



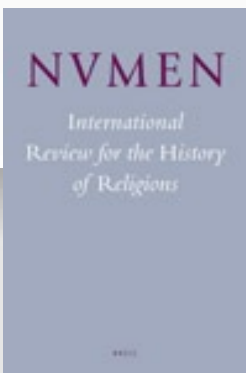
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THE COSMIC JOURNEY OF ODYSSEUS

**Author:** [Nanno Marinatos](#)**Source:** [Numen](#), Volume 48, Issue 4, pages 381 – 416 **Publication****Year :** 2001**DOI:** [10.1163/156852701317092878](#)**ISSN:** 0029-5973 **E-ISSN:** 1568-5276**Document Type:** Research Article**Subjects:** [Religious Studies](#)[« Previous Article](#) | [Table of Contents](#) | [Next Article »](#)[Abstract](#)[Full Text](#)[Media](#)[References\(0\)](#)[Cited By \(4\)](#)[Metrics](#)

In vain have scholars tried to produce a coherent geographical picture of Odysseus' travels. It is argued here that (at the edges of the earth (*perata ges*), a phrase used in the text to describe several lands that the hero visits. The current in the East Mediterranean region in the Iron Age. It was modeled on the Egyptian the journey of the sun through the darkness of the underworld and twelve hours in the sky. Evidence of similar concepts in the Near East is provided (now in the British Museum) as well as by Phoenician circular bowls. Gilgamesh seems to perform a cosmic journey that utilizes the concept of a circular *cosmos*. Odysseus' journey spans the two cosmic junctures of the universe: East, where Calypso lives. Another polar axis is the underworld and the island of the sun.

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