

The Old Testament



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著者:Michael Coogan

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Eminent biblical scholar Michael D. Coogan offers here a wide-ranging and stimulating exploration of the Old Testament, illuminating its importance as history, literature, and sacred text. Coogan explains the differences between the Bible of Jewish tradition (the "Hebrew Bible") and the Old Testament of Christianity, and also examines the different contents of the Bibles used by Roman Catholics, Eastern Orthodox Christians, and Protestants. He looks at the rise of modern biblical scholarship as well as the recovery of ancient Near Eastern literatures and their significance for biblical interpretation. One particularly interesting section examines three principal characters of the Old Testament--Abraham, Deborah, and David--illuminating important themes connected with them, such as Abraham and covenant and David as poet and warrior. Coogan explores the use of invented dialogue and historical fiction in the Old Testament, the presence of mythic elements in apparently historical accounts, and the relationship of ancient Israelite myths to those of their neighbors. The book considers the Old Testament's idea of divine justice, especially in Ecclesiastes and Job, and looks at notions of the afterlife in the ancient Near East and in ancient Israel. Coogan highlights the significance of the history and literature of the Old Testament and describes how non-biblical evidence, such as archaeological data and texts, has placed the Old Testament in a larger and more illuminating context. The book also discusses law and

ritual in the Bible as well as the biblical understandings of prophecy. Here then is a marvelous overview of one of the great pillars of Western religion and culture, a book whose significance has endured for thousands of years and which remains vitally important today for Jews, Christians, and Muslims worldwide.

作者介绍:

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评论

这本书最大的问题就是刻意只理解字面的意思并且再利用它成为抨击对象，比如亚伯拉罕献祭以撒，圣经中没有明确写到亚伯拉罕悲伤，不舍的情感桥段，于是作者便指责这不符合常理，不合人性等。

对Job书比较感兴趣……怎么诠释世间的恶，是个大问题

读到后边就有点涣散，甚至有时候觉得写书的人也是这样。实际上，精读前面几张的话，就可以部分掌握分析经卷的能力了。此书有个特点，语言精炼流畅。

末章引用莎翁的话很经典 “The devil can cite Scripture for his purpose “

简明易懂，入门级读物

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书评

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