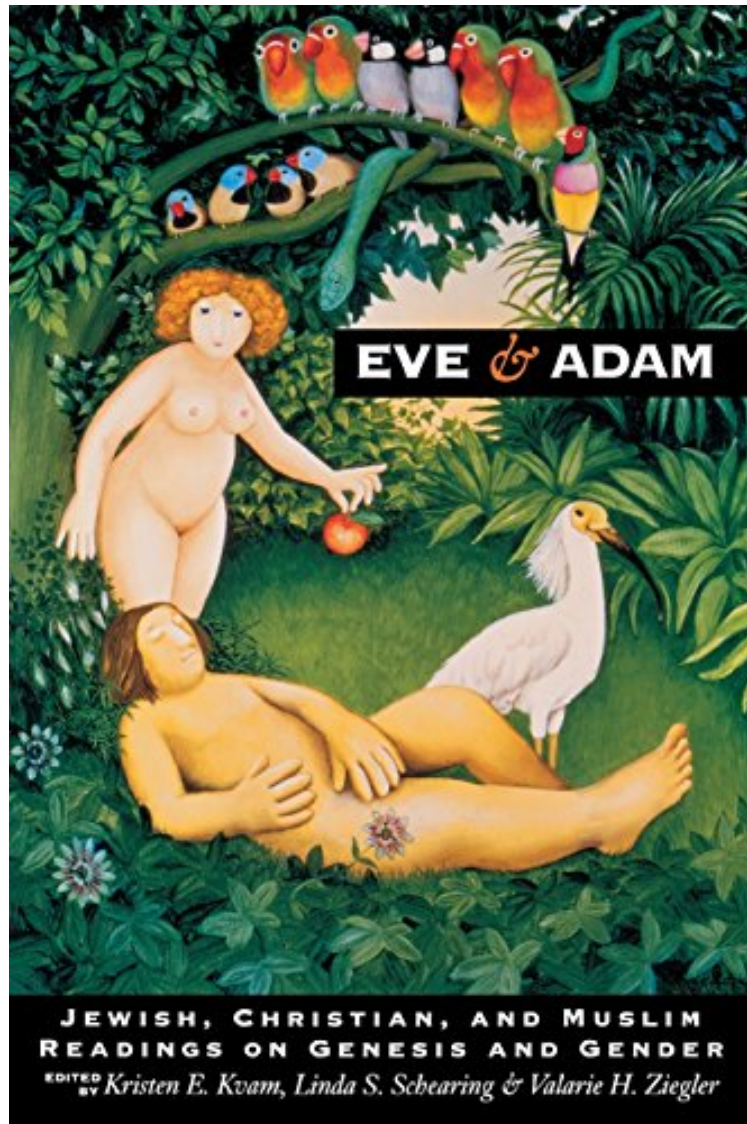


Eve and Adam: Jewish, Christian, and Muslim Readings on Genesis and Gender

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#654639 in Books Kristen E Kvam 1999-05-15 2009-10-09Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.25 x 1.27 x 6.12l, 1.86 #File Name: 0253212715515 pagesEve and Adam Jewish Christian and Muslim Readings on Genesis and Gender | File size: 67.Mb

From Kristen E Kvam : Eve and Adam: Jewish, Christian, and Muslim Readings on Genesis and Gender before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Eve and Adam: Jewish, Christian, and Muslim Readings on Genesis and Gender:

8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. A Historian;s Treasure troveBy A. BrittainWhen I first bought this

book from , there were not any reviews posted about it and I bought it on a gamble hoping that it would have what I needed. That gamble was beyond worth it! I have been working on a book and one of the subjects that I was trying to tackle was to defend Eve against the historical demonizing of her that has gone on over the millenia. I knew with certainty that various theologians from the early centuries of the Church, such as Tertullian, had perpetuated this concept, but I needed more sources to expand my study. This book provided that and more. This book is a collection of Biblical sources, extra-Biblical sources (such as Jubilees), collections of Jewish Midrash, the Talmud, other Jewish writers during the advent of Christianity, early Christian theologians (such as Tertulian, John Chrysostom, and Augustine), Medieval Jewish and Christian writings (such as Saint Thomas Aquinas), Islamic writings, Protestant Reformation/Revolt era writings (i.e. Martin Luther and John Calvin), and many more up to the present. The book collects translations of these many texts as well as commentaries on the context of the writings and their writers. As a historian, these primary sources are a pivotal resource! Moreover, collected together as they are in one volume, this saves the researcher a lot of time searching for them. But now that I have finally had the chance to write a review about this book, I have found that there are others who have already beaten me to the punch on being the first to review this book. In regards to what one reviewer said about this book being boring, if you are a historian who is enthralled with this subject, this book is far from boring! (If you are not a historian, then you might be bored because this book is collected together in a scholastic format that seems to be primarily aimed at historians.) In addition, there was another reviewer who said that he/she wished that there were more heretical writings to compliment the orthodox ones. In regards to that I find a few problems with that idea: (1) These are for the most part orthodox writings in the nature of their content and if one wants to do a thorough study from an orthodox viewpoint, it is better to limit the collection to writings that are primarily orthodox in their content; (2) This volume is so dense with material that to also include an extensive collection of heretical materials would require a second volume of material; (3) Since this book focuses on the many (and even conflicting) orthodox traditions of Adam and Eve, heretical writings are not needed for study in this context because that their nature of being heretical did not have influence on the orthodox mindset of the times; (4) If someone wants to read the heretical writings about this subject (such as from the Gnostics, the Arians, the Modalists, etc.), then one should not limit one's self to studying only one book for reference. In fact, as a resource for my own research, this is only one book of many that I have used to study; it is a VERY important book used in my research, but it is only one of many. Thus, in defense of the editors in the context of what the other reviewer mentioned about the desire for there also being an inclusion of heretical writings, I politely suggest to that reviewer and to anyone else that if they want to study on the heretical perspective of this subject that you find a work of an identical nature that focuses just on that. In summation, this is a wonderful book for reference, whether you are religious or not. If you are looking for a collection of primary sources about Adam and Eve written by (though translated from) the original writers, this book is for you. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Can't recommend it enough. By Jessica Levai I think this book is indispensable for anyone who wants to read about how the Biblical story of Adam and Eve has been handed down and interpreted, from the earliest religious writing to the 20th century. The book contains an anthology of thought, and criticism about the story, including rabbinical writings and more modern exegeses. The selections are just that and not complete, but it gives you a great place to start if you want to read more. My favorite part of this is the dissection of the text from Genesis itself. I don't read Hebrew, but the discussion in here about what words were used, and what they mean, really helped me understand where it might be coming from. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Four Stars. By Happy buyer Good product !!! reasonable for used price !!!

The editors have performed a great service in making widely available a documentary history of the interpretation of the Eve and Adam story." Publishers Weekly This fascinating volume examines Genesis 1-3 and the different ways that Jewish, Christian, and Muslim interpreters have used these passages to define and enforce gender roles.... a 'must'... " Choice Wonderful! A marvelous introduction to the ways in which the three major Western religious traditions are both like, and unlike one another." Ellen Umansky, Fairfield University No other text has affected women in the western world as much as the story of Eve and Adam. This remarkable anthology surveys more than 2,000 years of Jewish, Christian, and Muslim commentary and debate on the biblical story that continues to raise fundamental questions about what it means to be a man or to be a woman. The selections range widely from early postbiblical interpretations in the Apocrypha and Pseudepigrapha to the Quran, from Thomas Aquinas to medieval Jewish commentaries, from Christian texts to 19th-century antebellum slavery writings, and on to pieces written especially for this volume.

From Publishers Weekly In western culture and religion, the Genesis story of Eve and Adam has established and dominated views about gender roles. A long history of interpretation of Genesis 1-3 exists in all three of the great monotheistic religions. In this anthology, the editors have gathered primary documents from each of these traditions to examine this history of interpretation. Each section contains a brief historical essay that sets the readings in context, and the editors briefly introduce the individual writings. Chapter 1 offers selections from Genesis 1-5. Chapter 2

provides documents of Jewish post-biblical interpretation, including apocryphal texts like Sirach and pseudepigraphical texts like the Life of Adam and Eve. Chapter 3 contains rabbinic interpretations of Genesis 1-3, including midrashim like the one attributed to Rabbi Joshua ben Karhah: "It teaches you through what sin that wicked creature inveigled them, because he saw them engaged in their natural function, he [the serpent] conceived a passion for her." Chapter 4 contains early Christian interpretations ranging from biblical texts (1 Corinthians 15:21-22) to the theological writings of Tertullian and Augustine. Chapter 5 collects readings of the story from the Middle Ages, including various readings from the Qur'an and commentaries by Islamic theologians. The writings of Martin Luther and other Protestant reformers on Eve and the role of woman are gathered in Chapter 6. The writings in Chapter 7 demonstrate the ways that various 19th-century American social movements, like abolition and women's suffrage, and new religious groups, like the Shakers and the Christian Scientists, interpreted the Genesis story. The final chapter includes writings from 20th-century Christians, Jews and Muslims demonstrating that the debate about the meanings of Genesis 1-3 is far from over. The editors have performed a great service in making widely available a documentary history of the interpretation of the Eve and Adam story. Copyright 1999 Cahners Business Information, Inc. [A] unique collection of texts on the theme of Adam and Eve from the perspective of gender relations. July 2002 (Religious Studies)About the AuthorKRISTEN E. KVAM teaches at the Saint Paul School of Theology in Kansas City.LINDA S. SCHEARING is a professor in the Religious Studies department at Gonzaga University in Spokane, WA.VALARIE H. ZIEGLER is a professor in the department of Religious Studies at DePauw University in Greencastle, IN. She is author of The Advocates of Peace in Antebellum America.