



Royal Apologetic in the Ancient Near East (Writings from the Ancient World Supplement)

By Andrew Knapp

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A fresh exploration of apologetic material that pushes beyond form criticism

Andrew Knapp applies modern genre theory to seven ancient Near Eastern royal apologies that served to defend the legitimacy of kings who came to power under irregular circumstances. Knapp examines texts and inscriptions related to Telipinu, Hattusili III, David, Solomon, Hazael, Esarhaddon, and Nabonidus to identify transhistorical common issues that unite each discourse.

Features:

- Compares Hittite, Israelite, Aramean, Assyrian, and Babylonian apologies
- Examination of apologetic as a mode instead of a genre
- Charts and illustrations

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Editorial Review

Review

Amplly documented and philologically skillful, Knapp's Royal Apologetic enlightens discussion of a well-known genre in ancient Near Eastern royal literature, winning through from the literary evidence to historical reconstruction: a bravura performance. Knapp exhibits nice judgment throughout. This stimulating study will inspire much further scholarship, particularly in the area of royal, and, one hopes, other apologies in the ancient world. --Baruch Halpern, Covenant Foundation Professor of Jewish Studies and Professor of Religion and Linguistics, University of Georgia

This volume assembles in one place the most important exemplars of ancient Near Eastern royal apologetic literature. Andrew Knapp offers here a careful study, reinvigorating the comparative study of these texts and placing our understanding of them on firmer theoretical footing. This groundbreaking study proposes new solutions to old problems through sophisticated philological and historical analysis; it will serve as a necessary resource for anyone with an interest in the political rhetoric of the ANE. --Jeremy M. Hutton, Associate Professor of Classical Hebrew Language and Biblical Literature, University of Wisconsin-Madison

About the Author

Andrew Knapp received his Ph.D. from The Johns Hopkins University.

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