biblical poetry takes a fresh look at the nature of biblical hebrew poetry beyond its currently best known feature parallelism f w dobbs allsopp argues that biblical poetry is in most respects just like any other verse tradition and therefore biblical poems should be read and interpreted like other poems using the same critical tools and with the same kinds of guiding assumptions in place he offers a series of programmatic essays on major facets of biblical verse each aspiring to alter currently regnant conceptualizations in the field and to show that attention to aspects of prosody rhythm lineation and the like allied with close reading can yield interesting valuable and even pleasurable interpretations what distinguishes the verse of the bible says dobbs allsopp is its historicity and cultural specificity those peculiar encrustations and encumbrances that typify all human artifacts both the literary and the historical then are in view throughout the concluding essay elaborates a close reading of psalm 133 this chapter enacts the final movement to the set of literary and historical arguments mounted throughout the volume an example of the holistic staging which dobbs allsopp argues is much needed in the field of biblical studies

almost 75 percent of the old testament is made up of poetic passages yet for many readers lay christians even seminary students and pastors biblical poetic passages remain the greatest challenge being unfamiliar with poetry in general and biblical poetry in particular their reading and preaching are limited to selected poetic passages this in turn limits their understanding of god s word to help readers overcome these problems the first four chapters of this book aim to get them familiarized with the literary techniques of biblical poets to demonstrate how the techniques work to bring across the biblical theological message the last three chapters offer poetic analyses of three passages of different kinds in the process we hope to draw attention to the beauty of the hebrew poetic art and to the creative skill of biblical poets versification the ultimate aim however is to help readers discover the rich message of the bible

a companion to reading biblical narrative provides a holistic introduction to biblical poetry offering literary examples of how the poets of the bible created their works original

this collection of original papers reflects the intensity of current interest in the poetry of the ot and amply demonstrates the diversity of rewarding approaches now available some of these studies are landmarks and all are stimulating for further research

james kugel acclaimed harvard scholar and former poetry editor of harpers magazine selects eighteen essential poems from the hebrew bible and offers his own original and articulate translations of these core pieces of religious literature kugel s eloquent renditions are paired with deeply informed discussions about the conditions surrounding each poem including its history and what the best religious scholarship and literary criticism tell us about how the poem should be understood kugel explains traditions clarifies often misunderstood language and offers readers wonderfully insightful explanations that are indispensable to understanding the poems and ultimately the fundamental teachings of the old testament

analyzes the structure functions and metaphors of the poetry in psalms job proverbs and other books of the old testament

a fresh provocative look at the link between poetry and christianity both as it relates to the bible itself as well as to christian and religious life by an accomplished scholar the bible is full of poems in the old testament there are the psalms and the song of songs the great exhortations and lamentations of the prophets and passages of poetry woven in throughout in the new testament jesus describes the kingdom of heaven with poetic epithets such as a treasure hid in a field calling the son of god the true vine the light of the world the good shepherd and the way the truth and the life the gospels reverberate with allusions to the poetry of the old testament the last book of all is revelation a visionary poem the bible in other words asks to be read poetically from start to end and yet readers have rarely considered what that might mean much less heeded that call in the bible and poetry the poet and scholar michael edwards reshapes our understanding of the bible and religious belief arguing that poetry is not an ornamental or accidental feature but is central to both he speaks personally of his early unanticipated transformative encounters with scripture he offers close insightful and resonant readings of biblical passages poetry as he sees it is the vital and necessary medium of the creator s word and the truth of the bible is not a question of precepts and propositions but of a direct experience of its poetry its power

in the bible the books of job psalms proverbs ecclesiastes and the song of solomon are considered books of poetry in this book im like an artist demonstrating a measure of the written creative and recreative power of god using words like patterns shapes colors and designs of all kinds interwoven overlapping mixing them together into creative beauty may you enjoy reading these inspirational and biblical messages in poetic form as much as ive enjoyed writing them nathan ware

the fresh riches of biblical poetry for communities of faith a new song includes nine essays on the hidden intricacies of poetry in the hebrew bible ten poems in dialogue with biblical poetry and three reflective responses on reading genesis 49 how hebrew poetry communicates then and now john goldingay shirat ha yam the song of the sea in jewish and christian liturgical tradition c t r hayward hannah s prayer 1 samuel 2 1 10 on the interface of poetics and ethics in an embedded poem david g firth bending the silence reading psalms through the arts ellen f davis psalms translated for life in the 21st century a south african perspective june f dickie prosody and preaching poetic form and religious function in biblical verse benjamin d sommer with fists flailing at the gates of heaven wrestling with psalm 88 a psalm for chronic illness shai held truth and hidden things reading isaiah 45 9 25 as scripture katie m heffelfinger the dynamic relationship between god and man in the book of hosea a dynamic synchronic reading yisca zimran poems by maria apichella kilby austin edward clarke jacqueline osherow micheal o siadhail richard g rohlfling jr and jock stein edited by stephen d campbell richard g rohlfling jr and richard s briggs a new song brings together a diverse roster of jewish and christian scholars to explore biblical hebrew poetic texts within the context and for the benefit of communities of faith these thoughtful essays and poems encourage readers to join in the singing of the old songs anew

this manual closes a circle which began almost thirty five years ago november 1954 with the beginning of work on a doctoral dissertation defended at the pontifical biblical institute in april 1957 published in spanish in 1962 during three decades of teaching and writing the author has kept an active interest in poetics and stylistics and the resulting accumulated knowledge has been concentrated in the present manual the primary purpose of the book is not to serve as a source of information about facts and authors but rather to initiate the reader into the stylistic analysis of poetry to obtain information and to classify it the reader can turn to recent works watson earlier works knig hempel or reprinted works bullinger among the poetic techniques discussed are sound and sonority rhythm imagery figures of speech dialogue and monologue development and composition page 4 of cover

this study tackles the neglected subject of word order in biblical hewbrew poetry the fact that the order of clause constituents frequently differs from that found in prose has often been noted but no systematic attempt has been offered by way of explanation here two separate factors are taken into consideration that of purely poetic variation defamiliarisation and that of pragmatic markedness this work offers a new approach to the poetry of the old testament that will aid towards more accurate translation exegesis and discourse analysis of poetic texts

chapter 1 begins with a well known biblical poem psalm 23 in order to illustrate two problems facing biblical poetry readers what are lines in traditionally unlineated biblical poetry and why does it even matter the chapter sets these overarching problems in the context of modern biblical poetry scholarship the frameworks of parallelism and meter and the confusion over whether biblical poetry is best defined by style or structure while parallelism and meter are rejected robert lowth s early observation of conformation is affirmed biblical poetry does relate to structure and it is built from lines that fit to each other not lines that fit to a meter this raises the question of how the free rhythm unlineated lines of biblical poetry can be perceived or mentally organized as structural rhythmic units by the listener or reader a cognitive approach informed by the theory and method of reuven tsur is introduced as the solution

petersen clearly demonstrates the techniques and structures utilized by the hebrew poets with plenty of examples from the biblical text terminology has become quite confusing in this area but petersen cuts through these difficulties controversial matters such as the existence and function of meter in hebrew poetry are treated in a balanced manner furthermore the book goes beyond mere demonstration of poetic features and fulfills the promise of the title by illustrating how an understanding of these features informs the interpretation of poetic passages of scripture this is a good place to begin before moving on to the more extensive treatments of the subject by gillingham or alter or the more complex and cutting edge analysis of kugel amazon com

central to understanding the prophecy and prayer of the hebrew bible are the unspoken assumptions that shaped them their genres modern scholars describe these works as poetry but there was no corresponding ancient hebrew term or concept scholars also typically assume it began as oral literature a concept based more in evolutionist assumptions than evidence is biblical poetry a purely modern fiction or is there a more fundamental reason why its definition

escapes us beyond orality biblical poetry on its own terms changes the debate by showing how biblical poetry has worked as a mirror reflecting each era s own self image of verbal art yet vayntrub also shows that this problem is rooted in a crucial pattern within the bible itself the texts we recognize as poetry are framed as powerful and ancient verbal performances dramatic speeches from the past the bible s creators presented what we call poetry in terms of their own image of the ancient and the oral and understanding their native theories of hebrew verbal art gives us a new basis to rethink our own

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