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Editorial Review

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

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Review

"*The Oxford History of the Biblical World* is first-class. It merits the highest praise for the best one-volume work on the Biblical World in the world. It covers the vast sweep of the biblical story with great economy in wordage, but misses nothing of importance."--David Noel Freedman, Department of History, University of California, San Diego

"The book is excellent from every point of view."--Philip J. King, Boston College

About the Author

Michael D. Coogan received a Ph.D. in Near Eastern languages and literatures from Harvard University. He has excavated in Israel, Jordan, Cyprus, and Egypt. The coeditor of *The Oxford Companion to the Bible* and author of many other books and publications, he is currently director of publications for the Harvard Semitic Museum and professor of religious studies at Stonehill College in Easton, Massachusetts.

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