

Download The Eerdmans Encyclopedia Of Early Christian Art And Archaeology

Eerdmans is proud to publish many books that have remained in print for decades - true classics that have stood the test of time. Visit our Enduring Standards page to see some of our perennially best-selling backlist books. Early Christian beliefs regarding baptism probably predate the New Testament writings. It seems certain that numerous Jewish sects and certainly Jesus's disciples practised baptism, which became integral to nearly every manifestation of the religion of the Jews. Historians have used a variety of sources and methods in exploring and describing the history of early Christianity, commonly known as Christianity before the First Council of Nicaea in 326. The growth of Christianity and its enhanced status in the Roman Empire after Constantine I led to the development of a distinct Christian historiography, influenced by both Christian theology and the ... In the Bible, Baal (also rendered Ba'al) was an important Canaanite god, often portrayed as the primary enemy of the Hebrew God Yahweh. The Semitic word "baal" (meaning "Lord") was also used to refer to various deities of the Levant. Many of the Biblical references to "baal" designate local deities identified with specific places, about whom little is known.