



How to Read the Bible: A Guide to Scripture, Then and Now

James L. Kugel

Download now

[Click here](#) if your download doesn't start automatically

How to Read the Bible: A Guide to Scripture, Then and Now

James L. Kugel

How to Read the Bible: A Guide to Scripture, Then and Now James L. Kugel

Scholars from different fields have joined forces to reexamine every aspect of the Hebrew Bible. Their research, carried out in universities and seminaries in Europe and America, has revolutionized our understanding of almost every chapter and verse. But have they killed the Bible in the process?

In *How to Read the Bible*, Harvard professor James Kugel leads the reader chapter by chapter through the "quiet revolution" of recent biblical scholarship, showing time and again how radically the interpretations of today's researchers differ from what people have always thought. The story of Adam and Eve, it turns out, was not originally about the "Fall of Man," but about the move from a primitive, hunter-gatherer society to a settled, agricultural one. As for the stories of Cain and Abel, Abraham and Sarah, and Jacob and Esau, these narratives were not, at their origin, about individual people at all but, rather, explanations of some feature of Israelite society as it existed centuries after these figures were said to have lived. Dinah was never raped -- her story was created by an editor to solve a certain problem in Genesis. In the earliest version of the Exodus story, Moses probably did not divide the Red Sea in half; instead, the Egyptians perished in a storm at sea. Whatever the original Ten Commandments might have been, scholars are quite sure they were different from the ones we have today. What's more, the people long supposed to have written various books of the Bible were not, in the current consensus, their real authors: David did not write the Psalms, Solomon did not write Proverbs or Ecclesiastes; indeed, there is scarcely a book in the Bible that is not the product of different, anonymous authors and editors working in different periods.

Such findings pose a serious problem for adherents of traditional, Bible-based faiths. Hiding from the discoveries of modern scholars seems dishonest, but accepting them means undermining much of the Bible's reliability and authority as the word of God. What to do? In his search for a solution, Kugel leads the reader back to a group of ancient biblical interpreters who flourished at the end of the biblical period. Far from naïve, these interpreters consciously set out to depart from the original meaning of the Bible's various stories, laws, and prophecies -- and they, Kugel argues, hold the key to solving the dilemma of reading the Bible today.

How to Read the Bible is, quite simply, the best, most original book about the Bible in decades. It offers an unflinching, insider's look at the work of today's scholars, together with a sustained consideration of what the Bible was for most of its history -- before the rise of modern scholarship. Readable, clear, often funny but deeply serious in its purpose, this is a book for Christians and Jews, believers and secularists alike. It offers nothing less than a whole new way of thinking about sacred Scripture.



[Download How to Read the Bible: A Guide to Scripture, Then ...pdf](#)



[Read Online How to Read the Bible: A Guide to Scripture, The ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online How to Read the Bible: A Guide to Scripture, Then and Now James L. Kugel

From reader reviews:

Boris Hansen:

Do you have favorite book? In case you have, what is your favorite's book? Reserve is very important thing for us to be aware of everything in the world. Each reserve has different aim or goal; it means that book has different type. Some people sense enjoy to spend their a chance to read a book. They can be reading whatever they get because their hobby is actually reading a book. What about the person who don't like examining a book? Sometime, individual feel need book if they found difficult problem or perhaps exercise. Well, probably you will need this How to Read the Bible: A Guide to Scripture, Then and Now.

Brian Price:

Have you spare time for the day? What do you do when you have far more or little spare time? Yep, you can choose the suitable activity intended for spend your time. Any person spent their very own spare time to take a stroll, shopping, or went to often the Mall. How about open or even read a book called How to Read the Bible: A Guide to Scripture, Then and Now? Maybe it is being best activity for you. You understand beside you can spend your time using your favorite's book, you can smarter than before. Do you agree with it has the opinion or you have other opinion?

Michelle Fulk:

The book How to Read the Bible: A Guide to Scripture, Then and Now give you a sense of feeling enjoy for your spare time. You should use to make your capable considerably more increase. Book can to get your best friend when you getting pressure or having big problem with your subject. If you can make reading a book How to Read the Bible: A Guide to Scripture, Then and Now for being your habit, you can get a lot more advantages, like add your capable, increase your knowledge about a number of or all subjects. You could know everything if you like open and read a reserve How to Read the Bible: A Guide to Scripture, Then and Now. Kinds of book are several. It means that, science e-book or encyclopedia or other folks. So , how do you think about this publication?

Julie Slocum:

Your reading 6th sense will not betray an individual, why because this How to Read the Bible: A Guide to Scripture, Then and Now e-book written by well-known writer we are excited for well how to make book which can be understand by anyone who have read the book. Written inside good manner for you, leaking every ideas and publishing skill only for eliminate your own hunger then you still question How to Read the Bible: A Guide to Scripture, Then and Now as good book not simply by the cover but also by the content. This is one book that can break don't determine book by its deal with, so do you still needing another sixth sense to pick that!? Oh come on your examining sixth sense already told you so why you have to listening to a different sixth sense.

Download and Read Online How to Read the Bible: A Guide to Scripture, Then and Now James L. Kugel #PZ3DRINK7UQ

Read How to Read the Bible: A Guide to Scripture, Then and Now by James L. Kugel for online ebook

How to Read the Bible: A Guide to Scripture, Then and Now by James L. Kugel Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read How to Read the Bible: A Guide to Scripture, Then and Now by James L. Kugel books to read online.

Online How to Read the Bible: A Guide to Scripture, Then and Now by James L. Kugel ebook PDF download

How to Read the Bible: A Guide to Scripture, Then and Now by James L. Kugel Doc

How to Read the Bible: A Guide to Scripture, Then and Now by James L. Kugel Mobipocket

How to Read the Bible: A Guide to Scripture, Then and Now by James L. Kugel EPub