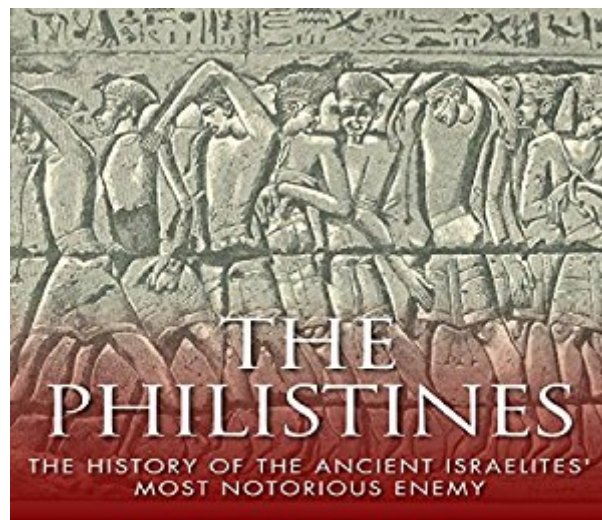




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The Philistines: The History Of The Ancient Israelites' Most Notorious Enemy



by

CHARLES RIVER EDITORS



Synopsis

"Goliath stood and shouted to the ranks of Israel, 'Why do you come out and line up for battle? Am I not a Philistine, and are you not the servants of Saul? Choose a man and have him come down to me. If he is able to fight and kill me, we will become your subjects; but if I overcome him and kill him, you will become our subjects and serve us.' Then the Philistine said, 'This day I defy the armies of Israel! Give me a man and let us fight each other.'...David said to the Philistine, 'You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the Lord Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. This day the Lord will deliver you into my hands, and I'll strike you down and cut off your head. This very day I will give the carcasses of the Philistine army to the birds and the wild animals, and the whole world will know that there is a God in Israel.'" - 1 Samuel 17

Today, the term "Philistine" is often used as a euphemism for a person who is particularly uncouth, uncultured, ignorant, and possibly violent. Most people probably do not know the etymology of the word when they use it, and those that do probably only know the Philistines as villains from the Old Testament who were the eternal enemies of the Hebrews prior to and immediately after the latter formed the kingdom of Israel. Others may know the Philistines from the Biblical story of David and Goliath, as the "giant" was not only much larger than David but also a Philistine leader who commanded a large host of men.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Once again the Charles Rivers Editors did a great job bringing history to the layperson. This is a brief history of the ancient Philistines mentioned in various Biblical passages. The narrative is

referenced with multiple primary sources and gaps in the historical evidence is plainly discussed. This treatise provides a better description of the Philistines than that found in the Bible and is easier to read and comprehend. I recommend it.

This is a good book for people who do not know about the Philistines. Their origins to their demise.

Short book, but enough for casual reader of history.

Ancient Middle Eastern history has always intrigued me, particularly those cultures who came, rose to importance and 'vanished' . The Philistines doubly so because they are mentioned in Bible in conjunction with the Hebrews settling in the area and have come into English as a derogatory word. Interestingly enough it is in the book of Samuel and others that offers insight into the Philistines. Whether you are looking for answers or confirmation about the Philistines; this small volume can provide answers.

This book is 102 (unnumbered) pages long. First published in 1913, based on lectures given in England in 1911. Other than a few ancient Egyptian & Assyrian references most of this book consists of Biblical quotes & passages to illustrate the history & culture of the Philistines. Given the internal inconsistencies, silly superstitions & hate filled bigotry of the Bible, this book of endless Bible quotes was hard for me to get through. If you're not OK with Biblical BS, this book is not for you.

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