A History of Biblical Israel

The Fate of the Tribes and Kingdoms from Merenptah to Bar Kochba

Ernst Axel Knauf and Philippe Guillaume



TABLE OF CONTENTS

		llustrations	ix		
Lis	List of Tables				
Pr	Preface				
Int	rodu	ction	1		
PA	RT I				
TH	IE PR	E-HISTORY OF BIBLICAL ISRAEL	27		
1	From Merenptah to Rameses VI				
	1.1	The Egyptian Province of Canaan	30		
	1.2	Merenptah: How the Israelites Came to Egypt	32		
	1.3	Sethnakht and an Exodus (1186 BCE)	36		
	1.4	Rameses IV-VI and the End of the Egyptian Province			
		of Canaan	37		
2	From Ephraim to Mamre: The Tribes in the Early Iron Age				
	2.1	The Emergence of the Tribes of Israel	42		
	2.2		48		
	2.3	Tjekers, Philistines, and Phoenicians	52		
	2.4	Religion and Literature in Iron Age I	5 3		
	2.5	Festivals and Customs	57		
3	From Saul to Jeroboam I: State Formation				
	3.1	The Beginning of an Economic Recovery in the Second			
		Half of the Eleventh Century BCE	64		
	3.2	Saul	65		
	3.3	Eshbaal	70		
	3.4	David	71		
	3.5	Solomon	76		
	3.6	Shishak and the Egyptian Revival	80		
	3.7		82		
	3.8	Religion and Literature in the Tenth Century BCE	83		
4	From Omri to Jeroboam II: The Consolidation of Levantine				
	Kingdoms				
	4.1	State Formation in Southern Syria-Palestine in the Ninth			
		and Eighth Centuries BCE	85		
	4.2		87		
	4.3	The Dynasty of Omri	88		

vi A History of Biblical Israel

	4.4	Israel Under Aram-Damascus	95		
	4.5	Religion and Literature in the Ninth Century BCE	96		
	4.6	Jeroboam II	98		
	4.7	In the Shadow of Ashur	101		
	4.8	Religion and Literature in the Eighth Century BCE	101		
5	From Tiglath-pileser to Ashurbanipal: The Integration				
	of Le	evantine Kingdoms in the Neo-Assyrian Realm	103		
	5.1	Tiglath-pileser III	105		
	5.2	The Demise of Israel as Kingdom (727-720 BCE)	109		
	5.3	The Integration of Judah in the Neo-Assyrian Empire			
		(720–701 BCE)	112		
	5.4	Judah's Neighbours: Ammon, Moab, Edom, the Arabs,			
		and the Philistines	115		
	5.5	King Manasseh	119		
	5.6	The Demise of Ashur and Egypt's Return	124		
	5.7	Josiah (640–609 BCE)	126		
	5.8	Religion in the Seventh Century BCE	129		
	5.9	Literature of Assyrian and Post-Assyrian Times	132		
6		n Nabopolassar to Nebuchadnezzar	134		
	6.1	The Neo-Babylonian Empire	134		
	6.2	The First Deportation	135		
	6.3	The Second Deportation	136		
	6.4	King Gedaliah and the Third Deportation	137		
	6.5	The End of the Kingdom of Yehud	139		
PA	RT II				
TH	E FO	RMATION OF BIBLICAL ISRAEL IN YEHUD AND			
SA	MAR	IA IN THE PERSIAN PERIOD	143		
7		n Nebuchadnezzar II to Xerxes I: Mizpah, Samaria,			
		Jerusalem's First "Second Temple"	145		
		From the Neo-Babylonian to the Persian Empire	145		
		Yehud from 582 to 525 BCE	150		
		Yehudites in Babylonia	153		
		Cambyses, Darius, and the First "Second Temple"	156		
		Persians, Phoenicians, Arabs, and Greeks	160		
8		n Artaxerxes I to Ptolemy I: The Second "Second Temple"			
		Torah	169		
	8.1	Nehemiah and the Persian Fortress at Jerusalem	170		
	8.2	Economic Crisis in Yehud?	173		
	8.3	The Military Colony at Elephantine	177		
	8.4	Arabia and Idumea	178		
		Yehud and Samaria	180		
	8.6	Ezra and Torah	182		

		Contents	vii
	8.7	Torah and Identity	184
	8.8	Literary Developments after the Torah	186
	8.9	Bethel's Legacy	188
		Alexander and the Diadochi	190
PA	RT II	I	
TH	E DIS	INTEGRATION OF BIBLICAL ISRAEL	197
9	Fron	n Ptolemy II to Antiochus III: The Bible in Greek	199
	9.1	Alexandria	199
	9.2	Hellenistic Biblical Texts	200
10	Fron	n Antiochus III to Salome Alexandra	203
	10.1	Antiochus III and Hellenism	203
	10.2	The Breakup of the Seleucid Empire and the Rise of the	
		Hasmoneans (187–130 BCE)	205
	10.3	From John Hyrkanus to Salome Alexandra	210
11	"Pax" Romana and Jewish Wars		
	11.1	Pompeius (63 BCE)	217
	11.2	Herod the Great (40/37-4 BCE)	219
	11.3	Ethnachs and Procurators	220
	11.4	The Jewish Wars (66-73 and 132-136 CE)	223
	11.5	From Judea to Palestine	228
Ар	pendi	x	230
Bibliography and Abbreviations			232
		Biblical and other Ancient References	254
Inc	dex of	Modern Authors	260
Inc	lex of	Subjects	264