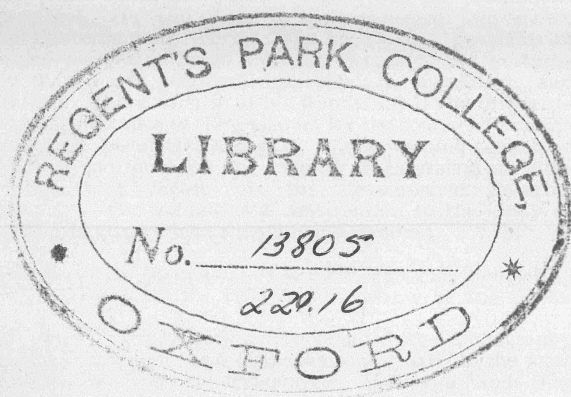


The Society for Old Testament Study

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THE SOCIETY FOR OLD TESTAMENT STUDY.

BOOK LIST, 1938.

THE following selection of books published during the last year has been made by a Sub-Committee consisting of Miss B. K. Rattey, Prof. S. A. Cook, Mr. G. R. Driver, Rev. Father C. Lattey, S.J., Mr. H. Loewe, Rev. Preb. W. O. E. Oesterley, Rev. Prin. H. Wheeler Robinson, Prof. T. H. Robinson, and the Rev. Prof. H. H. Rowley.

(Where sterling prices are quoted for foreign books, they may be subject to fluctuations in the exchange.)

ARCHÆOLOGY, ETHNOLOGY, ETC.

CAUSSE, A. : *Du Groupe Ethnique à la Communauté Religieuse*. (Alcan. Fr. 50.)

The problem of the development of Israelite religion, as viewed from the sociological standpoint, forms the subject of this new addition to Professor Causse's studies in the history of Hebrew humanism. The first part deals with the disintegration of the old tribal solidarity and the teaching of the prophets. He then passes to the sociological significance of the Deuteronomic reform. The sociological problems of exilic and post-exilic Israel are next discussed, and he turns finally to the late post-exilic universalism, humanism, and syncretism. Characteristic of his standpoint is the insistence upon the significance of the Diaspora for the course of Israelite religions and speculative thought : it is a warning that if we concentrate too much on the religion of Jerusalem we may miss important factors in the development towards Christianity. The volume is a contribution to the study of post-exilic Judaism which should not be ignored.

PIROT, L. : *Supplément au Dictionnaire de la Bible*, Fasc. 17, completing Vol. III (see Book Lists for 1935-7). (Letouzey et Ané, Paris. Fr. 30.)

In this part the article on *Grace* is concluded (the Bibliography occupies ten columns), and of the remaining articles the most important are those on *Hammurabi*, *Hellenism*, and *Hermeneutics*.

SCHOFIELD, J. N. : *The Historical Background of the Bible*. (Nelson. 7s. 6d.)

This is a well-illustrated book of about 330 pages, dealing with the historical and archaeological background of the Old and New Testaments, by a young scholar who has had the advantage of a four years' residence in Palestine and Egypt. It gives a running account of the Biblical history, with constant reference, where called for, to the recent archaeological discoveries. The Bible is thus placed in its background of modern research and discovery, and the "historical" spirit which animates the writer gives his book a value of its own. Among various special features may be mentioned a section on the Samaritans and some pages on Twentieth Century Palestine and the Jewish problem. If only for the last-mentioned point, his book is to be consulted.

SIMONS, J., S.J. : *Handbook for the Study of Egyptian Topographical Lists relating to Western Asia*. (Brill, Leiden.)

A handbook of all such lists to the end of the Dynastic period, with Egyptian texts, transcriptions, notes, bibliographies, descriptions, plans and diagrams. The first handy and uniform edition of these lists : there has been "a discouraging amount of vagueness and confusion," due to different systems of numbering and the imperfect preservation of nearly all the topographical reliefs and inscriptions. The present valuable work will doubtless be required by all students of Biblical topography.

TORCZYNER, H., and OTHERS : *The Lachish Letters*. (O.U.P. 25s.)

This volume contains the ostraca found at Tell ad-Duweir by the Wellcome Archaeological Research Expedition under the leadership of Mr. John Starkey. Apart from his account of the excavation, and reports by Mr. Harding on the potsherds and script and by Mr. A. Lewsi on the ink used, the volume is from the hand of the Professor of Hebrew in the University of Jerusalem, and is a fine piece of scholarly investigation. The letters will occupy Semitists for years to come, and their contents and significance are of such varied interest that all Biblical students should be apprised of them. The book contains 224 pages with over 50 illustrations, and every care has been taken to provide all that the most insistent reader can ask for. The letters are carefully discussed—though much still remains obscure—and the volume as a whole not only gives us at last a complete account of what is really a unique and sensational discovery, namely authentic letters of the age of Jeremiah, but enables us to imagine what further and thorough excavation in Palestine and Syria might reveal.

EXEGESIS.

BÉVENOT, DOM HUGH, O.S.B., B.A. : *Nahum and Habakkuk*. The Westminster Version of the Sacred Scriptures. (Longmans, Green and Co. 2s., paper covers : 2s. 6d., boards.)

This interesting addition to the well-known Catholic series has been published posthumously. The author had not completed his MS. on Habakkuk, but the gaps have been admirably filled by the general editor of the series, Father C. Lattey, S.J. The volume includes an introduction, translation, and notes. The latter are comparatively short, but scholarly and to the point. There is little of importance that has been overlooked.

BIRD, REV. T. E., D.D., Ph.D. : *The Book of Jona*. The Westminster Version of the Sacred Scriptures. (Longmans, Green and Co. 2s., paper covers ; 2s. 6d., boards.)

Planned on the same lines as the last-mentioned work. Dr. Bird devotes a good deal of the introduction to a defence of the literal interpretation of the book, though he is scrupulously fair to those who differ from him.

BUTTENWIESER, M. : *The Psalms Chronologically Treated, with a New Translation*. (Chicago University Press. 22s. 6d.)

Buttenwieser turns from the recent Type-study of the Psalter to the older attempt to date the individual Psalms, and believes he can do this so securely that the Psalms then become important historical sources, particularly in the Persian period. He dates Ps. 81B from the time of Joshua, and holds that part of Ps. 68 was by the author of the Song of Deborah. He finds two Davidic Psalms (60A and 57B/60B), and three from the time of Hezekiah (48, 76, 78). Several he assigns to the author of Deutero-Isaiah, including 93, 97, 98, 96, which he believes formed a single Psalm. The vast majority of the Psalms, 115 in all, he assigns to the post-exilic period, but believes none is later than 312 B.C., and he assigns to the author of Job Pss. 39, 73, 139, and possibly 17, 23. A new translation, based on a critical study of the text, is given for each Psalm, and detailed notes are appended, but metrical problems are ignored.

COOKE, G. A. : *The Book of Ezekiel*. (ICC.) (T. and T. Clark. 20s.)

For many years the world of Old Testament scholarship has been awaiting Canon Cooke's work on Ezekiel. It was worth waiting for. We have here a volume which fully maintains the standard set by this series, marked as it is by exhaustive and accurate scholarship. Detailed description is impossible, but it may be noted that Dr. Cooke adopts a moderate position in the criticism of the book, assigning considerable portions

(but not the whole) of chs. 40-48 to a later hand than that of Ezekiel himself, while avoiding the drastic views of critics like Torrey and James Smith.

HÖLSCHER, G.: *Das Buch Hiob*. Handbuch zum Alten Testament. (J. C. B. Mohr, Tübingen. RM. 4.20, Lwd. RM. 6.00.)

A notable contribution to the study of the Book of Job. Like other volumes in the series it contains an introduction, translation, and notes, both critical and exegetical. The limitations of space imposed on the author necessarily make the comments brief, but as they are continuous, and not subject to a verse-by-verse arrangement, they read simply and naturally, and the compression is not obtrusive. Hölscher adopts the normal critical view of the book, though he holds that the poet may have received the prose framework through oral tradition, and not as a written document. He believes that the author was a widely travelled Palestinian Jew, who had faced the problem of suffering, and, while he rejected the conventional explanation, found no answer to his questions, except in complete submission to the almighty power of God.

NOTH, M.: *Das Buch Josua*. Handbuch zum Alten Testament. J. C. B. Mohr, Tübingen. RM. 5.80, Lwd. RM. 7.60.)

Similar in form and method to the book last mentioned, and also a very important contribution to the study of the Old Testament. His critical position is interesting and original, for he does not find that the sources are treated as they are in the Pentateuch (if, indeed, they are the same), though it is clear that the Book is essentially a Deuteronomic redaction of much earlier material. It may be observed that Noth has made skilful use of the material in elucidating such matters as the political organization of Judah in the latter part of the seventh century B.C., and his work has a value for the history of Israel as well as to the exegesis of the Book of Joshua.

OESTERLEY, W. O. E.: *Ancient Hebrew Poems*. (S.P.C.K. 6s.)

A selection of thirty-two pieces from the poetical portions of the Bible, including the Apocrypha. To each is prefixed a short introduction, followed by a new translation and notes, mainly textual. The whole book has an introduction dealing with Hebrew metrics. The pieces are taken from all parts of the Bible; three Psalms only are included; the Book of Isaiah is especially well represented. The book is a useful introduction to the study of Hebrew poetry for readers who know no Hebrew.

REIDER, J.: *Deuteronomy*. (Jewish Publication Society of America. \$2.50.)

This work takes account of modern scholarship, and will be found useful. The author follows Sellin, Oestreicher and

Welch, but is often independent. He rejects the documentary hypothesis, but extends the scope of textual criticism. His etymological notes are concise and original. It is a virtue of this book that, while it is couched in simple language—being intended for popular reading—it conveys a great deal of information, often of an advanced standard.

VICTOR, DENNIS (Bishop of Lebombo) : *The Minor Prophets*. (Wilding and Son, Shrewsbury. 1s. 6d.)

The book was originally written in Chinyanja, the language of the people living round Lake Nyasa, in Central Nyasa, for the use of teachers and the native clergy. It is to be translated into other African dialects. After a general introduction there is a special introduction and analysis of each prophecy, with an explanation of each verse or section, that does not fall far short of being a paraphrase. This method of treating the text is rather novel, and should do much to bring its message home to the simple and uneducated of all races.

HISTORY.

JONES, A. H. M. : *The Herods of Judaea*. (Clarendon Press. 8s. 6d.)

This book, of about 280 pages, with plates and tables (chronology and genealogy) and three maps, provides a good general account of the political background to the New Testament. The decline and fall of the Jewish state by the side of the rise of Christianity is a topic of immense interest ; and Mr. Jones, who has made a special study of the eastern Roman Empire, treats the subject from a secular standpoint. One misses references and the discussion of some difficult questions, but the book as a whole gives a valuable sketch of the period from the time of Antipater to the destruction of the Temple. It may be recommended to all students of Christian origins.

ROBINSON, H. W. : *The History of Israel: Its Facts and Factors*. (Duckworth. 5s.)

An excellent short text-book, marked by admirable compression and sound judgment, carrying the history down to A.D. 70, with a concluding chapter on the philosophy of history. The author rejects the fifteenth century date for Moses in favour of the late date theory, and follows the now common view that Ezra should be dated half a century later than Nehemiah.

INTRODUCTION.

(a) TEXT.

The following parts of the new edition of Kittel's *Biblia Hebraica* have appeared since the last issue of the Book List :

Chronicles : ed. by J. Begrich.

Daniel, Ezra and Nehemiah : ed. by W. Baumgartner, H. H. Schaeder, and J. Begrich.

These parts complete the new edition, which can now be obtained in one volume at RM. 10. In the complete edition a number of errors which appeared in the separate parts have been corrected.

GORDIS, ROBERT : *The Biblical Text in the Making*. (Dropsie College, Philadelphia. \$2.50.)

A discerning study of the Kethibh and Qere. Dr. Gordis finds three main purposes underlying these marginal notes : (a) to preserve the reader from falling into blasphemy or obscenity ; (b) to protect the traditional pronunciation ; (c) to record an important variation in the traditional text. The case is well presented, and the material admirably handled.

MILNE, H. J. M., and SKEAT, T. C. : *Scribes and Correctors of the Codex Sinaiticus*. Printed by order of the Trustees of the British Museum. £1 12s. 6d.

An exhaustive palæographical study of the MS. correcting and adding to the work done by Tischendorf, Lake and others. The authors differentiate clearly between the three main scribes, and add important notes on the scribes of the Codex Vaticanus and of the Codex Alexandrinus. There is an account of the way in which the Codex has been rebound, and the volume contains a series of magnificent plates.

REHM, M. : *Textkritische Untersuchungen zu den Parallelstellen der Samuel-Königsbücher und der Chronik*. (Alttestamentliche Abhandlungen, xii, 3.) (Aschendorff, Münster i. W. RM. 10.)

A patient and thorough piece of work, providing a valuable detailed examination of the Lucianic and Septuagint texts of these parallel passages in relation to the Massoretic text, with careful classification of the phenomena.

WUTZ, FRANZ : *Systematische Wege von der Septuaginta zum hebräischen Urtext*. (Erster Teil. Kohlhammer, Stuttgart. RM. 27.)

The main headings of this first part of an important work are : *Uebersetzungstechnik in der Septuaginta als Textkriterium*, *Eingriffe in den hebräische Textbestand*, *Exegese als textkritisches Mittel*, and *Der hebräische Text als Ausgangspunkt der Kritik*. The book, which contains 1949 pages, ends with 277 pages of reconstructed texts with *apparatus criticus*, mostly in German. It is a valuable contribution to Old Testament textual criticism, but it is to be hoped that it will not be

necessary to employ it without the help of the second part due under the title *Lexika und Indices*.

(b) PHILOLOGY.

BAUER, HANS : *Der Ursprung des Alphabets*. (Der Alte Orient xxxvi, 1/2 ; Hinrichs, Leipzig. RM. 1.95.)

Published posthumously under the editorship of Prof. O. Eissfeldt. Bauer maintains with his usual learning and insight that the idea of a consonantal script was derived through Ugarit from Egypt, that the Phoenician alphabet was invented, probably arbitrarily, though perhaps with partial reliance on other scripts (such as the Cretan linear and the Ugaritian cuniform), in Syria, possibly at Byblos, towards 1300 B.C. ; that there was no intrinsic connexion between sound and sign so that this consciously depicted a concrete object but that its form in certain cases influenced its name on the acrophonic principle, and, finally, that the Sinaitic script had no genetic connexion with, but was perhaps an analogue to, the Phoenician alphabet. The book is as interesting as it is important, and should be in the hands of every Semitist.

KOTSUJI, A. S. : *The Origin and Evolution of the Semitic Alphabets*. (Kyo Bun Kwan, Tokyo. Y.15.00.)

Dr. Kotsuji has given a full account of the Semitic alphabets in two parts, of which he devotes the first to a historical and archæological search for their source and the second to the palæography of their various types. The account is not very profound, and the large type and spacing make it seem longer than it really is. The explanations are not always very clear (perhaps due to the fact that the author writes in a foreign language), but are helped out by a fair number of illustrations. The author believes in the Egypto-Sinaitic origin of the alphabet, and its diffusion through Phoenician centres, and in this connexion it is unfortunate that Bauer's book (see above) appeared too late for him to use. He further believes that the South-Semitic and Greek alphabets diverged before the known Phoenician from the parent Semitic (or now lost proto-Semitic) script. The discussion of the later developments of the Semitic alphabets is sketchy. In default, however, of any modern book in English on the alphabet, Dr. Kotsuji's work may be useful to students, even though everything in it must not be unhesitatingly accepted. It is, in any case, an interesting production of modern Japanese scholarship.

LAMBERT, MAYER : *Traité de grammaire hébraïque*. (Leroux, Paris, Fr. 200.)

This new Hebrew Grammar will be found useful to students who can read French but not German as a supplement to Kautzsch-Cowley *Hebrew Grammar*. It is on a somewhat smaller scale than that work, but serves in some respects to

bring it up to date ; it is a pity, however, that the author clings to such archaisms as " conversive " Waw, even though he does not accept a " conversive " theory of the tenses. The accidence is fully treated, but the sections devoted to syntax, which is equally important in the study of a language, are disappointing.

(c) LITERARY CRITICISM.

CROOK, MARGARET B. (Ed.) : *The Bible and its Literary Associations*. (Abingdon Press. \$2.50.)

A collection of essays by different members of the Faculty of Smith College, Northampton, Massachusetts, dealing with various aspects of the Bible. The first, and larger, part of the book is given up to the history of the Bible itself ; the account of its development is given by Miss Crook herself, and others deal with translations current in various parts of Europe, ancient and modern. The second part consists of three essays dealing with the influence of the Bible on English and Scottish literature.

JAMES, FLEMING : *Thirty Psalmists*. (Putnams, New York. \$3.)

The sub-title describes this as *A study in personalities of the Psalter as seen against the background of Gunkel's Type-study of the Psalms*. After a brief account of Gunkel's work (to which the author returns in an Appendix), examples of the various types of Psalm are selected, and an effort is made to get behind the poem to the author's personality and outlook. The book makes no profession of originality, but shews a good acquaintance with modern literature on the Psalter.

MOWINCKEL, S. : *The Two Sources of the Pre-Deuteronomic Primateval History (JE) in Gen. 1-11* (Avhandling utgitt av det Norske Videnkaps-Akademi i Oslo, II. Hist.-Filos. Klasse, 1937, No. 2). Dybwad, Oslo. 6s. 6d.)

In contrast to Rudolph's elimination of E. (see below), Mowinckel would extend this source, and finds an E strand running back to the beginning of Genesis. This involves him in the necessity of arguing that the divine name does not stand in its original form in this section.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CATHOLIC BIBLICAL ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA. First General Meeting, St. Louis, Mo, Oct. 9-10, 1937. (Published by the Association ; The Catholic University of America, Washington, D.C. \$1.)

The Association has undertaken an English translation of the Latin Vulgate, in which English and Irish scholars are being asked to collaborate ; the New Testament should soon begin to appear. Most of the papers read at the general meeting have reference to this translation.

RUDOLPH, W. : *Der "Elohlist" von Exodus bis Josua*. (Beihefte zur ZAW, 68.) (Töpelmann, Berlin. RM.18.)

A re-analysis of these books, governed by the thesis of Volz and Rudolph's *Der Elohlist als Erzähler* (see Book List for 1934), viz., that there never was an independent document E. The elimination of E leaves a J document, in which several strands of tradition have been interwoven, expanded later by additions and glosses, with P additions made subsequently.

POST-BIBLICAL JUDAISM.

DZIUBAS, RABBI A. : *Miyyakire Yerushalmi*. (Privately published by the author at Montefiore College, Ramsgate. In three parts, 7s.6d.)

An excellent anthology of passages collected from the "Jerusalem" Talmud, entirely in Hebrew. The extracts are arranged alphabetically according to subject, e.g., 'ish, 'olam, hesed, etc.: they are provided with an admirable commentary. The book is well suited for reading with students; the Aramaic phrases are explained in the Commentary.

FINKELSTEIN, L. : *Akiba*. (Covici Fried, New York. \$4.50)

A piece of pioneer work of first importance. On the basis of Tannaitic material Finkelstein has given not merely a biography but a historical sketch of the environment which students of early Christianity and Judaism must not miss. One of his many original contributions to the solution of problems is his proof that Trajan and not Hadrian offered to rebuild the Temple.

FINKELSTEIN, L. : *Sifre zu Deuteronomium*. Lieferung V. (Marcus Verlag, Breslau. RM. 6).

This instalment of Finkelstein's edition of Horowitz's great work, which differs in no way from the preceding parts, ends, on p. 320, at §302. (Deut. xxvi, 12).

GOLOMB, DAVID : *Targumna*. Vol. IIIb. (Messrs. G. and H. Golomb, 13, Fourth Avenue, Hove, Sussex. 21s.)

The latest part of this monumental work, published through the filial piety of the author's sons, covers the second part of Leviticus (from xvii onwards). The whole book is an encyclopædic commentary on the Targum (with parallels from the Peshitta, LXX, Aquila, etc.) in which the text is followed verse by verse. No Aramaic scholar can neglect this book. It is purely in Hebrew, but the author's style is facile and pleasing. The sons are raising a splendid monument to their father by producing his works so beautifully and by distributing them to scholars.

HEBREW UNION COLLEGE ANNUAL, Vols. xii-xiii. (Cincinnati. \$3.00.)

Among the articles included special mention may be made of Morgenstern's continuation of his Amos studies, in which he discusses the date of Uzziah's sin (New Year's Day) and Jeroboam's festival. I. Eitan contributes philological notes on Isaiah, based on certain principles (the effect of vowel-recession, of emphatic *Lamed*, puns, archaisms, etc.) J. Reider writes on the etymology of *mul*, *mol*, which he connects with *tmol*. J. Lewy examines certain Hebrew roots; his etymological deductions are most attractive. Perhaps the most important article is A. Sperber's careful examination of Latin and Greek transliterations of Hebrew.

HYAMSON, A. M., and SILBERMANN, A. M. (ed.): *Valentine's Jewish Encyclopædia*. (Shapiro Valentine, London. 15s.)

Strongly to be recommended as a desk book. A searching test has shewn that the articles are accurate. Dates are freely given, and so are pictures and plans. Many articles, e.g., Bible, Palestine, Jerusalem, Judaism, Prophets, Philosophy, etc., are lengthy. The Biblical and historical articles are not fundamentalist, but are cautious in outlook. The main results of modern scholarship are tacitly presupposed. The book is up to date, e.g., it contains pictures from and references to Dura Europos, Ras Shamra, and Lachish.

LICHTIGFELD, A.: *Twenty Centuries of Jewish Thought*. (Shapiro Valentine, London. 3s. 6d.)

A pleasing anthology of a philosophical character, drawn from the writings of Montefiore, Bergson, Cassirer, Alexander, Baek, Baber and others.

LOEWE, H., and OESTERLEY, W. O. E. (Eds.): *Judaism and Christianity*. Vol. I (ed. Oesterley), *The Age of Transition* (10s. 6d.); Vol. II (ed. Loewe), *The Contact of Pharisaism with other Cultures* (12s. 6d.). (Sheldon Press.)

Two volumes of symposia by Jewish and Christian scholars, writing in sympathy with one another's positions. In the first volume, to which E. O. James and S. H. Hooke contribute, in addition to the two editors, the main theme is the emergence of Christianity from Judaism. The second, which includes essays by W. L. Knox, J. Parkes, E. Rosenthal, L. Rabinowitz, G. G. Coulton, A. C. Adcock, and H. F. Stewart, as well as Loewe, covers a wider field, sketching the relations between Jews and others in the Middle Ages and the Renaissance Period, as well as in the ancient world.

MARMORSTEIN, A.: *The Old Rabbinic Doctrine of God*. (Jews' College Publ., No. 14.) (Oxford University Press. 5s.)

A searching investigation of the problems of anthropopathism, starting with the prophets and the psalmists. The author

denies the Hellenistic origin of the conception; he claims that the division between opponents and supporters of anthropomorphisms depended on the attitude taken towards the Biblical text at different periods; he hesitates to say that Biblical exegesis *always* influenced theology. He also treats, most exhaustively, the relation of his subject to cosmology, sectarianism—including Jewish—Christianity, and foreign influences.

SEGAL, M. H.: *Concise Hebrew-English Dictionary*. (Dvir Publishing Co., Tel Aviv. 5s.)

A most useful and scholarly work, and model of compression, covering "the Hebrew of all ages."

TREND, J. B., and LOEWE, H. M. J. (ed.): *Isaac Abravanel*. (Cambridge University Press. 7s. 6d.)

Half a dozen experts have combined to give a picture of one of the outstanding figures of the Renaissance Period. The man, his story, and his work are discussed from a number of different standpoints, and the small amount of overlapping in the different contributions only helps to bring out more clearly the essential qualities of the subject.

RELIGION AND THEOLOGY.

BALSCHKEIT, BRUNO: *Alter und Aufkommen des Monotheismus in der israelitischen Religion*. (BZAW. Töpelmann. RM. 8.60.)

Israel's Monotheism is a complex product, in which three lines can be traced from Moses to Deuteronomy, viz., the prophetic emphasis on divine purpose, the priestly on worship (incorporating foreign elements), and the "theological" seeking to present Yahweh as the Lord of all the generations. "Die israelitische Religion ist nicht lebendig geblieben, weil sie den Monotheismus hervorgebracht hat, sondern der Monotheismus ist lebendig geblieben, weil die charakteristische Kraft der israelitischen Religion *seine* Kraft geworden ist."

CLOSEN, GUSTAV E., S.J.: *Die Sünde der Söhne Gottes (Gen. vi, 1-11)*. Ein Beitrag zur Theologie der Genesis. (Biblical Institute, Rome. L. 45.)

Father Closen discusses three hypotheses, viz., that the "Sons of God" are (i) angels, (ii) the descendants of Seth (iii) mankind in general. He rejects the first two and embraces the third, perhaps with rather too much confidence, but the philological and exegetical explanations are carefully worked out and should prove useful.

COOK, STANLEY A.: *The "Truth" of the Bible.* (S.P.C.K. 9s.)

A sequel to *The Old Testament: a Reinterpretation*. Argues that Israel's sixth century transformation, continued in the rise of Christianity and in the Reformation, points onwards to a new reconstruction of religion, based on (a) ethical monotheism, (b) an inductive use of all physical and psychical knowledge, (c) the comparative study of religion. This argument is contained chiefly in the last three chapters; earlier chapters contain either special studies or re-published addresses on the general theme. The whole is marked by its very wide range, especially in the field of comparative religion, and it is significant that the product ultimately expected is still fundamentally Christian.

DHORME, ÉDOUARD: *L'Évolution religieuse d'Israël.* Tome I: La religion des Hébreux nomades. (Nouvelle Société d'Édition, Bruxelles. 18s. 3d.)

Prof. Dhorme here gives a full sketch of the religious ideas of the nomadic Hebrews divided into 21 chapters on such subjects as the Biblical sources of our information, the origin of the Hebrews, their closest neighbours, their sacred sites and objects, their cult and its ministers, the family and the stranger as they are affected by the national religion, their ideas of pure and impure, and their primitive deities. The whole picture, which is vividly described, is reinforced with illustrations from Assyriology; the author's own Ugaritian studies, and contemporary Arab customs. The book is further enriched with many novel and arresting suggestions and explanations—e.g., of the prohibition of stewing a kid in its mother's milk, of sacred prostitution, of the meaning of "Perizzite" and the form of "Milcom."

JANSEN, H. LUDIN: *Die spät-jüdische Psalmendichtung: ihr Entstehungskreis und ihr "Sitz im Leben."* (Eine literaturgeschichtsoziologische Untersuchung.) Jacob Dybwad, Oslo. 12s.)

By a pupil of Mowinckel, translated from Norwegian into German. It covers the period 200 B.C.—A.D. 100, and argues that psalm-composition of this age arose chiefly in the circle of the "wise"; e.g., in the Psalms of Solomon only the laments of VII and XII fail to show the influence of Wisdom.

OESTERLEY, W. O. E.: *Sacrifices in Ancient Israel: their origin, purposes and development.* (Hodder and Stoughton. 12s. 6d.)

A very useful book for students, surveying the whole field, and serving as an introduction to more specialized books. Interpretative use is made of all the three chief theories, viz., those of a gift to God, of the communion-meal, and of the liberation of life for the sake of either man or God. It is recognized that

other ideas (expiation and propitiation) may be attached to the gift. The closing discussion of the Atonement in the New Testament is relatively slight and inadequate to the subject, and does not do justice to the momentum of the previous argument.

PHYTHIAN-ADAMS, W. J. : *The Fulness of Israel*. (Oxford University Press. 8s. 6d.)

A sequel to his earlier book, *The Call of Israel* (1934) ; on similar lines and of similar qualities. It is a review of Israel's history on broadest lines to show its quality as a preparation for the Gospel. Enthusiastic and interesting, but too fond of dogmatic generalizations.

VINCENT, A. : *La Religion des Judéo-Araméens d'Eléphantine*. (P. Geuthner, Paris. Fr. 150.)

The most elaborate and detailed study of the subject that has yet been written. Argues that the colony continues the semi-pagan worship of Bethel, the migration being due to Josiah's activities there, and taking place between the Scythian invasion and the discovery of the Law-book in the Temple. A Samaritan origin for the colonists is suggested by their deities, their personal names, the position and function of the priests, and by their ritual peculiarities. Full of information, and well documented as to recent literature.

WALKER, T. : *Hebrew Religion between the Testaments*. (James Clarke. 3s. 6d.)

A classified summary of the chief doctrines (God, Providence, etc.), illustrated by quotations from the Apocryphal and Pseudepigraphical literature. No account is taken of non-apocalyptic Rabbinic religion.