

Ancient
Near Eastern Thought
and the
Old Testament

*Introducing
the Conceptual World
of the Hebrew Bible*

Second Edition

John H. Walton

B
Baker Academic
a division of Baker Publishing Group
Grand Rapids, Michigan

Contents

Special Material vii

Acknowledgments xi

Abbreviations xiii

Part 1 Comparative Studies

1. History and Methods 3

2. Comparative Studies, Scholarship, and Theology 19

Part 2 Literature of the Ancient Near East

3. Summary of the Literature of the Ancient Near East 33

Part 3 Religion

4. The Gods 47

5. Temples and Rituals 73

6. State and Family Religion 97

Part 4 Cosmos

7. Cosmic Geography 131

8. Cosmology and Cosmogony 147

Part 5 People

9. Understanding the Past: Human Origins and Role 173

10. Understanding the Past: Historiography 189

11. Encountering the Present: Guidance for Life—
Divination and Omens 213
 12. Encountering the Present: Context of Life—Cities
and Kingship 253
 13. Encountering the Present: Guidelines for Life—Law
and Wisdom 269
 14. Pondering the Future on Earth and after Death 293
- Concluding Remarks 313
- Appendix: Individual Gods 317
- Bibliography 327
- Scripture Index 343
- Foreign Words Index 347
- Modern Author Index 349
- Ancient Literature Index 355
- Subject Index 359