

The Entangled Enoch

2 Enoch and the Cultures of Late Antiquity

By

Grant Macaskill



BRILL

LEIDEN | BOSTON

Contents

Acknowledgements xi

Grant Macaskill

- 1 **The Entangled Enoch** 1
 - Introduction 1
 - 1 Renewing the Imagination and Reconsidering Metaphors: on
Trees, Rhizomes and the Ecology of Concepts 6
 - 2 Relocating and Refiguring Groups and Networks in the Rhizome
of Antiquity 16
 - 2.1 *Complicating the Classification of Groups* 16
 - 2.2 *Reconsidering the Normativity of the Networks and
Their Literatures* 19
 - 3 On Frontiers, Colonialism and Orientalism (with Some Insights
from Nissology) 27
 - 4 The Distinctive Significance of Syria as Provenance 32
 - Conclusions and Prospects: towards the Entangled Enoch 38
 - Postscript: a Note on Translations and Transliteration 40
- 2 **Reviewing the Provenance of 2 Enoch** 41
 - 1 An Overview of Manuscripts and Recensions 42
 - 2 The First Stages of Academic Research into 2 Enoch:
Modern Slavic Scholarship 46
 - 3 Reviewing the Debates in Non-Slavic Scholarship 52
 - 3.1 *R.H. Charles* 52
 - 3.2 *André Vaillant* 56
 - 3.3 *J.T. Milik* 61
 - 3.4 *Francis I. Andersen* 64
 - 3.5 *Christfried Böttrich* 66
 - 3.6 *Andrei Orlov* 75
 - 4 Further Contributions: Pines, Himmelfarb, Reed and
Alexander 79
 - 5 The 5th Enoch Seminar: Naples 2009. No Longer
Slavonic Only? 84
 - Conclusions 85
 - A Postscript to Chapter 2: Samaritan Contexts for 2 Enoch? 88

- 3 **Reviewing the Date, Provenance and Composition History of the Parables of Enoch** 90
 - Reviewing the Dating and Provenance of the Parables of Enoch 90
 - 1 The Absence of the Parables from Qumran and the Lack of Early External (i.e., Manuscript and Citation) Evidence 94
 - 2 The Similarities and Differences with Demonstrably Early Enoch Material 96
 - 3 The Presence of Imagery and Language That Is Similar to That Encountered in the New Testament 103
 - 4 The Possibility That the Parables Contains Allusions to Specific Historical Events 105
 - 5 The Distinctive Representation of Social and Economic Factors, including the Identification of the Kings and the Mighty Ones 107
 - 6 The Composition of the Parables of Enoch 109
 - Conclusions 111
- 4 **Storehouses and Measures**

Parallel Patterns in Metrology and Meteorology in the Parables of Enoch and 2 (Slavonic) Enoch 114

 - 1 Storehouses, Treasuries and Measures: Documenting Parallels in the Parables of Enoch and 2 Enoch 116
 - 1.1 *Storehouses and Treasuries* 119
 - 1.2 *Measures* 122
 - 1.3 *The Imagery of Storehouses and Measures within the Primary Enoch Literature* 125
 - 2 Biblical Backgrounds 126
 - 3 Parallels in the Dead Sea Scrolls 130
 - 4 A Rabbinic Parallel in b.Ḥagigah 12b 132
 - 5 Parallels in Sefer Hekhalot (3 Enoch) and the Hekhalot Literature 133
 - 6 Parallels in Other “Pseudepigrapha” 139
 - Concluding Synthesis 143
- 5 **God, Enoch and the Secrets**

Theology, Cosmology, Cosmogony, Eschatology 147

 - Introduction 147
 - 1 The Distribution of “Secrets” in the Parables of Enoch and 1 Enoch 148

- 2 God in the Parables of Enoch 155
- 3 The Book of the Secrets of Enoch 164
- 4 God and Cosmos in 2 Enoch: Eclectic Philosophy and Elements of Platonism 169
 - 4.1 *Negative Language, Measurement, and the Categorical Uniqueness of the Lord* 171
 - 4.2 *Creation in 2 Enoch: Being and Non-being, Visibility and Non-visibility, Nothing Itself* 181
- 5 Comparing the Parables and 2 Enoch to Sefer Hekhalot 186
 - Conclusions 190
- 6 **God, Wisdom and Humanity in the Parables of Enoch and 2 Enoch** 194
 - 1 Wisdom and Creation outside the Parables of Enoch and 2 Enoch: Some Framing Considerations 195
 - 2 Wisdom in the Parables of Enoch 208
 - 3 God, Wisdom and the Creation of Man in 2 Enoch 215
 - 3.1 *"I Commanded My Wisdom to Create Humanity"* 222
 - Conclusions 234
- 7 **Bodily Ascents and Ontological Transformations** 237
 - Introduction 237
 - 1 Problematizing "Monotheism" as a Context for "Deification" 237
 - 2 Visionary Ascent in the Aramaic Enoch Literature and Other Apocalypses 241
 - 3 Ascent and Ontological Transformation in the Parables of Enoch: an Embodied Turn? 243
 - 4 Bodily Ascent and Ontological Transformation in 2 Enoch 252
 - 5 Parallels between 2 Enoch and Manichaean or Mandaean Apocalypses 266
 - Conclusions 271
- 8 **Practical and Symbolic Liturgy, Votive Offerings, and the Cult of the One God in 2 Enoch** 273
 - Introduction 273
 - 1 2 Enoch and Practical Worship 274
 - 1.1 *Enoch's Instruction before His Ascent* 274
 - 1.2 *Enoch's Instructions after His Ascent and Return* 278
 - 2 Votive Offerings and Reciprocity: 2 Enoch 61:4&5 291
 - Conclusions 298

9	Animal Offerings and Ritual Theorizing in 2 Enoch	300
1	Sacrificial Practice and Theorizing in Antiquity: Framing 2 Enoch in Its Potential Contexts	301
2	Philo of Alexandria	308
3	2 Enoch: the Head of the Altar and the Sacrificial Knife	310
4	Binding the Sacrifice by Four Legs	314
5	Theorizing Sacrifice in 2 Enoch: on Divine Sufficiency and the Human Condition	323
	Conclusions: Reconsidering 2 Enoch in the Contours of Antiquity	325
10	Concluding Synthesis: The Entangled Enoch	328
1	Complicating Models and Culturing Rhizomes	328
2	The Significance of Groups within the Cultural Rhizome	332
3	Reviewing the Provenance of the Parables of Enoch and 2 Enoch	334
4	Common Patterns in the Parables of Enoch and 2 Enoch	336
5	Coloration and Context, Cultures and Fashions	338
6	Devotional Practices, Divine Reciprocity and the Logics of Sacrifice in 2 Enoch and Late Antiquity	341
7	Towards an Account of Transmission	344
8	The Pseudepigrapha and the Literate Liminal: Programmatic Implications	345
	Concluding Comments	349
	Bibliography	351
	Index of Modern Authors	375
	Index of Ancient Sources	379