

The Symbolism of Blood in Pentateuch

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Abstract

This study sprang from the desire to highlight the important role that blood has in the Pentateuch. Our analysis is made strictly on the base of Massoretic text (MT), because this text highlights the purely semitic mentality, which understands through blood the source of life. On this reason, in first part of my article I decided to the beginning with the prohibitions which the blood behaves, by dint of pagan cultural influences, in Old Testament theology: the ban to eat blood and to kill (to spill the blood). Following in the second part, we want to show that on the basis of the revelation, the sons of Israel manage to define their own religious beliefs about the blood. In this regard, the blood itself becomes the sign of the covenant between Yahweh and his people (Exod. 24:8).