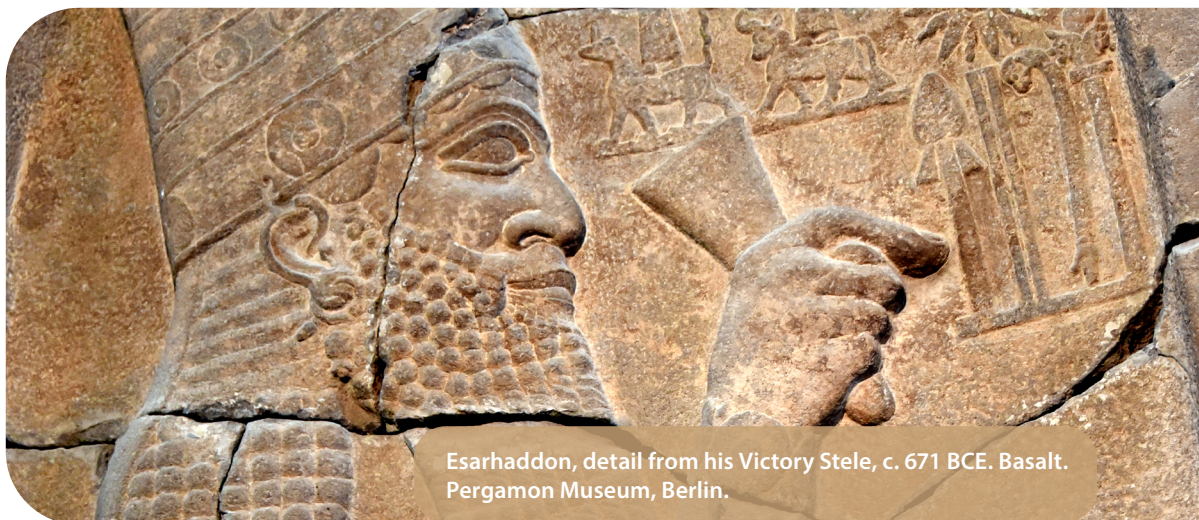




Esarhaddon, detail from his Victory Stele, c. 671 BCE. Basalt. Pergamon Museum, Berlin.

FROM YAHWISM TO MONOTHEISM
DEPARTMENT OF BIBLICAL STUDIES RESEARCH SEMINAR
Seminar led by Prof. Guy Darshan

THE BIRTH OF AN IMPERIAL GOD

The Political Theology of the Early Isaiah Tradition in Its Neo-Assyrian Context

This paper argues that the book of Isaiah witnesses the emergence of an "imperial God," marking a shift from a provincial deity to a universal sovereign who governs the known ancient Near Eastern world. Drawing on Thorkild Jacobsen's notion of the "politicomorphism" of ancient Near Eastern literature, it interprets Isaiah as a reception and transformation of Neo-Assyrian imperial ideology, comparing this development with the earlier Amos tradition.

SPEAKER

Prof. Konrad Schmid



Professor of Hebrew Bible and Early Judaism, University of Zurich, Switzerland.

Prof. Konrad Schmid is a leading scholar of the Hebrew Bible and Ancient Judaism. He has held fellowships at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton and the Israel Institute for Advanced Studies in Jerusalem. His research focuses on the Pentateuch, its legal traditions, Isaiah and Jeremiah, and the intellectual history of the Hebrew Bible in its ancient Near Eastern contexts.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2026

12:00

ROOM 208, ROSENBERG BUILDING

- The lecture will be delivered in English
- The lecture is open to the public
- Academic Host: **Prof. Oded Lipschits**

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