

2012 PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES

THE NEAR EASTERN ARCHAEOLOGY FOUNDATION'S
"ARCHAEOLOGY OF RELIGION"

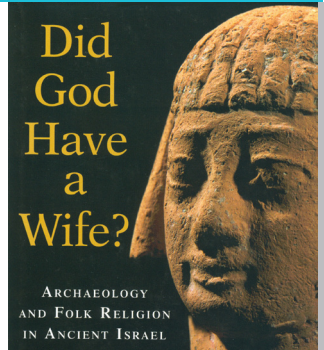


THE UNIVERSITY OF
SYDNEY

Did God have a Wife? Archaeology and Folk Religion in Ancient Israel.

By Professor William Dever

Lecture will be from 6.30-7.30pm followed by a light supper



The Hebrew Bible portrays the religion of ancient Israel as monotheistic, the worship of a single male deity named Yahweh. Yet the archaeological data recently accumulated shows that this may have been the ideal, but the reality was quite different. We have hundreds of nude female figurines that represent the old Canaanite Mother Goddess 'Asherah'. We even have 8th century BCE Hebrew inscriptions naming her as the consort of Yahweh in the context of blessing. This illustrated lecture will show how monotheism developed slowly and with great difficulty in ancient Israel.

DATE & TIME TUESDAY

24th April 2012

6.30pm

Women's College
University of Sydney

Bookings are essential for this event. We prefer prepayment.

All prepaid tickets will be available at the door.

Please pay by 16th April 2012

William G. Dever is an American archaeologist, specialising in the history of Israel and the Near East in Biblical times, receiving his Ph.D. from Harvard University in 1966. He was Professor of Near Eastern Archaeology and Anthropology at the University of Arizona in Tucson from 1975 to 2002. He was Director of the Harvard Semitic Museum-Hebrew Union College Excavations at Gezer from 1966-71, 1984 and 1990; Director, Khirbet el-Kôm & Jebel Qacaqir (West Bank) 1967-71; Principal Investigator, Tell el-Hayyat (Jordan) 1981-85, Assistant Director, University of Arizona Expedition Idalion (Cyprus) 1991. Professor Dever joined the faculty at Lycoming College, Pennsylvania, in autumn 2008 where he was appointed Distinguished Professor of Near Eastern Archaeology.

Did God have a Wife?

Name _____ Number of tickets _____

Email _____ Phone Number _____

PRICE: NEAF Members: \$25/Non Members \$35/
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