



Fig. 18 *The "Baptism" of Pharaoh*

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In the corner, on the east end of the north wall, the king stands between Horus and Seth (fig. 18): each god holds over the king's head a vase from which issue, not streams of water, but signs meaning "life" and "dominion," and they recite a spell:

I have purified you with life, stability and dominion; your purification is the purification of Thoth [var. "Dewen-anwy"] and vice-versa.

These gods are the masters of the four corners of the universe and the king both absorbs magical power from these quarters and extends his watchful regard towards them. This rite, which enabled the king to participate in ritual as a god, was perhaps performed in a little room that was built in this corner after the second court had been completed, and the theme is carried over to the east wall.

UNITED WITH ETERNITY

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