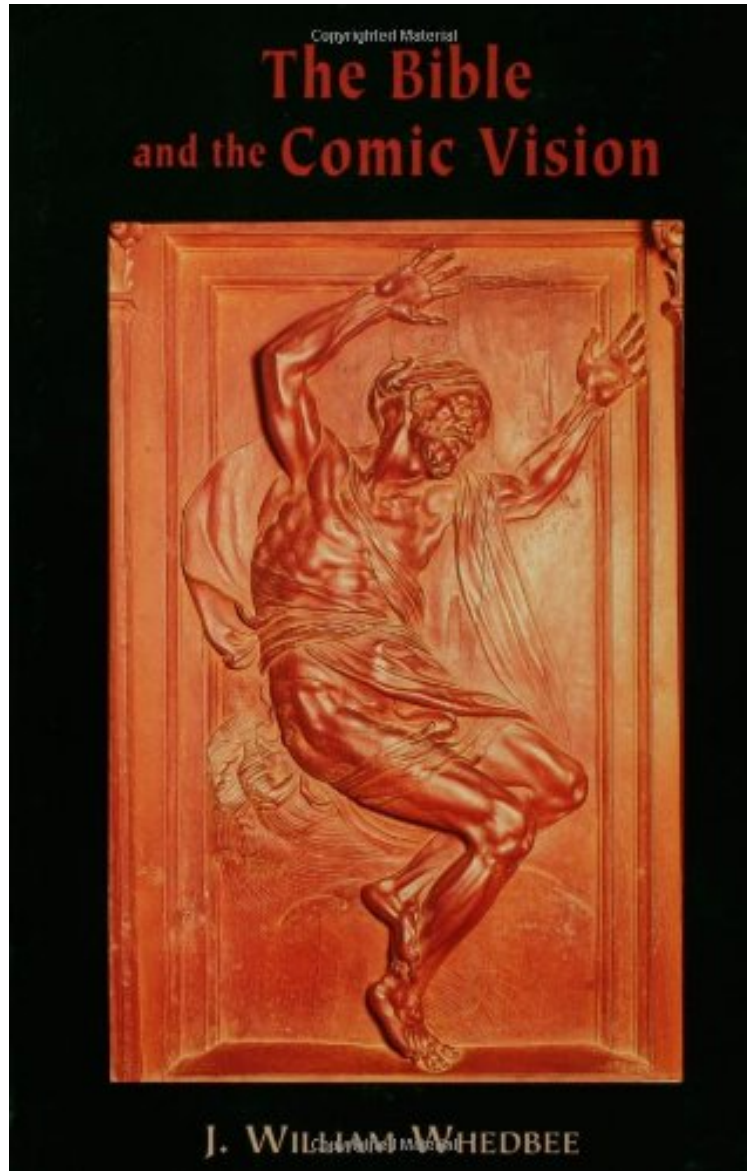


The Bible and the Comic Vision

J. William Whedbee

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J. William Whedbee : The Bible and the Comic Vision before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Bible and the Comic Vision:

15 of 17 people found the following review helpful. Productive New PerspectiveBy David ZimmermanThe benefit of Whedbee's book is that it offers a fresh, new perspective to the Old Testament. If you are conservative in your

understanding of the Bible, you often miss some important information in your seriousness in dealing with the Scriptures. If you are more modern in your reading of the text, you might easily pass over much of the data as outdated remnants of a bygone culture. The comic reading of the Old Testament offers a correction to either extremes. While I cannot say that I agree with all his conclusions, I have found this a valuable read as I teach the text of Genesis -- and it has opened new doors to other places in the Scriptures.

This insightful work examines the variety of ways comedy is employed in the Old Testament. Biblical comedy unveils "a comic vision that oscillates between attack and affirmation, corrective and celebration, ridicule and revel." Here Wheedbee reveals the subtle uses of parody and satire to subversive effect in six biblical books. But "the Bible characteristically does not stop with subversion, for the texts usually drive on toward an affirmation of life and a celebration of the wonder and hopefulness of creation.... In sum, subversion and celebration typically belong together in a comprehensive view of biblical comedy: subversion often serving to undercut and clear away obstacles to the realization of fertility and forgiveness; and celebration finding expression in festivals of freedom and hope."

..".thanks to Wheedbee, the reader will learn to relish the comic aspects of the Bible and to experience the profound, regenerative and consciousness-expanding power that all great comedy possesses." Bible About the Author Wheedbee is the Nancy M. Lyon Professor of Biblical Literature and History at Pomona College, California.