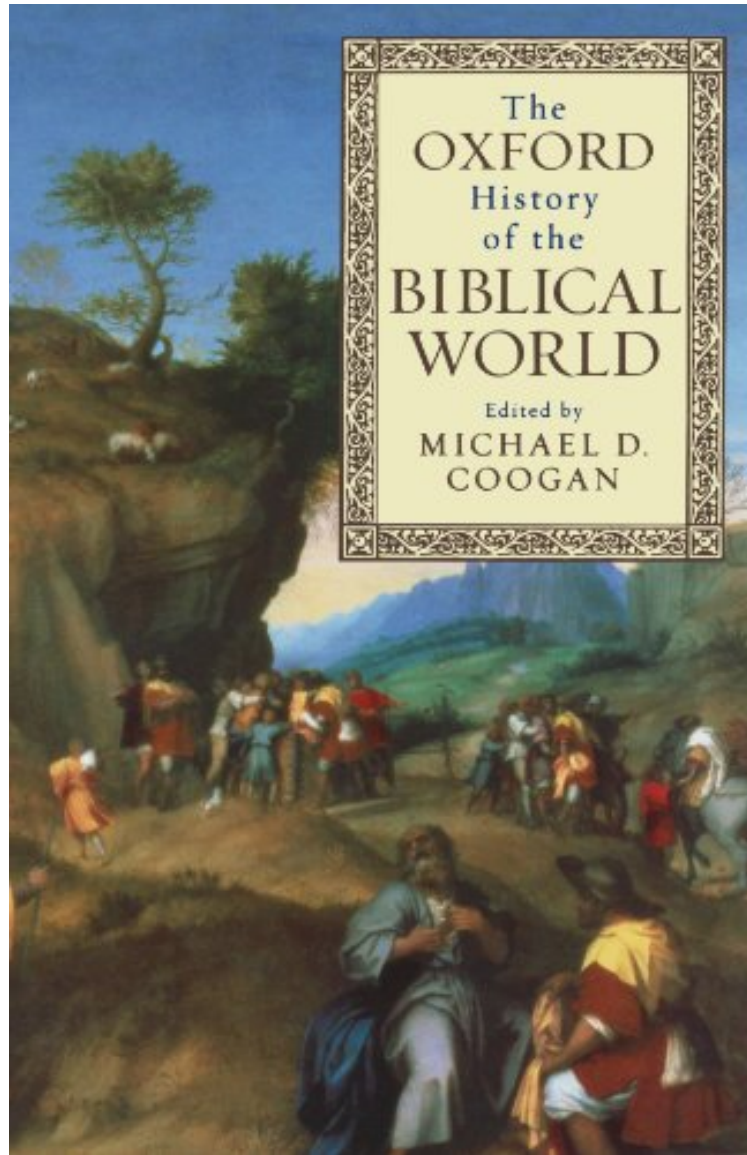


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## The Oxford History of the Biblical World

*From Michael D Coogan*

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#258005 in Books Michael D Coogan 2001-06-07 Original language: English PDF # 1 5.90 x 1.60 x 8.80l, 1.58 #File Name: 0195139372508 pages The Oxford History of the Biblical World | File size: 25.Mb

**From Michael D Coogan : The Oxford History of the Biblical World** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Oxford History of the Biblical World:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A balanced and realistic perspective on the world that produced the Bible By Robert Hayes Like last summer when I read through THE OXFORD HISTORY OF ISLAM, this time I read through THE OXFORD HISTORY OF THE BIBLICAL WORLD. While I wasn't familiar with most of the material in the former, I was at least nominally familiar with a lot of the material presented in this volume. And as a

consequence, I was able to absorb (and finish) it a lot quicker. It consists of 12 scholarly essays on the different historical periods from prehistory up to a few hundred years after the Roman Empire split. The earlier chapters were a little less interesting to me, insofar as they had to rely a lot more heavily on the archaeological record (read: a lot of pottery), but the reconstruction of pre-Israelite history was still eye-opening. I wasn't really looking to confirm any biases regarding the Bible's historicity, but it was helpful to see where it diverged and (quite surprisingly, at points) where they coincide. Though this may not occur to the average Bible reader, the people who wrote/compiled the Bible weren't primarily interested in historical accuracy as seen through modern eyes and methods, instead writing with a more theological purpose. Even with that in mind, you still learn a lot about where Judaism and Christianity came from and how they adapted and set themselves apart from the multiplicity of religious traditions surrounding them. In between, there was a lot of war, moving populations, and exchanging of ideas. The Biblical literalist will probably find a lot of what they read here hard to swallow, but I have a feeling that most open-minded people would (and should) give it a shot. There certainly is a lot to digest here, but it's definitely worth your time. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Book Review By Jennie Martin A must-have for every biblical student's library. I have spent HOURS just perusing this volume that covers thousands of related subjects. My #3 fave reference book behind Strongs Brown Driver Briggs 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Best history companion to the Bible Objective thorough provided many insights I have never found before By James Miller Oh I thought Doug at the above was the review it's a great work you cannot go wrong Will it Oxford

In this impressive volume, leading scholars offer compelling glimpses into the biblical world, the world in which prophets, poets, sages, and historians created one of our most important texts--the Bible. For more than a century, archaeologists have been unearthing the tombs, temples, texts, and artifacts of the ancient Near East and the Mediterranean world. Using new approaches, contemporary scholars have begun to synthesize this material with the biblical traditions. The Oxford History of the Biblical World incorporates the best of this scholarship, and in chronologically ordered chapters presents the reader with a readable and integrated study of the history, art, architecture, languages, literatures, and religion of biblical Israel and early Judaism and Christianity in their larger cultural contexts. The authors also examine such issues as the roles of women, the tensions between urban and rural settings, royal and kinship social structures, and official and popular religions of the region. Understanding the biblical world is a vital part of understanding the Bible. Broad, authoritative, and engaging, The Oxford History of the Biblical World will illuminate for any reader the ancient world from which the Bible emerged.

From Library Journal Coogan (religious studies, Stonehill Coll.) has assembled a dozen scholars with impressive credentials in ancient Near Eastern studies to assist him in creating this work of immense scope. These contributors bring varied perspectives to their work as they draw from new primary and secondary sources based on recent archaeological excavations (often their own) and on translations of texts such as the Dead Sea Scrolls. Organized chronologically, the essays explore the many cultures of ancient Canaan, Israel, Judea, and Palestine from 10,000 B.C.E. to the rise of Islam in the seventh century C.E. Illustrations, maps, charts, chronologies, and bibliographies enhance the uniformly well-written essays. But the strengths of the work are its currency and breadth of coverage and perspective. Appropriate for all libraries with collections in religion or Near Eastern studies, and of particular interest to students of biblical history and archaeology. [For another book edited by Coogan, see The Illustrated Guide to World Religions, reviewed on p. 72. Ed.] Linda V. Carlisle, Southern Illinois Univ., Edwardsville. Linda V. Carlisle, Southern Illinois Univ., Edwardsville Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc. "The Oxford History of the Biblical World rewards careful study and casual browsing. For those willing to open their minds to the evidence and nuanced argument about the origins of faiths that have shaped our world, it is a worthy investment of time in the study of the timeless."--David Lauter, L.A. Times (on the hardcover edition) "A judicious and well-illustrated survey of the entire scope of Biblical history."--The Providence Sunday Journal About the Author Michael D. Coogan, editor of the New Oxford Annotated Bible, 3rd ed. and co-editor of the Oxford Companion to the Bible, is currently director of publications for the Harvard Semitic Museum and Professor of Religious Studies at Stonehill College in Easton, Massachusetts.