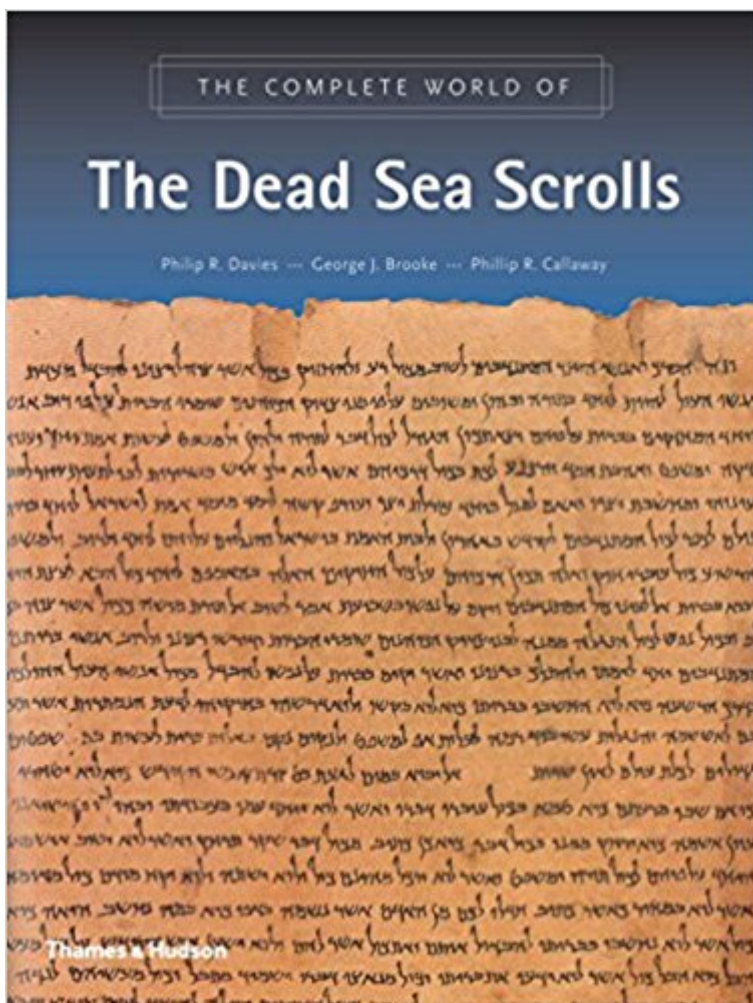


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The Complete World Of The Dead Sea Scrolls



Synopsis

"Details how the scrolls, one of history's great language troves, depict the tumultuous Judean world of 2,000 years ago." —Natural History Ever since the first scrolls were found in the Judean desert in 1947, the Dead Sea Scrolls have been the subject of passionate speculation and controversy. The possibility that they might challenge assumptions about ancient Judaism and the origins of Christianity, coupled with the extremely limited access imposed for many years, only fueled debate on their meanings. With all the scrolls now available in translation, conclusions can be drawn as to the authorship and origins, their implications for Christianity and Judaism, and their link with the ancient site of Qumran. This book, written by three noted scholars in the field, draws together all the evidence to present a fully illustrated survey of every major manuscript. With numerous factfiles, reconstructions, scroll photographs, and a wealth of other illustrations, it is the most comprehensive and accessible account available on the Dead Sea Scrolls. 84 color and 132 black-and-white illustrations

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Customer Reviews

"Well illustrated. . . . Numerous sidebars describe various technical terms as well as literary, historical, and cultural phenomena." — Archaeology

"Richly illustrated texts." — Science News

"Loaded with background material, this book provides an excellent primer to what is arguably the greatest discovery of biblical archaeology." — Arizona Republic

Philip R. Davies is a present day Professor emeritus of biblical studies at the University of Sheffield, England. In the late 1990s, he was the Director for the Centre for the Study of the Dead Sea Scrolls. George J. Brooke is a Professor of Biblical Criticism and Exegesis Emeritus in the University of Manchester where he taught Biblical Studies and Early Judaism from 1984 until 2016. He completed his Ph.D. at Claremont Graduate School, California, in 1978 under the direction of William H. Brownlee, one of the first scholars to touch the scrolls in 1948 when they were brought to the American School for Oriental Research in Jerusalem. Since 1992 he has been a member of the Israel Antiquities Authority's international team of editors of the Dead Sea Scrolls and is currently working on a revised edition of a series of manuscripts from Qumran's Cave 4. In 1999 he was the President of the British Association for Jewish Studies. Awarded a D.D. from Oxford University in 2010, he was President for 2012 of the British Society for Old Testament Study.

tough reading but worth the time

Works great and fast shipping too!

Every item I've ordered I've received in great shape and in a timely manner. I was in transportation for over 20 years and call I can say is has what they do down to a science. I am very impressed.

The Complete World of the Dead Sea Scrolls is a very beautiful coffee table style book in large format using high quality glossy paper and many many beautiful photographs, maps, paintings and charts. It is like a DK book. Of the several other books on the Dead Sea Scrolls I have read, this one is the most beautiful and perhaps the most informative of them all. Davies, Brooke and Callaway give us an insight into the world of the scrolls and make them and their creators come almost to life. In 1947, Bedouin shepherds discovered a cave containing several ancient manuscripts in jars from the first or second century BCE. The manuscripts were written by an ancient Jewish sect living in the area more than 2000 years ago. Later, more scrolls were discovered in other caves, 11 in all, revealing fragments from more than 800 manuscripts. These scrolls are commonly attributed to the Essenes, a sect thought to have lived in the area, notably from Khirbet Qumran, a ruined settlement located at the NW corner of the Dead Sea. The scrolls contain several types of literature written in several languages including Paleo-Hebrew and Greek. All of the books of the OT are represented in the scrolls with the exception of Ester. Although the ancient Biblical books are essentially the same as today's books, the Qumran copies are somewhat different. "Fragments

show clearly that Palestinian Jews of the Second Temple period felt it entirely acceptable to handle the Biblical text in a variety of ways; to paraphrase, rearrange, omit and supplement it", P.121. The Pentateuch, or Torah or first five books of the Bible have been "reworked". A copper scroll was found showing the location of buried temple treasure. No treasure has ever been found. Most likely the Romans took it. Much history surrounding the scrolls is discussed. Including the possible influence of Zoroastrianism on the Jews during the two centuries under the Persians. "In Jewish scripture, the Persian kings were never condemned and their religion was never attacked", P.88. Although thought to be a celibate sect, skeletons of women and children were discovered at the Qumran site. After 70 CE, the site was abandoned. This book is a highly informative text that is very suitable for those first becoming interested in the scrolls. It is the older edition, but nevertheless has a great deal of information. It was a welcome addition to my library.

Where does one start the study of the Dead Sea Scrolls? One would do well to start with copies of the texts. The biblical texts may be found in *The Dead Sea Scrolls Bible* translated by Martin Abegg et al. The non-biblical texts which includes the sectarian texts, may be found in *The Dead Sea Scrolls* translated by Michael Wise et al. (Incidentally there are no unpublished texts of any significance. These two volumes cover the field.) Then one needs a book which explains where the Dead Sea Scrolls were found such as Jodi Magness' *The Archaeology of Qumran and the Dead Sea Scrolls*. But as the starting point one needs *The Complete World of the Dead Sea Scrolls*. Philip Davies, George Brooke, and Phillip Callaway have written a "complete" introduction to the Dead Sea Scrolls. The first section of the book discusses the discovery of the scrolls, their editing, and their publication. The second section discusses the history of the time of the scrolls, including the sects of that time. Perhaps the third section should have been divided into two. The third section begins with chapters on how to make a scroll, script styles, Carbon-14 dating of the scrolls, and how to reconstruct a scroll from fragments. (If one has never read of the techniques for scroll reconstruction, this chapter is a must.) Next comes the bulk of the book. The most significant scrolls from each cave are discussed. Cave 1 had a number of the sectarian scrolls. Cave 4 had the largest number of scrolls. The scrolls from Caves 5 to 10 receive only two pages of attention despite the sensationalism surrounding the Greek scrolls found in Cave 7 (and see also page 190). The fourth section of the book discusses the settlement of Qumran. (One should be sure to refer to Magness' *Archaeology*.) The fifth section discusses the meaning of the Dead Sea Scrolls. I will leave these for the consideration of the reader. Included in *Complete World* are a list of the contents of Discoveries in the Judean Desert, a chart of paleographic Hebrew, a list of the scrolls by

cave, etc. Complete World is a feast of reading with the scrumptious photographs of a coffee table book. This book deserves more than a five star rating.

The Complete World of The Dead Sea Scrolls. by Philip R. Davies, George J. Brooke, Phillip R. Callaway. 2002. Although Jesus' name never appeared from the Qumran documents, but it was interesting there were the fragments of the Books of Enoch, and the appearance of Essenes close by. This book shows us the wide range of all about Qumran. Its reference to the caves, to the documents, and from Jewish Religious Life to Early Christianity, with many illustrations - 216; 84 in color - are remarkable. It is intelligible that the various things are described systematically. Also some historical list and chronology are particularly useful. Just I have remembered but private matter, I had had a magazine "Reader's Digest" which issued in 1947, when I was young. It was full by the sensational report on "Discovery at Qumran".

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