

William Loader has long been studying ancient attitudes toward sex and sexuality. The fruit of his authoritative research and writing is here distilled into one summary volume.

“The capstone of a project that has already produced five volumes of detailed research, this book establishes Loader as the Kinsey of biblical sexuality. Like Kinsey, he has taken a topic that has often been taboo and demystified it. His patient cataloguing of the diverse biblical attitudes to sexuality complicates the issue for anyone who would appeal to biblical authority in a simplistic way. This is a major contribution both to biblical scholarship and to practical theology.”

— **John J. Collins**
Yale Divinity School

“*Making Sense of Sex* could only have been written by a scholar who has spent a decade of research and previously published five scholarly volumes on the topic. Here William Loader presents his main conclusions in a highly accessible format. The lucid prose, anchored with references to primary sources, makes it an indispensable resource for students, but scholars will also find much value in the concise overview. . . . Loader is clearly a worldwide leading expert on sexuality in early Judaism and early Christianity, and his command of the material is detectable on every page.”

— **Margaret Y. MacDonald**
St. Francis Xavier University

“This book is much more than a mere distillation of Loader’s magisterial five-volume study of attitudes toward sexuality in ancient Jewish and Christian sources. With consummate skill, precise prose, and detailed understanding of relevant texts, Loader takes readers on a journey drawing out overarching themes relating to attitudes toward sexuality, yet without minimizing the diversity of views that existed. . . . This scintillating study showcases biblical scholarship in its finest form. Beyond simply being an exercise in excellent exegesis, it delves into the fundamental questions of what it means to be both human and sexual beings. One could wish for no better guide in tackling these vexed issues concerning sexuality.”

— **Paul Foster**
University of Edinburgh

WILLIAM LOADER is professor emeritus of New Testament at Murdoch University, Perth, Australia. His other books include *Enoch, Levi, and Jubilees on Sexuality; The Dead Sea Scrolls on Sexuality; The Pseudepigrapha on Sexuality; Philo, Josephus, and the Testaments on Sexuality; and The New Testament on Sexuality.*