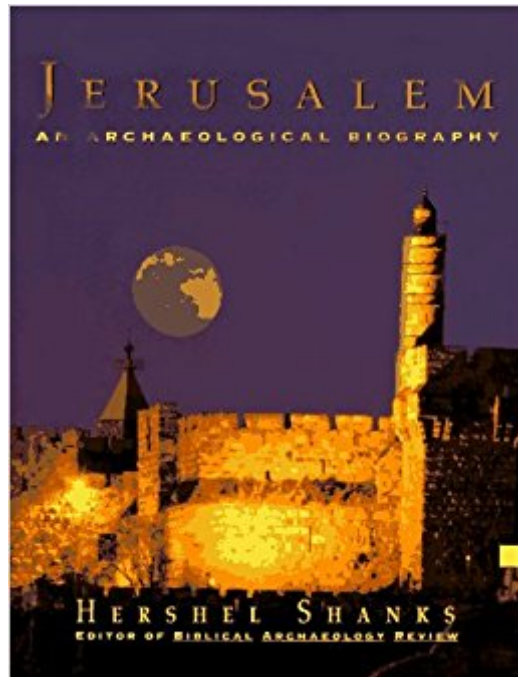




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Jerusalem:: An Archaeological Biography



Synopsis

A lavishly illustrated volume traces three thousand years of Jerusalem history from an archaeological perspective, describing the events that surrounded such objects as the bones of a crucified man and Babylonian arrows. 25,000 first printing.

Book Information

Hardcover: 256 pages

Publisher: Random House; 1st edition (October 3, 1995)

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Average Customer Review: 3.7 out of 5 stars 12 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #415,017 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #313 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Historical > Middle East #480 in Books > History > Middle East > Israel & Palestine #2497 in Books > History > Ancient Civilizations

Customer Reviews

Shanks, president of the Biblical Archaeology Society and editor of *Understanding the Dead Sea Scrolls* (Random, 1993), has produced a sumptuous commemorative volume to mark the "3,000th anniversary of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel." He lavishly uses well-chosen, high-quality color photos, drawings, and plans. Two pages of simplified time lines put the major events of the book in clear chronological perspective. The 14 chapters range from "Jerusalem before the Israelites" and "How David Conquered Jerusalem" to "Herodian Jerusalem" and "Modern and Crusader Jerusalem." Shanks writes in an informal style and keeps the archaeology relatively simple. Although he incorporates the latest research, he does not introduce anything new. His work is an informative coffee-table book for the educated public; students in the field will find it an interesting, albeit expensive, picture book and summary of the highlights of Jerusalem's archaeology. Eugene O. Bowser, Univ. of Northern Colorado, Greeley Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Although no one knows the exact date of Jerusalem's founding, 1996 has been designated as its 3,000th anniversary. Shanks, the editor of *Biblical Archaeology Review*, offers a great anniversary present in the form of this impressive book. It begins with the remains of a house from the Bronze

Age and takes readers on an archaeological tour that ends with the Ottoman period. And what a tour it is! Discover Jesus' tomb, Solomon's temple, and the palaces of Herod, just to name a few stops along the way. Shanks is able to pinpoint important finds and wrap them with history while, at the same time, introducing readers to the scientific techniques that make these finds possible. Matching the excellent text are numerous photographs and illustrations that capture both the mystery of this holiest of cities and its surprising everydayness. Jerusalem is a place where people have lived, dreamed, and died for a very long time, and this book offers fitting celebration of that fact. Ilene Cooper

For a place that is in the news every day and for a place Christians hold dear, it is a place the average joe knows little about. It's worth a look, in light of the bad press that Israel seems to endure daily. If you're not particularly religious you won't be offended. If you are, you'll learn more than you knew before.

Jerusalem: an archaeological biography is an absolutely fascinating book, especially if you want to visit the old city of Jerusalem. It is written by scholars in the field and contains many drawings and photographs as well. I read this book right before my trip to Jerusalem in 2011. The book helped me understand what I was seeing. Jerusalem is thousands of years old, with existing archaeology from many eras visible to tourists. In order to make sense of all the layers, which are visible in a three-dimensional puzzle, it helps to know the chronological archaeology. Then when you see a piece of it, you can appreciate what you are seeing and are able to visualize the missing pieces more easily. If you never plan to go to Jerusalem yourself, this book gives a greater understanding of the geography of the area, the development of the city over time, and different cultures that ruled the city, and the current archaeology taking place today.

Disappointed. Nothing new.

I had expected a more scientific book from the title but it turned out to be a more general description of the current knowledge of the history of Jerusalem. An excellent book for the layperson with an interest in archaeology. There is a lot of interest in Jerusalem but very few general texts of this type available. The book has one fault - it is too short.

Book was in great condition and just as it was represented.

This is a very interesting book. I am loving it so far, but to be honest. I haven't read even a third yet. Maybe I will write more latter.

Shanks is the man when it comes to Holy Land archaeology. Great book with wonderful explanations and photos. A great read with multiple levels of enjoyment and appreciation...especially if you've visited the region.

This book was listed as "excellent" condition be the seller. It was in fact an old, beat up, library book, complete with sticker labels, card pocket and other damaging items. The cover was faded and old. Do not trust the book condition from this seller.

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