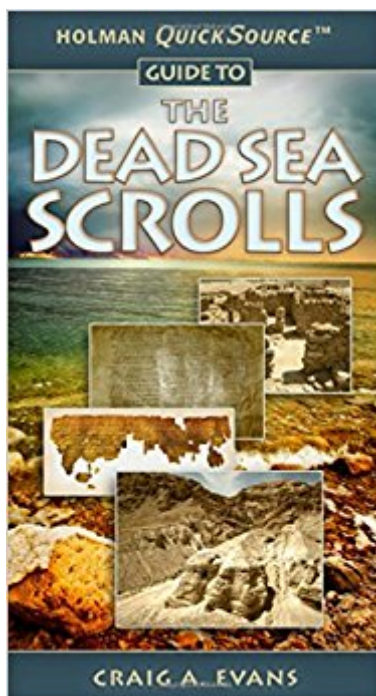


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Holman QuickSource Guide To The Dead Sea Scrolls



Synopsis

Book seven in a greatly successful, visually-driven yet content-rich reference series, the Holman QuickSource® Guide to the Dead Sea Scrolls gives the reader a strong overview and understanding of the Dead Sea Scrolls and their importance for Christianity as outlined by esteemed professor and author Craig A. Evans. Topics covered will include the discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls, notes on the Dead Sea region, the contents and dates of the Scrolls, who wrote and gathered them, first and second generation scholars of the Scrolls, and more.

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Customer Reviews

Craig A. Evans is Payzant Distinguished Professor of New Testament and director of the graduate program at Acadia Divinity College in Wolfville, Nova Scotia. A widely recognized expert on the Bible and Archaeology, and Jesus and the Dead Sea Scrolls, he also authored Jesus, the Final Days (with N. T. Wright) and Fabricating Jesus and is regular guest on Dateline NBC.

There was an incredible amount of information packed into this small little book. It felt like you were getting more than just an introduction. The book was highly readable and left me longing to do some more in depth research. I especially enjoyed the chapters on the historical background of the "Essenes". The chapters on how they were distinct from the Sadducees and the Pharisees were also fascinating. This book demonstrated how fervent the Messianic hope of the Essenes was. It is

amazing to me that we do not have any records of them seriously investigating the Messianic claims of Jesus or the early Christians. They believed the Messiah/Messiah's would lead them in the defeat of the Roman empire. I am sure they were aware of Jesus but He did not meet their expectations. The chapter on how the dead sea scrolls compare with the Old Testament was fascinating. The light that this shed on the Psa 22:17 textual controversy was priceless. This chapter left me wishing I was reading an entire book on just that subject. I will be digging into the footnotes for more resources. This book is a great introduction to the subject for all students of the Bible. Blessings, Peter

So much interesting information! The historical timeline is helpful for setting the New Testament in context, too, as well as the older Scriptures. The book is the best single overview I have seen. It is organized well.

Because this was written in 2010 there has been enough "water under the bridge" that Craig Evans can now discuss some of the outlandish theories that have been proposed and tell you according to the research and other work that has been done which of them actually hold water. The book is well written (as per every book by Craig Evans that I have read. I HIGHLY recommend this book. He has a true scholar's perspective and clearly lays out what we know about the scrolls. He has multiple concrete examples of how the scrolls help us better understand the Bible and the background of the Jewish outlook on multiple subjects both before and after Christianity became a religion. This is not an exceptionally long book but is well written and definitely well worth your time to have an overview of the scrolls as to both what they are and are not and how they help those who want to better understand not only the New Testament in the Bible but also the second temple time period.

This book makes a detailed presentation regarding the finding of the Dead Sea Scrolls and the determination as to age and authorship. Later work involving the translation of the scrolls and scroll fragments enabled comparisons with Old Testament and some New Testament books. Some of this comparison with books from the Bible has been helpful in adding further insights and understanding of some of the New Testament books.

It was of great interest to obtain further information on the development of various biblical descriptions and scriptures that are prevalent in the different bibles that are accepted in many of the assorted denominations.

This is a very well written, introduction to the Dead Sea Scrolls (DSS). Anyone interested in Qumran community and the ~900 scrolls found in many Dead Sea caves can start with this book. Very informative, concise and well ordered. However, there are some points that may be corrected: 1. There are sentences which are oversimplified. For example in the chapter about Israel's history we read about Roman's invasion. We read that some Jews have invited Romans, disappointed by their kings and Romans eagerly conquer the country. What I found then in the included table of Israel's kings is that there are several Hebrew kings and the last one before Romans has ruled 44 years. This means that Roman's invasion has took some long period, or so. Some clarification about this very interesting point would be great. 2. There are a lot of sentences, put there to stress key points in the book. The same technique is used in magazines. Excerpts are in the middle of the text which add useless repetition and make reading difficult, especially on smaller devices as Kindle. 3. Most of the illustrations are unrelated to the scrolls. Others related to the DSS are welcome.

EXTREMELY high quality book! thick gloss paper with amazing colored photos all throughout. More importantly the text is researched by Dr. Craig Evans who does a remarkable job pulling together the mountain of materials on the subject and simplifying it for anyone who loves the Scriptures. Utterly wowed!

Craig Evans has detailed the connections of the DSS to our Holy Scriptures in an understandable and revealing manner! In my opinion, every Bible believer & student should read this in order to better understand the Biblical texts. I have followed the DSS from the very beginning, this book sums up all that I have read, plus updating recent discoveries, and makes connections beyond that which I have previously read. My salute and thanks to Dr. Evans!

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