



# Wisdom Has Built Her House: Studies on the Figure of Sophia in the Bible

*Silvia Schroer*

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*Wisdom Has Built Her House* brings together for the first time the collected studies of Silvia Schroer on the biblical figure of Sophia, divine Wisdom.

Schroer presents a differentiated image of Wisdom as female, creator, teacher, prophet, beloved, and more. In *Wisdom Has Built Her House* Schroer portrays Wisdom as a cosmic ordering principle, as universal architect, and as mediator of all scientific knowledge. Schroer also inquires about the contexts of these writings: about feminine wisdom and women's roles after the Babylonian exile, about the goddess traditions behind the idea of Sophia, and about their significance within a monotheistic symbol system. Schroer then follows the tradition of God imaged as Wisdom to the time of the Jesus-movement and the first Christian communities.

Teachers, students, and those looking for a well-reasoned study of personified Wisdom - and reasons for reenvisioning our own images of God - will find this in *Wisdom Has Built Her House*.

Chapters are Wisdom on the Path of Righteousness (Proverbs 8:20), "Divine Wisdom and Postexilic Monotheism," "Wise Women and Counselors in Israel: Models for Personified *Hokma*," "'And When the Next War Began . . .': The Wise Woman of Abel of Beth-maacah (2 Samuel 20:14-22)," "Abigail: A Wise Woman Works for Peace," "The One Lord and Male Dominance in the Book of Jesus Sirach: The Image of Woman and the Image of Wisdom in a Misogynist Document," "Personified Sophia in the Book of Wisdom," "Jesus Sophia," and "The Spirit, Wisdom, and the Dove."

*Silvia Schroer is an expert in Old Testament and the biblical world. She is the author of publications on the religious history of Israel and Palestine, on biblical-theological topics, and on feminist exegesis.*

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