

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910963194703321
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Titolo	Poetic Imagination in Proverbs : Variant Repetitions and the Nature of Poetry
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Winona Lake : , : Eisenbrauns, , 2014 ©2014
ISBN	9781575066967 1575066963
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (704 p.)
Collana	Bulletin for Biblical Research Supplement ; ; v. 4
Disciplina	223/.7066
Soggetti	HISTORY / Ancient / General Electronic books.
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and indexes.
Nota di contenuto	Chapter 16 Variant Sets 81-85Chapter 17 Variant Sets 86-92; Chapter 18 Variant Sets 93 to 96; Part 3; Chapter 19 Variant Repetitions and Editorial Strategies; Chapter 20 Conclusion; Index of Scripture; Index of Subjects. Preface; Abbreviations; Part 1; Part 1; Chapter 1 Introduction:Review of Recent Literatureand Methodology; Chapter 2 Introduction to the Structure ofProverbs 1-9; Part 2; Chapter 3 Variant Sets 1-5; Chapter 4 Variant Sets 6-12; Chapter 5 Variant Sets 13-17; Chapter 6 Variant Sets 18-22; Chapter 7 Variant Sets 23-25; Chapter 8 Variant Sets 26-33; Chapter 9 Variant Sets 34-41; Chapter 10 Variant Sets 42-47; Chapter 11 Variant Sets 48-52; Chapter 12 Variant Sets 53-59; Chapter 13 Variant Sets 60-66; Chapter 14 Variant Sets 67-74; Chapter 15 Variant Sets 75-80.
Sommario/riassunto	No fewer than 223 verses in Proverbs appear two times (79 sets), three times (15 sets), or even four times (5 sets) in identical or slightly altered form—more than 24% of the book. Heim analyzes all of these, presenting them in delineated Hebrew lines and in English translation. Where appropriate, the translations are followed by textual notes that discuss uncertainties regarding the textual witnesses (textual criticism) and explore lexical, grammatical, and syntactical problems. Heim also

analyzes the way the parallelism in each verse of a variant set has been constructed, presenting diagrams and tables with columns that highlight the corresponding similarities and differences among repeated verses. Key to this investigation is the search for links between the variants and their surrounding verses, such as repetitions of sound and sense. Heim shows that most variant repetitions result from skillful poetic creativity. Reconstruction of the editorial and creative poetic process highlights what poets did, how they did it, and why they did it. He develops criteria for determining the direction of borrowing between the verses and demonstrates that the phenomenon of variant repetition is an editorial concern that operates on the level of the book as a whole. He develops and refines a range of interpretive techniques and skills, arrives at fresh interpretations, and shows that ancient proverbial wisdom is relevant to modern societies. This study sheds new light on the nature of biblical poetry and on the methods and virtues best suited for its study. While specific to the book of Proverbs in the first instance, the findings in this study apply to poetry elsewhere. Three fundamental insights should inform future work on poetry: the creative combination of repetition with variation is the very essence of poetry; what has been written with imagination should be read with imagination; imaginative interpretation values the normal features of poetic expression and celebrates the truly unusual.
