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Nota di contenuto	Frontmatter -- Contents -- Preface -- Abbreviations -- 1. Introduction: How It All Began -- 2. Culture, Religion, and Ritual: Definitions and Interaction -- 3. Ritual from a Social-Science Perspective: Tracing the Outline of an Idea -- 4. Ritual and Bible: The Genesis of a New Discipline -- 5. Biblical Ritual in History: Periods and Perspectives -- 6. Reading Ritual: Strategies and Trigger Points -- 7. Structure, Order and Sequence, Space, and Time: Ritual Elements 1 -- 8. Objects, Action, Participants, and Language: Ritual Elements 2 -- 9. "What Does It All Mean?" Dimensions and Functions of Ritual -- 10. "Looking over the Fence": Ritual and Other Areas of Biblical and Theological Research -- 11. Ritual Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow, or: Some Type of a Conclusion for a Christian Theology -- Appendix: Ritual Texts in the Pentateuch -- Bibliography -- Indexes
Sommario/riassunto	This volume is intended to introduce university and seminary students and scholars to the neglected field of ritual studies, particularly within the larger context of biblical and theological studies. At the same time, the author hopes to further the discussion by interacting with numerous scholars in the field, providing an extensive bibliography of relevant works. Klingbeil defines the basic terms used in ritual studies and explains the concepts involved in interpreting biblical ritual. He offers a broad history of the study of biblical ritual, beginning with the

critiques of ritual found in the Old Testament prophetic books and surveying attitudes toward ritual down to modern times. Drawing on the fields of anthropology and sociology, as well as his decade of work in the field, Klingbeil presents a comprehensive reading strategy for biblical ritual texts. In addition, he explores connections between ritual studies and theological research. This ground-breaking study promises to generate discussion about biblical ritual and provides an excellent introduction to this growing field of study for students and scholars.
