



The Archaeology of the Holy Land

By Jodi Magness

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This book provides an introduction to the archaeology and history of ancient Palestine - modern Israel, Jordan and the Palestinian territories - from the destruction of Solomon's temple in 586 BCE to the Muslim conquest in 640 CE. Special attention is paid to the archaeology of Jerusalem and the Second Temple period, in the time of Herod the Great and Jesus. For each period, the book offers a historical background for the Mediterranean world and the ancient Near East, as well as the events in Palestine. Major sites such as Masada, Caesarea Maritima and Petra are examined in archaeological and historical detail, along with the material culture - coins, pottery, glass and stone vessels - of each period. This book provides a thorough overview of the archaeology of this historically vibrant part of the world.

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Review

"The strengths of Magness' volume are fourfold: first, it is well illustrated with maps and photographs; second, descriptions of archaeological periods are concise and salient; third, the information in the sidebars is used to debunk some of the pseudo-science that is prevalent in the media and in popular culture; fourth, this textbook is written in a manner that makes this subject matter accessible to undergraduate students ... It is readable and her use of contemporary analogies in order to illustrate archaeological methods is excellent."
Benjamin Adam Saidel, East Carolina University

"In this beautifully-produced volume, Jodi Magness provides a superb introduction to the archaeology of the region of ancient Palestine, and creates a focus that is somewhat different from the usual presentations of 'biblical archaeology' ... This book is an invaluable overview and full of Magness's characteristically sound and insightful judgements. It will be much used by students and scholars."

Joan Taylor, Strata: Bulletin of the Anglo-Israel Archaeological Society

About the Author

Jodi Magness is the Kenan Distinguished Professor for Teaching Excellence in Early Judaism in the Department of Religious Studies at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. She is the author and editor of several books, including *Stone and Dung, Oil and Spit: Jewish Daily Life in the Time of Jesus* (2011), *The Archaeology of the Early Islamic Settlement in Palestine* (2003) and *The Archaeology of Qumran and the Dead Sea Scrolls* (2002).

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