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Sacrificial Cult; Mothers and Meat; Deuteronomy 22:6-7; Boiling a Kid in Its Mothers Milk; Exodus 22:29-30 and Leviticus 22:27-28; Conclusion; 4 Females and Death: The Sacred Impurity of the Red Cow; The Rite of the Cow; Part I: Sacrifice and the Creation of Impurity; The Red Cow and Sacrifice; The Red Cow as a at; The Elimination of Impurity; Part II: Gender Significance; at Offerings The Red Cow as a Female VictimWaters of Impurity; Redness and Blood; Sacred Impurity; Conclusion; 5 Impurity and the Creation of Difference; Purity and Sacrifice; The Nature of Ritual Impurity; Purity and Gender Hierarchy; Skin Disease and the Function of Impurity; Corpse Contamination: Embracing the Rejected; Leviticus 15; Sexuality as Sickness; Genital Substance versus Gender Role; Menstrual Sex and the Contagion of Gender; Childbirth; The Greatest Impurity; Circumcision; Sacrifice, Purity, and the Personhood of Mothers; Conclusion: Purity, Gender, and Sacrifice

6 Fathers and Firstlings: The Gendered Rhetoric of Child SacrificeIntroduction; Firstborn and Firstlings; Redemption and the Fictional Victim; The Female Firstborn; Fathers and Firstlings; Mothers as Offerers; Mothers and Mlek; Child Sacrifice and Fertility; Conclusion: Child Sacrifice and Animal Sacrifice; Conclusions; Bibliography; Biblical References Index; Subject Index

Sommario/riassunto

This book examines the Hebrew Bible's numerous laws about sacrificial procedure to understand the significance of gender in sacrificial rituals and the reasons that gender distinctions are so vital in these acts. Gender selection of both victims and participants is an intrinsic aspect of the nature and purpose of each rite, affecting its form and function, as well as its legitimacy. *Sacrifice and Gender in Biblical Law* considers the laws of the firstborn, the rite of the red cow, laws of slaughter, rituals of purification, and other offerings. It shows that these laws regulate material wealth and contribute to the construction of social roles.
