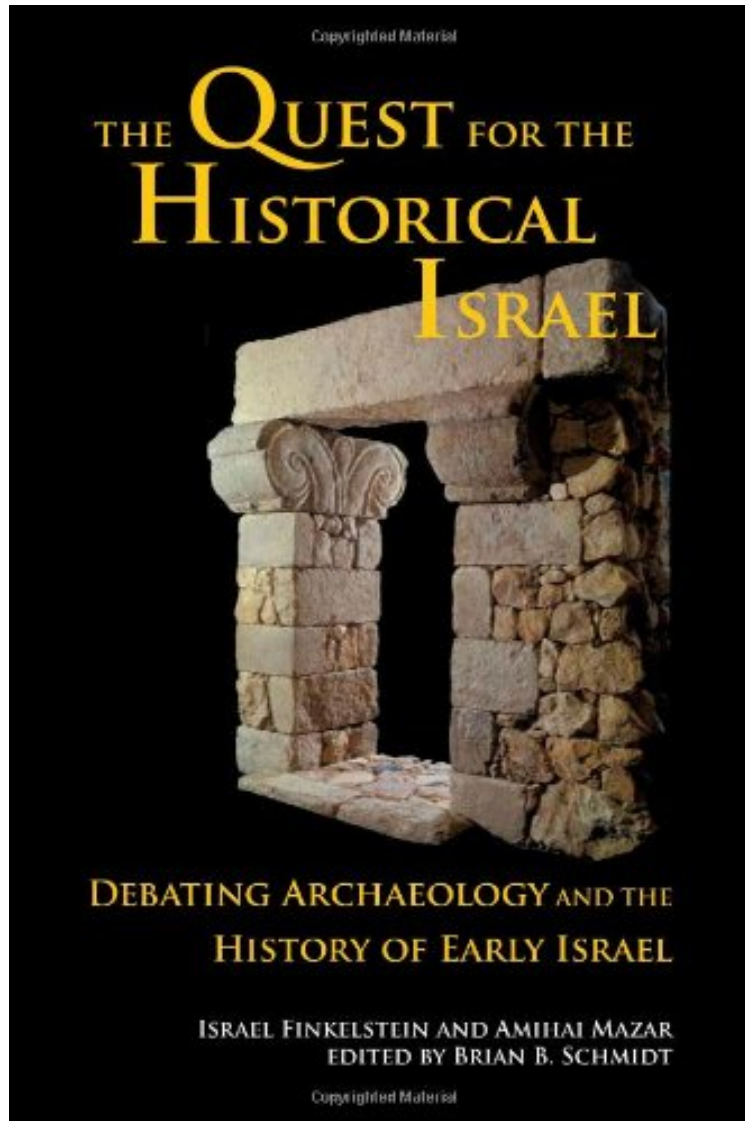


(Ebook free) The Quest for the Historical Israel: Debating Archaeology and the History of Early Israel
(Archaeology and Biblical Studies)

The Quest for the Historical Israel: Debating Archaeology and the History of Early Israel (Archaeology and Biblical Studies)

Israel Finkelstein

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Israel Finkelstein : The Quest for the Historical Israel: Debating Archaeology and the History of Early Israel (Archaeology and Biblical Studies) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Quest for the Historical Israel: Debating Archaeology and the History of Early Israel (Archaeology and Biblical Studies):

1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. GREAT FOR STUDENTSBy SteveIt is very useful for academic purposes. However, Prof. Israel Finkelstein and Prof. Amihai Mazar evocate the moderated-critical approach to the ancient texts of the Hebrew Bible. The dialogue between both approaches (even within a moderated-critical perspective) establishes reflexion in order to provoke analysis. The "Quest for the Historical Israel" maintains a very balanced view on archaeological evidence and data. It reflects the tension between Bible and Archaeology of the Bible Lands and its history. In general, and according to this book, ancient Israelites were a mixture of canaanites with other races that developed its culture and religion in Canaan two millennia B.C.E. (approximately). In regard to the Pentateuchal narratives, it proposes a telescopic view on ancient history. The more ancient the narratives are, the folktales got more distorted through oral transmission. However, they preserved vague memories of the ancient past. The book never negates the authority of Hebrew ancient texts, but stands for the scientific evidence of the history of the Ancient Israel, rather than affirming the Hebrew Bible's prominence in the historical reliability. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy David KaplanGood quest9 of 12 people found the following review helpful. Excellent end highly recommend!By Tom Jessurun LoboI am halfway the book right now, have a anormous collecting of works on this topic, and am always on the look out for the ultimate wisdom of the day. Well, this is as close as you can get! I only wish authors would state that today's facts may be tomorrow's old news. Just as the Allbright's, the De Vaux's and the Yadin's have been re-interpreted, so will today's knowledge turn out to be in need of many revisions one day soon. As long as the minimalists stay away from the essence of this great book that's fine with me!

Three decades of dialogue, discussion, and debate within the interrelated disciplines of Syro-Palestinian archaeology, ancient Israelite history, and Hebrew Bible over the question of the relevance of the biblical account for reconstructing early Israel's history have created the need for a balanced articulation of the issues and their prospective resolutions. This book brings together for the first time and under one cover, a currently emerging centrist paradigm as articulated by two leading figures in the fields of early Israelite archaeology and history. Although Finkelstein and Mazar advocate distinct views of early Israel's history, they nevertheless share the position that the material cultural data, the biblical traditions, and the ancient Near Eastern written sources are all significantly relevant to the historical quest for Iron Age Israel. The results of their research are featured in accessible, parallel syntheses of the historical reconstruction of early Israel that facilitate comparison and contrast of their respective interpretations. The historical essays presented here are based on invited lectures delivered in October of 2005 at the Sixth Biennial Colloquium of the International Institute for Secular Humanistic Judaism in Detroit, Michigan.

About the AuthorIsrael Finkelstein is Professor of Archaeology at Tel Aviv University where he holds the Jacob M. Alkow Chair in the Archaeology of Israel of the Bronze and Iron Ages. He is co-director of the Megiddo excavations and the co-author of *David and Solomon: In Search of the Bible's Sacred Kings and the Roots of the Western Tradition* and *The Bible Unearthed, Archaeology's New Vision of Ancient Israel and the Origins of Its Sacred Texts* (both from Free Press). He is also a recent laureate of the Dan David Prize (2005). Amihai Mazar is Professor of Archaeology, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, where he holds the Eleazar Sukenik Chair in the Archaeology of Israel. His ongoing projects include a series of publications on the Tel Batash (Timnah) excavations and the Beth Shean Valley Archaeological Project. He is the author of *Archaeology of the Land of the Bible* (Anchor Bible Reference). Brian Schmidt is Associate Professor of Hebrew Bible and Ancient West Asian Cultures at the University of Michigan. He is the author of *Israel's Beneficent Dead: Ancestor Cult and Necromancy in Ancient Israelite Religion and Tradition* (J.C.B. Mohr/Eisenbrauns).