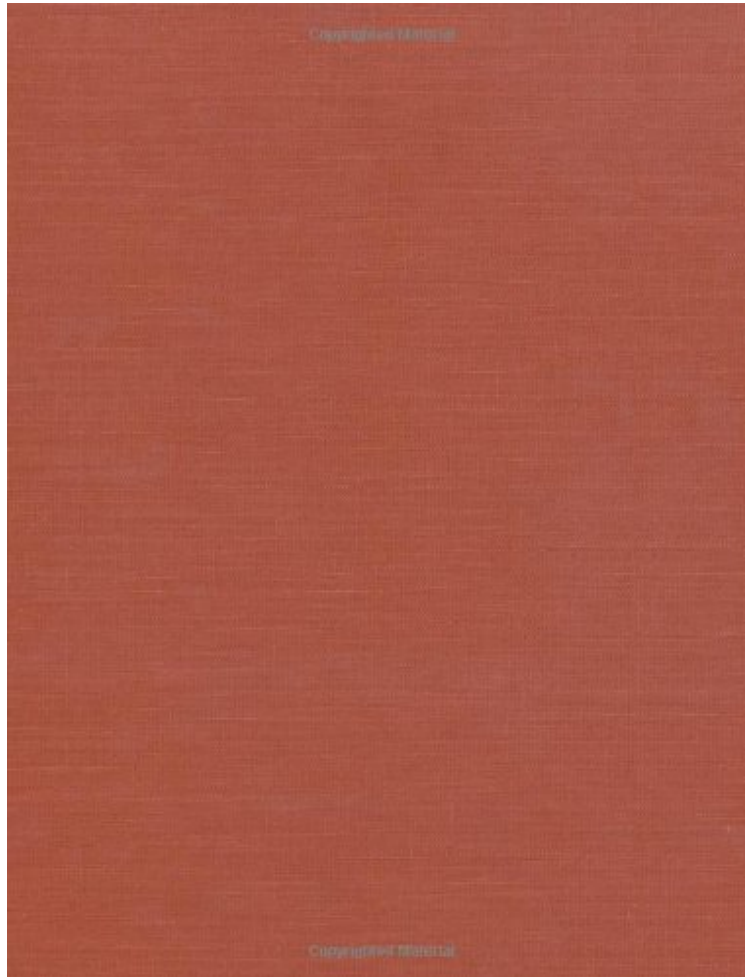


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# Ancient Near Eastern Texts Relating to the Old Testament with Supplement

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**From Princeton University Press : Ancient Near Eastern Texts Relating to the Old Testament with Supplement**  
before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Ancient Near Eastern Texts Relating to the Old Testament with Supplement:

47 of 49 people found the following review helpful. A Valuable ResourceBy CustomerPrichard's ANET is a standard reference for those examining the cultural setting of the Bible. It contains translations of many important inscriptions which shed light on otherwise mysterious Bible customs.Generally regarded as a scholarly work, it's worth checking out for the layperson as well. Some of the jargon may be a little tricky, but there's no substitute for original source material, which makes up the majority of the book. Besides, some of the stories are just a plain old (very old) good read.Included are such things as the Epic of Gilgamesh (containing our oldest Flood parallels), the Nuzi Texts (which

help us understand the life of Jacob, among others), and various of the ancient law codes which have parallels to the biblical code. Tremendously useful for study! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. really fun to read and think about By Educated Consumer Huge book, tiny type! That said, really fun to read and think about. It's fascinating to learn what other cultures/times thought. Makes one stop and truly discern what is truth. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Extra-biblical texts from the Ancient Near East By Joseph F Wimmer For teachers of the Bible, this book is absolutely essential. It contains translations of all the ancient near eastern extra-biblical texts that are relevant towards an adequate understanding of the Hebrew Scriptures, which themselves were written in an ancient near eastern culture that it mirrors in so many ways. Simply compare the texts about slavery or goring oxen in Exodus chapter 21 and very similar texts in the Code of Hammurabi, or the Flood Narrative in Genesis 5-9 and the story of Utnapishtim in the Epic of Gilgamesh.

This anthology brought together the most important historical, legal, mythological, liturgical, and secular texts of the ancient Near East, with the purpose of providing a rich contextual base for understanding the people, cultures, and literature of the Old Testament. A scholar of religious thought and biblical archaeology, James Pritchard recruited the foremost linguists, historians, and archaeologists to select and translate the texts. The goal, in his words, was "a better understanding of the likenesses and differences which existed between Israel and the surrounding cultures." Before the publication of these volumes, students of the Old Testament found themselves having to search out scattered books and journals in various languages. This anthology brought these invaluable documents together, in one place and in one language, thereby expanding the meaning and significance of the Bible for generations of students and readers. As one reviewer put it, "This great volume is one of the most notable to have appeared in the field of Old Testament scholarship this century." Princeton published a follow-up companion volume, *The Ancient Near East in Pictures Relating to the Old Testament* (1954), and later a one-volume abridgment of the two, *The Ancient Near East: An Anthology of Texts and Pictures* (1958). The continued popularity of this work in its various forms demonstrates that anthologies have a very important role to play in education--and in the mission of a university press.

"[A] very useful book, soundly conceived, competently edited, and beautifully printed. It offers in translation texts of the most important documents which throw light on the Near East background of the Old Testament. As a source book it will be welcomed not merely by Biblical students, but by all ancient historians who concern themselves with the cultures anterior to those of Greece and Rome."--Archaeology