

Archaeology and Bible

Edited by Israel Finkelstein, Deirdre Fulton, Oded Lipschits, Christophe Nihan, Thomas Römer,
and Konrad Schmid

Since the collapse of traditional "biblical archaeology," biblical studies and the archaeology of ancient Israel have developed largely independently of each other. The series *Archaeology and Bible* aims to create new bridges between these two academic disciplines, by providing original, cutting-edge critical studies on the literature and the material culture of ancient Israel in its Levantine context from archaeological, epigraphic and biblical perspectives. To that effect, the series will especially promote inter- and transdisciplinary studies, as well as new methodological and theoretical approaches in order to bring archaeological and biblical research into a close conversation.

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Stones, Tablets, and Scrolls

Periods of the Formation of the Bible

Ed. by Peter Dubovský and Federico Giuntoli

Volume 3
2020. XVI, 576 pages.

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A constant re-evaluation of the new archaeological and textual material unearthed and edited in recent decades is a recurrent duty of ancient and modern scholars. Since the overwhelming amount of available data and the complexity of new methodologies can be competently handled only by specialized scholars, such a re-evaluation is no longer possible for a single scholar. For this reason, archaeologists, cuneiform and biblical scholars as well as classicists joined forces at an international conference in Rome in May 2017 to share their accumulated knowledge. The results of the proceedings are presented here in the oral stage along with the Assyrian, Babylonian, Persian, and Greco-Roman periods.

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Peter Dubovský: Introduction

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Food Taboos and Biblical Prohibitions

Reassessing Archaeological and Literary Perspectives

Edited by Peter Altmann, Anna Angelini, and Abra Spiciarich

Volume 2
2020. VI, 158 pages.

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This volume presents contributions from »The Larger Context of the Biblical Food Prohibitions: Comparative and Interdisciplinary Approaches« conference held in Lausanne in June, 2017. The biblical food prohibitions constitute an excellent object for comparative and interdisciplinary approaches given their materiality, their nature as comparative objects between cultures, and their nature as an anthropological object. This volume articulates these three aspects within an integrated and dynamic perspective, bringing together contributions from Levantine archaeology, ancient Near Eastern studies, and anthropological and textual perspectives to form a new, multi-disciplinary foundation for interpretation.

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Peter Altmann/Anna Angelini/Abra Spiciarich: Introduction: Setting the Table – *Peter Altmann/Anna Angelini*: Purity, Taboo and Food in Antiquity. Theoretical and Methodological Issues – *Stefania Ermidoro*: Animals in the Ancient Mesopotamian Diet. Prohibitions and Regulations Related to Meat in the First Millennium BCE – *Youri Volokhine*: »Food Prohibitions« in Pharaonic Egypt. Discourses and Practices – *Abra Spiciarich*: Identifying the Biblical Food Prohibitions Using Zooarchaeological Methods – *Jonathan S. Greer*: Prohibited Pigs and Prescribed Priestly Portions. Zooarchaeological Remains from Tel Dan and Questions Concerning Ethnicity and Priestly Traditions in the Hebrew Bible – *Deirdre N. Fulton*: Distinguishing Judah and Philistia. A Zooarchaeological View from Ramat Raḥel and Ashkelon – *Débora Sandhaus*: Continuity, Innovation and Transformation in Cooking Habits. The Central and Southern Shephelah between the Late Fourth and the First Centuries BCE

Altmann, Peter

Banned Birds

The Birds of Leviticus 11 and Deuteronomy 14

Volume 1
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The dietary prohibitions in Leviticus 11 and Deuteronomy 14 represent one of the most detailed textual overlaps in the Pentateuch between the Priestly material and Deuteronomy, yet study of them is often stymied by the rare terminology. This is especially the case for the birds: their identities are shrouded in mystery and the reasons for their prohibition debated. Peter Altmann attempts to break this impasse by setting these flyers within the broader context of birds and flying creatures in the Ancient Near East. His investigation considers the zooarcheological data on birds in the ancient Levant, iconographic and textual material on mundane and mythic flyers from Egypt and Mesopotamia, as well as studying the symbolic functions of birds within the texts of the Hebrew Bible itself. Within this context, he undertakes thorough terminological studies of the expressions for the types of birds, concluding with possible reasons for their exclusion from the prescribed diet and the proposed composition-critical location for the texts in their contexts.

