



Gods in the Desert: Religions of the Ancient Near East

By Glenn S. Holland

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Gods in the Desert explores the fascinating religious cultures of the ancient Near East. From the mysterious pyramids, tombs, and temples of Egypt to the powerful heroes, gods, and legends of Mesopotamia, Glenn Holland guides readers through the early religions of Egypt, Mesopotamia, and Syria-Palestine.

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Gods in the Desert: Religions of the Ancient Near East By Glenn S. Holland Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #1039980 in Books
- Published on: 2010-10-16
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.06" h x .82" w x 6.07" l, 1.25 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 340 pages

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Editorial Review

Review

With so much contemporary attention focused on the Middle East, the time is opportune for a clear, well-written, up-to-date introduction to its earlier counterpart, the ancient Near East. Holland magnificently succeeds in providing such a work. . . . Holland's writing is free of jargon; all terms, including religion, are carefully defined, and the volume offers many aids, including maps, a time line, and glossary. . . . Highly recommended. (*CHOICE*, March 2010)

I selected *Gods in the Desert* as one of the texts for my course in Middle Eastern Civilizations. There is no other book like it out there, and it is successful in distilling so much material into such a brief and accessible book. The writing is clear, avoids jargon, and really informs. It fills a real void in undergraduate texts. (Curtis F. Morgan Jr., Lord Fairfax Community College)

A valuable introduction for students and general readers alike. Glenn Holland's accessible prose and carefully structured approach take the reader on an engaging journey through time across Egypt, Mesopotamia, and Syria-Palestine. His exploration of key themes, thoughtful treatment of celebrated primary sources, and judicious handling of history combine effectively to map out the religious and cultural landscape of these fascinating regions. (Dexter E. Callender Jr., University of Miami)

An excellent book. I like the scope. I like its readability. I like that he approaches topics related to biblical history without pressing 'red buttons' for my students, who tend to be theologically conservative. I'll definitely adopt this text. (Robert Mullins, Azusa Pacific University)

Survey books tend to oversimplify, but this book provides a nuanced presentation of ancient religious practice. If used for undergraduate teaching, this book would be useful as a resource, providing general descriptions of ancient Egyptian and Mesopotamian religions. (*Historian*)

About the Author

Glenn S. Holland is professor of religious studies at Allegheny College. He is also the creator of the Teaching Company's popular lecture series "Religion in the Ancient Mediterranean World."

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Willie Davis:

Why don't make it to become your habit? Right now, try to prepare your time to do the important work, like looking for your favorite guide and reading a e-book. Beside you can solve your short lived problem; you can add your knowledge by the publication entitled *Gods in the Desert: Religions of the Ancient Near East*. Try to make book *Gods in the Desert: Religions of the Ancient Near East* as your friend. It means that it can to get your friend when you really feel alone and beside regarding course make you smarter than before. Yeah, it is very fortunated to suit your needs. The book makes you a lot more confidence because you can know anything by the book. So , let's make new experience in addition to knowledge with this book.

Bettie Hentges:

Reading can be called brain hangout, why? Because when you find yourself reading a book particularly book entitled *Gods in the Desert: Religions of the Ancient Near East* your brain will drift away through every dimension, wandering in each and every aspect that maybe unidentified for but surely can become your mind friends. Imaging every word written in a publication then become one web form conclusion and explanation that will maybe you never get before. The *Gods in the Desert: Religions of the Ancient Near East* giving you another experience more than blown away your head but also giving you useful data for your better life in this era. So now let us teach you the relaxing pattern is your body and mind will be pleased when you are finished examining it, like winning a. Do you want to try this extraordinary spending spare time activity?

Lois Huseby:

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Olivia Dickert:

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