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Summary of the Paper and my Doctoral Project

The working title of my dissertation is **'Conceptualization of Divinity in Storm-God Imagery in the Hebrew Bible and in the Ugaritic Mythology in the Light of Cognitive Science of Religion'**. It will be written as an **article-based dissertation** that consists of three individually published, peer-reviewed articles and conversation that includes both introduction and conclusions about the scientific contribution of my articles. **My objectives for the dissertation are two-folded: First,** my methodological and theoretical objective is to test and develop further certain theories in the field of **Cognitive Science of Religion (CSR)** that deal with the question about how human cognition affects to conceptualization of divinity and divine beings in a more general level. These theories are still not all that widely used with ancient material. This is why my other methodological and theoretical aim is to test them against ancient material and to investigate whether they are able to offer some new viewpoints that have not yet been reached with other methodological solutions. **Second**, my aim is also to better understand the historical process of conceptualization of divinity in the Hebrew Bible. I am not aiming to embrace the whole phenomenon, but rather use storm-god imagery as an example of the necessary anthropomorphic divine imagery within the description of YHWH. As Ugaritic texts are considered as one of the most important corpus of source material for the study of the religion of the Ancient Levant, I will primarily use them as my reference point to the storm-god imagery in the Hebrew Bible. The historical aspect of my dissertation brings it also close to the field of **Cognitive Historiography**. This is why I will also ask, to what level and in which boundary conditions is it possible to access ancient people's conceptualizations of divinity via looking into mythological material.

The disposition of my dissertation would look like this:

1. **Introduction** (objectives, methodological and historical boundary conditions)
2. **First article**: 'Considerations of Conceptualization of Divinity in Ancient Texts in the Light of Cognitive Perspectives'

3. **Second article**: (A Case Study) 'Cognitive Perspectives on Rider of the Clouds Imagery in the Hebrew Bible and in Ugaritic Mythology'
4. **Third article**: 'Socio-Cognitive Dimensions of Conceptualization of Divinity'
5. **Discussion and conclusions**

As you can see, my paper here in OTSEM, works as part of my second article in my disposition. I am currently working on both the cognitive perspectives of the process of conceptualization of divinity which will be more widely discussed in my second article and also on the case study about cognitive perspectives of Rider of the Clouds imagery. The publication forum for the *Rider of the Clouds* article, and the third article on *Socio-Cognitive Dimensions*, would probably be some journal on the field of Old Testament Studies or Ancient Near Eastern Studies, but the first more theoretical article, that deals with questions about developing CSR theories in ancient sources, would probably need to be published in a journal closer to the field of CSR and Cognitive Historiography (maybe *Journal of Cognitive Historiography*).

The questions with which I am still pondering about are mainly related to my sources. How widely should I take storm-god imagery in the Hebrew Bible within my dissertation? Should I also look into the other textual material in the LBA/EIA Levant, and should I also use iconographic sources in order to contribute properly on the theme of Conceptualization of Divinity in the Hebrew Bible?