Abstract

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Two aspects of the Septuagint translation of the Balaam account are relatively unique in the LXX and important indicators of the translator's interpretation of the text. First, the translator frequently represents the Hebrew *yhwh* with the Greek *theos*, a departure from the normal LXX translation practice. This has sometimes been interpreted as reflecting an anti-Balaam bias on the part of the translator. Second, the translator gives unusual renderings for portions of Balaam's oracles. These are often cited as evidence of Septuagintal messianic interpretation. This thesis reexamines these two issues in the context of translation practice elsewhere in the Septuagint, other literature of the period, and interpretive history.