Language Contact, Colonial Administration, and the Construction of Identity in Ancient Israel

Constructing the Context for Contact

Author: Samuel L. Boyd

In *Language Contact, Colonial Administration, and the Construction of Identity in Ancient Israel*, Boyd addresses a long-standing critical issue in biblical scholarship: how does the production of the Bible relate to its larger historical, linguistic, and cultural settings in the ancient Near East? Using theoretical advances in the study of language contact, he examines in detail the sociolinguistic landscape during the Assyrian, Babylonian, and Achaemenid periods. Boyd then places the language and literature of Ezekiel and Isaiah in this sociolinguistic landscape. *Language Contact, Colonial Administration, and the Construction of Identity in Ancient Israel* offers the first book-length incorporation of language contact theory with data from the Bible. As a result, it allows for a reexamination of the nature of contact between biblical authors and a series of Mesopotamian empires beginning with Assyria.


Readership

The readership of the volume includes biblical scholars, Assyriologists, Aramaicists, linguists, and historians of the ancient Near East. Specialists and advanced graduate students will benefit from reading it.

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Submission information: brill.com/authors

Pages: xx, 493 p.
Language: English


Publisher: Brill


Hardback
Publication Date: 18 Feb 2021
**List price** € 280/ US$ 336

E-Book (PDF)
**List price** € 280/ US$ 336

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