

Coming Back for More Reading-Material: Recommended Reading for SHWEP Oddcast Episodes on Polytheist Reincarnation-Beliefs

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1 General Works on Metempsychosis in Antiquity

Walter Burkert. *Greek Religion, Archaic and Classical*. Blackwell, Oxford, 1985. Translated by John Raffan, 296–301.

Heinrich Dörrie. Kontroverse um die Seelenwanderung im kaiserzeitlichen Platonismus. *Hermes*, 85(H. 4):414–35, 1957.

J. Bruce Long. Reincarnation. In L. E. Sullivan, editor, *Death, Afterlife and the Soul*, pages 138–45. New York, 1987.

Gananath Obeyesekere. *Imagining Karma*. University of California Press, Berkeley, CA, 2002 [much broader than the ‘ancient world’ as understood in western academe, this is an attempt to understand notions of reincarnation globally].

Richard Seaford. *The Origins of Philosophy in Ancient Greece and Ancient India. A Historical Comparison*. The University Press, Cambridge, 2019 [concentrates on the peculiar ‘coincidence’ of philosophical thought, and ideas of ‘soul’, having arisen in India and Greece at the same time, reaching a crescendo in the sixth century and onward. Offers materialist explanations for these developments. Very interesting, although I find it reductive as a ‘total explanation’].

R. J. Zwi Werblowsky. Transmigration. In L. E. Sullivan, editor, *Death, Afterlife and the Soul*, pages 130–137. New York, 1987.

Helmut Zander. *Geschichte der Seelenwanderung in Europa: Alternative religiöse Traditionen von der Antike bis heute*. Wissenschaftliche Buchgesellschaft, Darmstadt, 1999 [a great survey, by no means concentrating on our early period].

2 Pythagoreans, Orphics, *vel sim.*

For the ‘Greek shamans’/*iatromanteis* specifically, see the bibliography to the SHWEP Special Episode:

<https://shwep.net/podcast/the-greek-iatromanteis-katabasis-metempsychosis-soul-flight-and-the-question-of-shamanism/>

For the primary texts of the Orphic *lamellæ*, see the edition of Bernabé (2005) or, perhaps more usefully, the emended and expanded edition in Bernabé and San Cristóbal (2008), Appendix 1.

See also:zz

Albert Bernabé, editor. *Poetae Epici Graeci. Testimonia et fragmenta. Pars. II, fasc. 1–2, Orphicorum et Orphicis similium testimonia et fragmenta*. Bibliotheca Teubneriana. K.G. Saur, München/Leipzig, 2005.

Alberto Bernabé and Ana Isabel Jiménez San Cristóbal. *Instructions for the Netherworld: The Orphic Gold Tablets*. Brill, Leiden/Boston, MA, 2008. Michael Chase, trans.

Jan N. Bremmer. *The Rise and Fall of the Afterlife*. Routledge, London/New York, NY, 2002.

L. Brisson. Damascius et l’Orphisme. In P. Borgeaud, editor, *Orphisme et Orphée: En l’Honneur de Jean Rudhardt*, pages 157–210. Geneva, 1991.

Walter Burkert. *Lore and Science in Ancient Pythagoreanism*. Harvard University Press, Cambridge, MA, 1972. Translated by Edward L. Minar.

G. Casadio. La Metempsicosi tra Orfeo e Pitagora. In P. Borgeaud, editor, *Orphisme et Orphée: En l’Honneur de Jean Rudhardt*, pages 119–56.

Geneva, 1991.

Radcliffe G. Edmonds. *Myths of the Underworld Journey: Plato, Aristophanes, and the "Orphic" Gold Tablets*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2004.

William Keith Chambers Guthrie. *Orpheus and Greek Religion: A Study of the Orphic Movement*. Princeton University Press, Princeton, NJ, 1993.

Richard Seaford. Immortality, Salvation, and the Elements. *Harvard Studies in Classical Philology*, 90:1–26, 1986.

3 Plato and Platonism

Heinrich Dörrie. Kontroverse um die Seelenwanderung im kaiserzeitlichen Platonismus. *Hermes*, 85(H. 4):414–35, 1957.

Simon Fortier. Olympiodorus, Metempsychosis, and Christianity. In Albert Joosse, editor, *Olympiodorus of Alexandria: Exegete, Teacher, Platonic Philosopher*, number 159 in *Philosophia antiqua*, pages 221–42. Brill, Leiden/Boston, MA, 2021.

Jens Halfwassen. Seelenwagen. *Historisches Wörterbuch der Philosophie*, 9:111–17, 1995.

Sarah Iles Johnston. Rising to the Occasion: Theurgical Ascent in its Cultural Milieu. In P. Schäfer and H.G. Kippenberg, editors, *Envisioning Magic: A Princeton Seminar and Symposium*, pages 165–94. Brill, Leiden, 1997.

Sarah Iles Johnston. Overtime in the Afterlife; Or, No Rest for the Virtuous. In Ra’anan S. Boustan and Annette Yoshiko Reed, editors, *Heavenly Realms and Earthly Realities in Late Antique Religions*, pages 85–102. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2004.

Audrey N. M. Rich. Reincarnation in Plotinus. *Mnemosyne*, (10/3): 232–238, 1957.