

**AMARRU: THE HOME OF THE  
NORTHERN SEMITES; A STUDY  
SHOWING THAT THE RELIGION  
AND CULTURE OF ISRAEL ARE  
NOT OF BABYLONIAN ORIGIN**

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**ALBERT T. CLAY**

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# AMURRU

## THE HOME OF THE NORTHERN SEMITES

A STUDY SHOWING THAT THE RELIGION AND  
CULTURE OF ISRAEL ARE NOT OF  
BABYLONIAN ORIGIN

BY

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## P R E F A C E

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These discussions are the outgrowth of The Reinicker Lectures for the year 1908, delivered at the Protestant Episcopal Theological Seminary, Alexandria, Virginia. Instead of publishing the lectures as delivered, which covered the subject, "Recent Discoveries in Bible Lands," it seemed preferable to present a special phase of the subject, which is here treated more fully than in the lectures.

In the author's work, *Light on the Old Testament from Babel*, a protest was expressed against the claims of the Pan-Babylonists that Babylonia had extensively influenced the culture of Israel. Continued researches have opened up new vistas of the subject, which confirm the contention that the Pan-Babylonists have not only greatly overestimated the influence of the Babylonian culture upon Israel, but that the Semitic Babylonians came from the land of Amurru; that is, Syria and Palestine, and that their culture was an amalgamation of what was once Amorite or West Semitic and the Sumerian which they found in the Euphrates valley.

In order to make the main outlines of the subject as well as the discussions which bear directly upon the Old Testament more readable, the technical material has been confined largely to Part II, but frequent references to it are made in Part I. Instead of quoting the numbers of the pages referred to, they will be found in

the Index. The author realizes that in a number of instances other interpretations of certain individual facts are possible. Modification of views presented must necessarily follow new discoveries as they are made; but nevertheless the writer believes that the main contentions will remain undisturbed.

To my colleagues, Professor J. A. Montgomery and Professor Morris Jastrow, Jr., I am deeply grateful for their generous help and encouragement during the preparation of this book. And I also extend my hearty thanks for the kind assistance rendered by my friends, Professor G. A. Barton, of Bryn Mawr; Professor W. Max Müller, of Philadelphia; Professor Arthur Ungnad, of Jena; the Rev. Dr. C. H. W. Johns, Fellow at Cambridge University; Dr. Hermann Ranke, of Berlin; Dr. Arno Poebel, of Eisenach; and Dr. William Hayes Ward, of New York. To all it gives me pleasure to acknowledge my indebtedness and extend my warm gratitude. Let me add, in mentioning the names of these scholars, that they are in no wise responsible for the views expressed in these lectures.

ALBERT T. CLAY.

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