

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910451174103321
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Titolo	Competing for Honor : A Social-Scientific Reading of Daniel 1-6 / / Shane Kirkpatrick
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Leiden; ; Boston : , : BRILL, , 2005
ISBN	1-280-86841-4 9786610868414 1-4294-5355-9 90-474-0791-1 1-4337-0776-4
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (214 p.)
Collana	Biblical Interpretation Series ; ; 74
Disciplina	224/.5067
Soggetti	Daniel (Book of the Bible) Social scientific criticism of sacred works Electronic books.
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	PREFACE -- ABBREVIATIONS -- CHAPTER ONE, INTRODUCTION -- 1.0 Introduction -- 2.0 Social-Scientific Criticism -- 2.1 On the map of biblical interpretation -- 2.1.1 Three paradigms of biblical interpretation -- 2.1.2 Divisions within social-scientific criticism -- 2.1.3 Critique from the historical paradigm -- 2.1.4 Critique from the literary paradigm -- 2.1.5 Social-scientific reading -- 2.2 On the map of the social sciences -- 2.2.1 Divisions within the social sciences -- 2.2.2 Paradigms for cultural anthropology -- 2.2.3 The anthropology of honor -- 3.0 A Social-Scientific Reading of Daniel 1-6 -- 3.1 A model of honor -- 3.1.1 Definition of honor -- 3.1.2 Sources of honor -- 3.1.3 Achieving honor -- 3.1.4 Envy -- 3.1.5 Replication of honor -- 3.1.6 Symbols of honor -- 3.1.7 Collective honor -- 3.1.8 Honor- related social institutions -- 3.2 Thesis and prospectus -- CHAPTER TWO, RESISTANCE: DANIEL 1 -- 1.0 The Text -- 1.1 Daniel 1:1-7, 17- 21 -- 1.2 Daniel 1:8-16 -- 2.0 The Model -- 2.1 For reading Daniel 1: 1-7, 17-21 -- 2.2 For reading Daniel 1:8-16 -- 3.0 The Reading -- 3.1 Daniel 1:1-7 -- 3.2 Daniel 1:8-16 -- 3.2.1 Daniel and the diviners

-- 3.2.2 Explicit comparison -- 3.2.3 Comparing more than diets --
3.3 Daniel 1:17-21 -- 4.0 Summary -- CHAPTER THREE, EXCELLENCE:
DANIEL 2 -- 1.0 The Text -- 1.1 Daniel 2:1-30, 46-49 -- 1.2 Daniel 2:
31-45 -- 2.0 The Model -- 2.1 Challenge and riposte -- 2.2 The honor
of virtuous deeds -- 3.0 The Reading -- 3.1 Daniel 2:1-13 -- 3.2
Daniel 2:14-30 -- 3.2.1 Daniel's temperance -- 3.2.2 Daniel's
prudence -- 3.2.3 Daniel's righteousness -- 3.2.4 Honor through
comparison -- 3.2.5 Honor through excellence -- 3.3 Daniel 2:31-45
-- 3.4 Daniel 2:46-49 -- 4.0 Summary -- CHAPTER FOUR, ENVY:
DANIEL 3 AND 6 -- 1.0 The Text -- 1.1 Daniel 3 -- 1.2 Daniel 6 -- 2.0
The Model -- 2.1 Envy -- 2.2 Labelling and deviance theory -- 3.0 The
Reading -- 3.1 Daniel 3 -- 3.2 Daniel 6 -- 3.2.1 Envy and honor --
3.2.2 Labelling and deviance -- 4.0 Summary -- CHAPTER FIVE,
SUCCESS AND FAILURE: DANIEL 4 AND 5 -- 1.0 The Text -- 1.1 Daniel
4 -- 1.2 Daniel 5 -- 2.0 The Model -- 2.1 Review of the dynamics of
honor -- 2.2 Three-zone model of human personality -- 3.0 The
Reading -- 3.1 Daniel 4 -- 3.2 Daniel 5 -- 4.0 Summary -- CHAPTER
SIX, CONCLUSION -- 1.0 Review -- 1.1 The value of a social-scientific
reading -- 1.2 Results of this social-scientific reading -- 1.3
Contribution of this social-scientific reading -- 2.0 Historical
Transposition -- 3.0 Theological Reflection -- BIBLIOGRAPHY.

Sommario/riassunto

Using social-scientific criticism, this work presents a reading of Daniel 1-6 as literature of resistance. The characters and episodes of these tales are read against a backdrop of social competition for the cultural value of honor. Each of the tales of Daniel 1-6 is analyzed, revealing a comparison that is sustained throughout the compilation and that pits the Judean tradition in competition with a dominant foreign tradition. The dynamics of comparison and competition are explored in each tale with the help of social-scientific models depicting honor and exploring the related dynamics of purity, patronage, virtue, limited good, and envy. This work is particularly useful for scholars and students interested in social-scientific criticism and the value of that methodology for Hebrew Bible study, as well as for those interested in Daniel, honor and shame, ancient rhetoric, and cultural resistance in the postexilic period.
