

イザヤ書 8 章 19 節における אֱלֹהִים

津村俊夫

ABSTRACT: D. T. TSUMURA. “אֱלֹהִים in Isa 8:19.” The term אֱלֹהִים in Isa 8:19 has been translated as “God”, “gods” or “divine beings”. Recent translations such as the NRSV, REB and NJB support the plural interpretation (“gods”) which takes אֱלֹהִים as being in apposition to הַמֵּתִים “the dead”. However, the meaning of a term should be decided contextually, based on the proper understanding of the grammar of the sentence(s) in which the term appears. In the light of LXX, which translates אֱלֹהִים בְּעַד הַחַיִּים as τί ἐκζητοῦσιν περὶ τῶν ζώντων τοὺς νεκροὺς “why do they seek the dead concerning the living?” we would suggest translating the Hebrew as, “The people do not [seek] their God? [Why] do they seek the dead concerning the living?” One may suggest that the underlying logic of the sentence in Isa 8:19 is like that of the structure “Is it not. . . ? Why. . . ?” which appears in Gen 29:25 and Num 22:37.