

DEPICTIONS OF WOMEN IN THE HEBREW BIBLE

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On the portrayal of women in the Hebrew Bible, Ester Fuchs writes, “the biblical narrative was implicated in the cultural construction of gendered relations, and ought therefore to be read [...] as tendentious political representations of reality, and interpretations of truth.”¹ This paper attempts to explore representations of women in the ancient world with the goal of shedding light on women’s experiences in a male-dominated world. In doing so, I will focus on the stories surrounding the contrasting figures of Eve and Sarah in Genesis and pay close attention to how they are treated by their male counterparts and described by their male authors. Finally, I will also examine the ways in which these depictions have contributed to the development and expectation of women’s roles throughout the centuries

¹ Ester Fuchs, “Biblical feminisms: knowledge, theory and politics in the study of women in the Hebrew bible.” *Biblical Interpretations* 16 (2008): 210.