



Exploring Religion in Ancient Egypt (Blackwell Ancient Religions)

By Stephen Quirke

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Exploring Religion in Ancient Egypt offers a stimulating overview of the study of ancient Egyptian religion by examining research drawn from beyond the customary boundaries of Egyptology and shedding new light on entrenched assumptions.

- Discusses the evolution of religion in ancient Egypt – a belief system that endured for 3,000 years
- Dispels several modern preconceptions about ancient Egyptian religious practices
- Reveals how people in ancient Egypt struggled to secure well-being in the present life and the afterlife

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Editorial Review

Review

“This book provides a new and rather different view of religious practice amongst the ancient Egyptians, drawing on an extensive range of texts, artefacts, contextual information, and anthropological approaches from outside Egypt.” (*Ancient Egypt*, 1 April 2015)

Review

“Quirke tells the story of Ancient Egyptian Religion as a mode of life and a reflective philosophy. A book rich in evidence, thoughtful and fresh in interpretation, courageous enough to give up the claim of answering every question—but eager to pose it.” —*Martin Fitzenreiter, Bonn University*

“.....a uniquely comprehensive integration of archaeological and written evidence about Egyptian beliefs and practices; energized by ethnographic and anthropological perspectives, Quirke's book clarifies, yet queries key debates about Egyptian religion.” —*David O'Connor, New York University*

“Quirke's unique approach to Egyptian beliefs about creation, life, death, etc., uses the written and archaeological evidence to reveal the logic of ancient thought as it acquaints us with its ‘nuts and bolts.’” —*Betsy Bryan, Johns Hopkins University*

From the Back Cover

Exploring Religion in Ancient Egypt presents an overview of the beliefs, sacred rituals, and religious practices of the people of Kemet – literally, “the Black Land” – whose Nile Valley population stretched from Aswan to the Mediterranean coast beginning from circa 3100 B.C.

Dispelling some of the dominant modern preconceptions about ancient Egyptian religion, author Stephen Quirke considers the evidence for ancient patterns of marking sacred space and time, and the verbal and visual imagery on creation and Ma`at – the expression of truth and balance, or “what is good,” in the language of Kemet. Within these frameworks, Quirke reveals how people in ancient Egypt struggled to secure well-being in the present life as they prepared for the afterlife. *Exploring Religion in Ancient Egypt* offers illuminating insights into an ancient civilization whose complex series of religious beliefs and practices remain unique in the history of human religion.

Users Review

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Willie Wilson:

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