

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910963924503321
Titolo	Critical Issues in Early Israelite History / edited by Richard S. Hess, Gerald A. Klingbeil, and Paul J. Ray Jr
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Winona Lake (Ind.) : , : Eisenbrauns, , 2008 ©2008
ISBN	9781575065984 1575065983
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (341 p.)
Collana	Bulletin for biblical research supplement ; ; 3
Disciplina	221.9/5
Soggetti	Fouilles archéologiques - Palestine - Congres et conferences Âge du fer - Palestine - Congres et conferences Âge du bronze - Palestine - Congres et conferences Iron age Excavations (Archaeology) Bronze age Antiquities Excavations (Archaeology) - Palestine Iron age - Palestine Bronze age - Palestine Criticism, interpretation, etc. Conference papers and proceedings. Alter Orient Palestine Antiquites Congres et conferences Middle East Palestine Palestine Antiquities Congresses
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 (p. 241-312) and indexes.
Nota di contenuto	The rhetorical structuring of the Joshua conquest narratives / K. Lawson Younger Jr -- The Jericho and Ai of the book of Joshua / Richard S. Hess -- Merenptah's reference to Israel: critical issues for the origin of Israel / Michael G. Hasel -- The Persian period and the origins

of Israel: beyond the myths / Efrain Velazquez -- Classical models for the appearance of Israel in Palestine / Paul J. Ray Jr -- The appearance of Israel in Canaan in recent scholarship / Patrick Mazani -- Between North and South: the archaeology of religion in late Bronze Age Palestine and the period of the settlement / Gerald A. Klingbeil -- The context of early Israel viewed through the archaeology of northern Mesopotamia and Syria / Mark W. Chavalas -- The survey of Manasseh and the origin of the central hill country settlers / Ralph K. Hawkins -- Israelite settlement at the margins of the northern hill country: connections to Joshua and Judges from Tell Dothan / Daniel M. Master -- Rewriting Philistine history: recent trends in Philistine archaeology and biblical studies / Steven M. Ortiz -- The search for Joshua's Ai / Bryant G. Wood.

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**Sommario/riassunto**

Today, the mainstream opinion is that there was no Conquest, and the Israelites, if they can be identified as a national entity or as a people, did not arrive in Canaan by means of a military conquest. For three days in March 2004, a group of scholars met to consider the state of the question and to provide a response to the predominant academic skepticism, a response that considers the biblical text to be an important datum in the construction of the history of the people of Israel. Critical Issues in Early Israelite History publishes the papers read at this conference. --from publisher description.

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