

"Whatsoever cometh forth of the doors of my house to meet me." Jephthah and His Vow in the Jewish and Christian Interpretations

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Abstract

Main theme of this thesis is the story of Jephthah from Judg 10:6-12:7 and its interpretations. Thesis is divided into four main parts. The first part deals with the story of Jephthah in the Bible and mainly from the perspective of biblical theology. The second chapter is focused on research of the rabbinic literature perspective and the third chapter puts the whole story into the contexts of Near East and other texts of Tanakh dealing with human sacrifice. The final chapter focuses on the biblical commentaries and their interpretation approaches. The main differences in the approach of Judaism and Christianity in this case are mainly the evaluation of Jephthah as a character, focus of the commentaries and general results of the commentaries. On the contrary, they mostly agree on the tendency to interpret the story as a sacrifice. These differences are based primarily in the different focuses of these two religions and their approach to the biblical text.