

Abstract

The topic of the bachelor's thesis will be the so-called *herem*, i.e. the total destruction and extermination of the enemy “like a cursed one“ during a war conflict, in ancient Israel. The thesis will focus on the literary representations of *herem* in the Hebrew Bible, present an overview of passages where *herem* is commanded or its execution is described, and attempt to summarize, based on secondary literature, scholarly interpretations of the theological concepts reflected in these representations. At the same time, it will place the *herem* in the context of Middle Eastern warfare practice and attempt to assess the extent to which it fits into or, on the contrary, differs from it.