# **A Brief History Of Ancient Israel**

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a significant achievement this book moves our understanding of the history of israel forward as dramatically as john bright s a history of israel martin noth s history of israel and william f albright s from the stone age of cristianity did at an earlier period

the definitve guide to the history of ancient israel the history of ancient israel covers the epic story of jewish civilisation from its beginnings to the destruction of jerusalem and the temple in ad 70 it deals with israel s relations with the great empires which shaped its development and with the changing internal structure of the jewish state drawing both on excavation and the hebrew bible

the history of israel is a much debated topic in old testament studies on one side are minimalists who find little of historical value in the hebrew bible on the other side are those who assume the biblical text is a precise historical record many serious students of the bible find themselves

between these two positions and would benefit from a careful exploration of issues in israelite history this substantive history of israel textbook values the bible s historical contribution without overlooking critical issues and challenges featuring the latest scholarship the book introduces students to the current state of research on issues relevant to the study of ancient israel the editors and contributors all top biblical scholars and historians discuss historical evidence in a readable manner using both canonical and chronological lenses to explore israelite history illustrative items such as maps and images visually support the book s content tables and sidebars are also included

grounded in the latest archeological developments victor matthews s a brief history of ancient israel presents a concise history of israel covering the ancestral period conquest and settlement the monarchy and both the exilic and postexilic periods using supplemental figures and insets the author concentrates on providing a cogent and condensed discussion of events he examines historical geography archaeological data and where relevant comparative cultural materials from other ancient near eastern civilizations with an accessible yet high quality introduction a brief history of ancient israel will be of immense value to both students of the old testament and the scholars who teach them

encapsulating as it does research that has been undertaken on the sociological anthropological and political aspects of the history of ancient israel this important book is designed to follow in the tradition of works in the series sponsored by the society for old testament study which began with the publication of the people and the book in 1925 the world of ancient israel is especially concerned to explore in greater depth than comparable studies the areas and degrees of overlap between approaches to the subject of old testament research adopted by scholars and students of theology and the social sciences increasing numbers of scholars have recognised the valuable insights that can be gained from a cross disciplinary approach and it is becoming clear that the early biblical traditions about the formation of the israelite state must be examined in the light of comparative anthropology if useful historical conclusions are to be drawn from them

a respected archaeologist s engaging revealing take on ancient israel a thorough yet readable examination of a much debated subject of relevance also to the current israeli palestinian situation this book is sure to reinvigorate discussion of the origins of ancient israel

in popular presentation some treat the bible as a reliable source for the history of israel while others suggest that archaeology has shown that it cannot be trusted at all this volume debates the issue of how such widely divergent views have arisen and will become an essential source of reference for the future

niels peter lemche focuses on the way israelites understood themselves at different points in history before within and after the monarchy this book is essential reading for anyone interested in understanding israel s rich history volumes in the library of ancient israel draw on multiple disciplines such as archaeology anthropology sociology linguistics and literary criticism to illuminate the everyday realities and social subtleties these ancient cultures experienced this series employs

sophisticated methods resulting in original contributions that depict the reality of the people behind the hebrew bible and interprets these insights for a wide variety of readers

an accessible social history of ancient israel designed for old testament courses includes a timeline and glossary of terms

argues that the biblical historians were influenced by typology interpretation of earlier texts satire and ideology shows how with this model we can put together a history of ancient israel using the hebrew bible as a key source

the most refreshing and innovative approach to ancient israelite society which i have ever read matthews and benjamin draw extensively and creatively on biblical and ancient near eastern literature as well as the newest work in anthropology this book fills a major need for a masterful synthesis of life in ancient israel mark smith st joseph s university

intended primarily as a textbook for undergraduates this volume has the following major divisions each divided into chapters i an introduction to the people including the essential stance of the biblical material methods of analysis and the geographical setting ii the origins of the people including a brief history of old testament criticism the patriarchal traditions the exodus event and the covenant at sinai iii the growth of the people from the wilderness period to the time of elijah iv the demise of the people from the emergence of the literary prophets to the time of the exile v the renewal of the people from the second isaiah through the end of the old testament period there is an extensive bibliography arranged topically and by chapters indexes of authors and subjects and photos and maps scattered appropriately throughout the volume concerning many basic issues a range of scholary opinions is cited followed by a judicious evaluation and a list of the author s conclusions only occasionally may the average informed reader want to take serious issue with the author each chapter dealing with the biblical text is accompanied by a list of passages which the student is to read in conjunction with it a helpful procedure treatment of a particular segment of biblical material often includes discussion of its theological stance the author has included coverage of many more topics than introductions of comparable size from the journal of biblical literature review by lloyd r bailey duke university professor kuntz has written a very helpful introductory text the traditions and texts of the hebrew bible are set within a historical framework but the text is more than a history of ancient israel kuntz presents in a succinct fashion major historiographical and interpretative positions he has included an excellent bibliography which includes commentaries atlases journals as well as bibliographies structured along the lines of the table of contents kuntz has written a very readable and thorough introduction to the hebrew bible from the journal of the american academy of religion by richard d hecht university of california santa barbara although the subtitle includes the three areas of literature history and thought this volume is primarily concerned with the literature of the old testament a vast amount of information is made available in a breezy well articulated and engaging style kuntz keeps his readers informed on presently controversial issues but he does not allow the intricacies of such current debates to obscure the flow of the work as a whole each chapter is amply footnoted and an extensive

annotated bibliography concludes the volume some seventy photographs enhance an already clear and concise presentation the vigorous and open stance of the work evident in its lack of defensive or apologetic intent finds confirmation in the author's statement to engage in the old testament hermeneutical task is to engage in a dialogue with ancient israel as that dialogue unfolds the interpreter will be required to place his own view of the world on trial kuntz has ably demonstrated that the major task of introducing the old testament to the interested layperson can be accomplished successfully without jargon and sophisticated detail this volume deserves a wide readership and will serve as a very fine foundation in introductory courses to the entire old testament from the catholic biblical quarterly by david p reid ss cc washington theological coalition silver spring maryland

the nation particularly in exodus and numbers is not an abstract concept but rather a grand character whose history is fleshed out with remarkable literary power in her innovative exploration of national imagination in the bible pardes highlights the textual manifestations of the metaphor the many anthropomorphisms by which a collective character named israel springs to life she explores the representation of communal motives hidden desires collective anxieties the drama and suspense embedded in each phase of the nation s life from birth in exile to suckling in the wilderness to a long process of maturation that has no definite end in the bible pardes suggests history and literature go hand in hand more explicitly than in modern historiography which is why the bible serves as a paradigmatic case for examining the narrative base of national constructions pardes calls for a consideration of the bible s penetrating renditions of national ambivalence she reads the rebellious conduct of the nation against the grain probing the murmurings of the people foregrounding their critique of the official line the bible does not provide a homogeneous account of nation formation according to pardes but rather reveals points of tension between different perceptions of the nation s history and destiny this fresh and beautifully rendered portrayal of the history of ancient israel will be of vital interest to anyone interested in the bible in the interrelations of literature and history in nationhood in feminist thought and in psychoanalysis

recent years have seen an explosion of writing on the history of israel prompted largely by definitive archaeological surveys and attempts to write a genuine archaeological history of ancient israel and judah this text is an incisive critique of and alternative proposal to these approaches to biblical history

this book presents a new window on the legal system of ancient israel building on the understanding that israel was a society where writing was the medium for some forms of discourse but not others where written texts were performed orally and rewritten from oral performances robert d miller ii ofs examines law and jurisprudence in this oral and literate world using iceland as an ethnographic analogy miller shows how law was practiced performed and transmitted the way written artifacts of the law fit into oral performance and transmission and the relationship of the detritus of law that survives in the hebrew bible both torah and proverbs to that earlier social world

this english translation of the second edition of christian frevel s essential textbook geschichte

israels kohlhammer 2018 covers the history of israel from its beginnings until the bar kokhba revolt 132 135 ce frevel draws on archaeological evidence inscriptions and monuments as well as the bible to sketch a picture of the history of ancient israel within the context of the southern levant that is sometimes familiar but often fresh and unexpected frevel has updated the second german edition with the most recent research of archaeologists and biblical scholars including those based in europe tables of rulers a glossary a timeline of the ancient near east and resources arranged by subject make this book an accessible essential textbook for students and scholars alike

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