

Randall X. Gauthier, Gideon R. Kotzé, Gert J. Steyn, eds. *Septuagint, Sages, and Scripture: Studies in Honour of Johann Cook* (Supplements to Vetus Testamentum, Volume 172). Leiden: Brill, 2016. Pp. xvii + 394. ISBN 978-90-04-32382-7. €151.00.

The studies collected in this volume honor Johann Cook, emeritus professor of the Department of Ancient Studies at Stellenbosch University, especially as the President of the International Organization for the Study of the Old Testament (IOSOT) from 2013-2016. Louis Jonker, the secretary of the IOSOT in Stellenbosch 2016, calls it the crown on his illustrious career. The fact that a congress of this kind was held on African soil is considered a historic landmark. Most contributors to the present volume also come from South Africa or are affiliated with one of its universities. Their contributions are devoted mostly to the study of the Septuagint in general, and the Wisdom texts in the Old Greek in particular. As the nicely alliterating title indicates, the editors left room for other subjects as well, including the study of rabbinic writings and later translations of the Bible. The contributions are of a high academic standard, but differ considerably in length: from less than ten pages by Markus Witte on the name of Job's son in LXX Job 42:17 (pp. 172-79) to more than fifty in the extensive study by Cynthia L. Miller-Naudé and Jacobus A. Naudé on marginal notes in the Geneva Bible and the King James Version (pp. 205-58). The contributions seem to have been included more or less according to the canonical order of the Old Testament. They have been edited well, although there are some inconsistencies in the first notes of the contributions (p. 159: repeating the information about Hans Ausloos; p. 336: missing reference to the footnote).

Evangelia G. Dafni, "Isaak, die Tochter Jephthas und Iphigenie, Menschenopfer im Alten Testament und im Alten Griechenland: Kulturkritische Beobachtungen unter besonderer Berücksichtigung der Septuaginta" (pp. 1-30), compares the stories in Gen 22, Judg 11 and the tragedy of Euripides and comes to the surprising conclusion that Euripides may have been influenced the biblical stories. Annette Evans, "Descartes' Error and the Growth of Consciousness: A Non-Dualistic Reading of Genesis 1:1-7" (pp. 31-44), attributes a more philosophical study in which she relates insights of the evolution theory to the biblical idea of man as *imago Dei*. Gideon R. Kotzé, "Greek Translations of Hebrew Left Dislocation Constructions in LXX Genesis" (pp. 45-65), describes the phenomenon of "left dislocation" and the way this is taken over from the Hebrew in the Greek translation.

Dirk Büchner, "A Commentary on Septuagint Leviticus 19:11-15" (pp. 66-83) presents a foretaste of his forthcoming volume in the Society of Biblical Literature Commentary of the Septuagint. Jessie Rogers, "Where is Wisdom to

Be Found and How Do We Apprehend Her?" (pp. 84-98), studies the phenomenon of personified wisdom, where and how it can be found, in Prov. 1-9, Job 28, Sirach, Baruch and the Book of Wisdom. Jan Joosten, "The Relation of the Septuagint of Proverbs to the Septuagint of Psalms" (pp. 99-107), concludes that the Old Greek translation of Psalms is probably older than that of Proverbs.

Randall X. Gauthier, "Possessing Wisdom: A Study of the Possessive Pronouns and Adjectives in the Septuagint Version of Proverbs" (pp. 108-41), offers an elaborate presentation and classification of the relevant data. Kenneth Atkinson, "Septuagint Proverbs 28:4 and Shielding the Righteous: Implications for Understanding Sabbath Fighting in Josephus" (pp. 142-58), confirms Cook's views on the way the Greek translator dealt with the dilemma of violating the law on the Sabbath and being forced to fight. Hans Ausloos, "A Man Shall Not Rise Again ...': Job 14:12 in Hebrew and Greek" (pp. 159-71), disagrees with Cook concerning the question whether Job 14:12 refers to life after death. He also assumes a link with John 11:11.

Markus Witte, "Jobs Sohn—Eine textgeschichtliche Notiz zu Job 42:17 (LXX)" (pp. 172-79), studies possible reasons for the name given to the son of Job in the text added to the book in the Greek version. Claude Cox, "Old Greek Job 42—A Surprise at the End of the Road: Intertextual Connections between the Epilogue and the Prologue Introduced by the Translator" (pp. 180-89), offers a commentary to Job 42:1-16, emphasizing the way it is related by the Greek translator to the prologue. Arie van der Kooij, "Scholars and Officials in Early Judaism: The Sôfer of Jesus Ben Sira" (pp. 190-204), discusses the question what it means that Sirach is called a scribe. Cynthia L. Miller-Naudé and Jacobus A. Naudé, "The Metatextual Marginal Notes of Ben Sira: Ideology and Theology in the Geneva Bible (1560) and the King James Version (1611)" (pp. 205-58), present their research on the extra information given in these two translations.

Harry F. van Rooy, "Translating Wisdom in the Prophets: Ezekiel, Wisdom and Translation" (pp. 259-78), presents text critical considerations about the different renderings of words for wisdom. Martin Rösel, "Enhanced and Revised: The Old Greek Edition of the Book of Daniel" (pp. 279-93), offers a general description of the character of the Septuagint of the book of Daniel. Gert J. Steyn, "Introductory Notes on Philo of Alexandria's 'Proverbs' and Idiomatic Expressions" (pp. 294-322), studies the biblical and Greek sources of the proverbs mentioned by Philo. Wolfgang Kraus, "Whom the Lord Loveth He Chasteneth': About the Adoption of Prov 3:11f. in Hebrews 12:5f." (pp. 323-35), not only describes the way the text from Proverbs is taken up in the letter to the Hebrews, but also discusses the moral and theological problems concerning the idea that suffering is interpreted as divine education.

Michaël N. van der Meer, “Symmachus, the Septuagint and the Sages: An Examination of the References to Sumkhos ben Joseph in the Mishnah, Tosefta and Talmudim” (pp. 336-55), presents and evaluates the sources and arguments concerning the possible identification of Symmachus and Sumkhos ben Joseph.

This volume, which can be considered as a fitting and well deserved homage to Johann Cook and his scholarly work, is concluded by indices on authors (“modern sources”), ancient sources, and subjects.

*Klaas Spronk*

PThU Amsterdam, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

*k.spronk@pthu.nl*