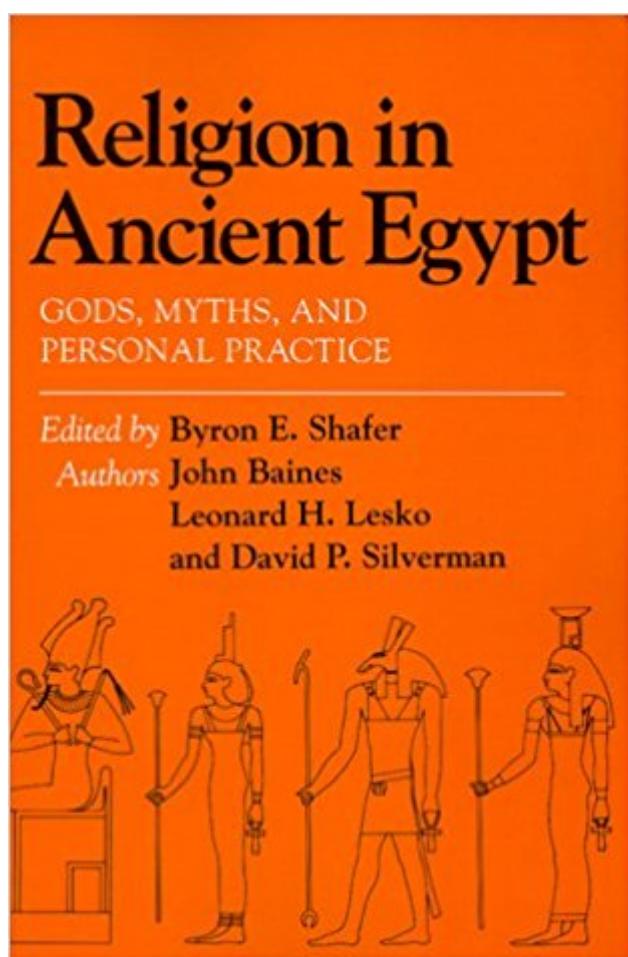


The book was found

# Religion In Ancient Egypt: Gods, Myths, And Personal Practice



## **Synopsis**

Meeting the need for an up to date English language survey this informative and accessible book will be welcomed by Egyptologists and their students as well as by other readers interested in learning more about the culture and religion of ancient Egypt

## **Book Information**

Paperback: 232 pages

Publisher: Cornell University Press (June 20, 1991)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0801497868

ISBN-13: 978-0801497865

Product Dimensions: 6.1 x 0.7 x 9.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 13.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 7 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #292,444 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #73 in Books > History > World > Religious > New Age, Mythology & Occult #153 in Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Religious Studies > Religious History #237 in Books > History > Ancient Civilizations > Egypt

## **Customer Reviews**

Meeting the need for an up-to-date English-language survey, this informative and accessible book will be welcomed by Egyptologists and their students, as well as by other readers interested in learning more about the culture and religion of ancient Egypt.

"This is a very informative book recommended for all students of Egyptology." •Francesca Jourdan

As someone who has never studied or read anything regarding this subject before I can honestly say this has been an enjoyable, as well as, informative read. Chapter 1 Divinity and Deities in Ancient Egypt was beautifully written and therefore very easy to get through. Chapter 2 Ancient Egyptian Cosmogonies and Cosmology (my personal favorite) was a little more difficult to get through but definitely worth the effort. The author was trying to present (the rise of) each cosmogonical myth in context to what was going on both socially and politically around its city of origin, as well as Egypt as a whole, at the time. Chapter 3 Society, Morality, and Religious Practice was the hardest to get through mainly because it was written in a way that was, at times, hard to understand. Some of the sentences didn't make sense and there were whole paragraphs that did

not seem to belong with the rest of the text. It seemed as though everything that the author was trying to convey could have been done with about half the amount of text. Having said that, I did find the information presented extremely interesting and something I hadn't considered before (its a shame I kept nodding off). It was a nice break from what I normally read and, not having much to compare it to, would certainly recommend it to others.

Love learning new things about the Egyptians

Collections of essays by different scholars often have difficulty painting a cohesive picture of the subject, and this book is a case in point. David Silverman's chapter on the deities covers that territory reasonably well. Leonard Lesko describes the creation myths (though not as readably as James P. Allen) and then argues for an Egyptian conception of the shape of the world that I find flawed. His topics are thus too narrow for an overview of the whole religion. John Baines' essay covers everyday religious beliefs and practices, including morality, magic, divination, and popular religion. Being Baines, he gives a lot of important insights into these topics but makes them rather difficult to absorb with his vague and abstract language. His essay is therefore the most useful to the expert; those looking for an introduction to Egyptian religion should look elsewhere. Stephen Quirke's *Ancient Egyptian Religion* is a readable but rather simple overview, while *Gods and Men in Egypt* has the kind of depth that this book seems to have been aiming for.

Prof. Shafer of Fordham University put this book together in order to fill the need for an English-language survey of ancient Egyptian religion. The result is a relatively short introduction to the subject from three points of view, each addressed by a different author. John Baines writes about the gods, Leonard Lesko about myths, and David Silverman about religious practice. The idea and organization of the book is commendable; however, I felt that stronger editing could have made the three portions of the book more cohesive and compatible in quality. There was too much overlap between Baines' and Lesko's sections, and Lesko's chapter seemed to be aimed at a more specialized audience than were the other chapters. I felt that Baines dwelled too much on political history and took the focus off the topic at hand. His article would have benefitted from further subdivision; as it was, the overly long sections lacked clear direction. Baines handles concepts of divinity quite well, but I think he could have provided a better overview of the Egyptian pantheon. On the whole I would give his article a tentative 4 stars. Lesko's rather short chapter also placed too much focus on political history, and this was doubly frustrating since he didn't say anything different

from Baines. His discussion of myths seemed to lack organization and was befuddling for the newcomer to the field. The chapter mostly consists of lengthy and inadequately explained or connected quotations from Egyptian texts. These texts are interesting sounding but cryptic, and Lesko does not provide enough of an overview for one to understand either what they are saying or why he is quoting them. His article has two chief sections: one on cosmogonies, which is very long and opaque, and a much shorter and somewhat clearer section on cosmology. Overall, this article deserves a tentative 3 stars from a newcomer; someone with more specialized knowledge might find it more useful, but I am not sure. Silverman's chapter was by far the most accessible and informative. Frequent divisions in the text underscored its points while providing strong organization and direction. Silverman's explanations started from basic concepts and worked up to address difficulties in modern methods of study in his field. His chapter came across as an interesting and informative social history of Egypt with particular emphasis on the origins of its structure and morality, both of which derive from religion. This article was engaging and clear, and earns an enthusiastic 5 stars from me. On the whole, then, some parts of this book were more readable and useful than others. However, it seems to be the most scholarly and trustworthy introduction to the topic. I would not recommend it as pleasure reading, but if you need to know something about the subject it is a good resource.

This is so good I love reading this

This book is extremely useful for understanding the complex, multifaceted world of the ancient Egyptian Gods. One cannot simply list gods and myths and have them make sense; this book provides three Egyptologists' views on how the Egyptians saw the gods and the universe, how that view evolved in 3000 years, and how they were worshipped throughout that time. There are numerous illustrations, photos, and footnotes. The authors discuss theories about the Amarna period and the divine status of the Pharaoh that cannot be found in other books on Ancient Egypt. This is a great book to read if you want to understand the religion as a whole and get the essence of what it was like.

Four specialists - Shafer, Baines, Lesko and Silverman - took the difficult task of explaining the Ancient Egyptians' relation with religion. Through their art, their architecture and their literature, the Ancient Egyptians have left answers to all of their existential questions. Culture is religion; religion is culture : every aspect of life was influenced by the deep beliefs of the people. This is a very

informative book recommended for all students of Egyptology.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Viking: Viking Mythology: Ancient Myths, Gods and Warriors (Norse Mythology, Greek Mythology, Ancient Civilizations, Greek Gods, Ancient Rome, Viking Myths) Religion in Ancient Egypt: Gods, Myths, and Personal Practice Childrens Book : Fun facts about Egypt: (Ancient Egypt for kids) (Ages 4 - 12) (egypt picture book, pyramids for kids, mummies for kids, hieroglyphs for ... books for kids, egypt history for kids) Egypt : Egyptian Mythology and The Secrets Of The Gods (Egyptian History, Folklore, Myths and Legends, Pyramids, Egypt, Rome) Egypt: related: pharaohs, egypt, Sphinx, arab republic of egypt, africa, Cairo, united arab republic, Sharm, , capital of egypt, egyptian empire GREEK MYTHOLOGY: Greek Gods Of Ancient Greece And Other Greek Myths - Discovering Greek History & Mythology - 3rd Edition - With Pics (Greece, Greek, Egyptian ... Greek History, Mythology, Myths Book 1) Norse Mythology: Thor, Odin, Loki, and the Other Gods and Heroes (Norse Mythology, Norse Gods, Norse Myths, Norse Sagas, Norse History) Mayan Civilization: Explore the History and Mystery of the Ancient Mayan Ruins, Religion, Calendar, and More (Mayan Ruins, Mayan Religion, Ancient Civilization, Mayan Calendar) Sekret Machines: Gods: Volume 1 of Gods Man & War (Gods, Man & War) Hinduism: History and Gods (Ultimate Guide to the Hindu Religion, Gods, Rituals and Beliefs) (Hinduism Beliefs and Practices Book 1) The Ultimate Encyclopedia of Mythology: The myths and legends of the ancient worlds, from Greece, Rome and Egypt to the Norse and Celtic lands, through Persia and India to China and the Far East Ancient Egypt: An Illustrated Reference to the Myths, Religions, Pyramids and Temples of the Land of the Pharaohs Greek Mythology: Greek Gods of Ancient Greece and Other Greek Myths Greek Mythology: A Concise Guide to Ancient Gods, Heroes, Beliefs and Myths of Greek Mythology (Greek Mythology - Norse Mythology - Egyptian Mythology Book 1) Ancient Egypt: Tales of Gods and Pharaohs The Gods and Goddesses of Ancient Egypt The Complete Gods and Goddesses of Ancient Egypt Egyptian Mythology: A Guide to the Gods, Goddesses, and Traditions of Ancient Egypt Gods & Goddesses of Ancient China (Gods and Goddesses of Mythology) Gods & Goddesses of Ancient India (Gods and Goddesses of Mythology)

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)