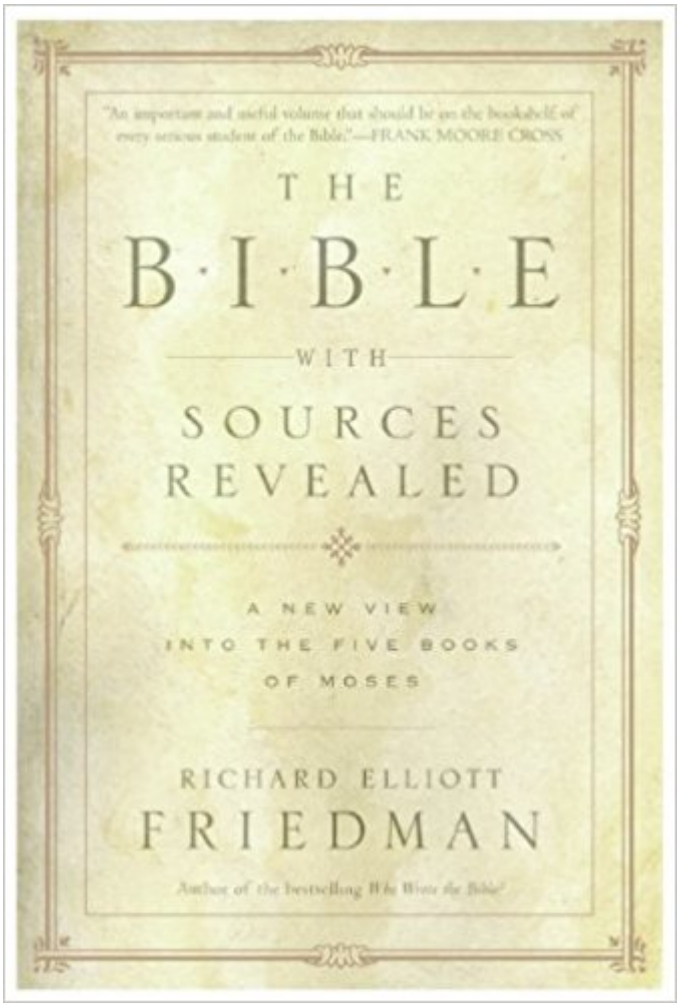
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The Bible With Sources Revealed



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Synopsis

One of the World’s Foremost Bible Experts Offers a Groundbreaking Presentation of the Five Books of MosesIn The Bible with Sources Revealed, Richard Elliott Friedman offers a new, visual presentation of the Five Books of Moses -- Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy -- unlocking the complex and fascinating tapestry of their origins. Different colors and type styles allow readers to easily identify each of the distinct sources, showcasing Friedman’s highly acclaimed and dynamic translation.

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Customer Reviews

Ã¢â ¬Å“An amazing work. It makes the theory of the BibleÃ¢â ¬â„¢s origins available to all in a clear and concise way.Ã¢â ¬Â• (David Ellenson, President of Hebrew Union College--Jewish Institute of Religion)Ã¢â ¬Å“FriedmanÃ¢â ¬â„¢s The Bible with Sources Revealed is a paradigm of accessible scholarship of the highest order.Ã¢â ¬Â• (Michael D. Coogan, Editor, The New Oxford Annotated Bible, The Oxford History of the Biblical World, and The Oxford Companion to the Bible)Ã¢â ¬Å“A fundamental resource for understanding what the Hebrew Bible is all about.Ã¢â ¬Â• (Peter Machinist, Hancock Professor of Hebrew and Other Oriental Languages, Harvard University)Ã¢â ¬Å“A succinct, lucid, detailed exposition and defense of the classic Documentary Hypothesis--a highly useful resource.Ã¢â ¬Â• (Eugene Ulrich, University of Notre Dame)Ã¢â ¬Å“A volume indispensable for study in Biblical history. No one can really understand

the BibleÃ¢â ¬â„¢s composition without consulting this work.Ã¢â ¬Â• (Baruch Halpern, Chaiken Family Chair in Jewish Studies, Pennsylvania State University)Ã¢â ¬Å“An important and useful volume which should be on the book shelf of every serious student of the Bible.Ã¢â ¬Â• (Frank Moore Cross, Hancock Professor of Hebrew and Other Oriental Languages Emeritus, Harvard University)Ã¢â ¬Å“Very highly recommended.Ã¢â ¬Â• (Library Journal)

RICHARD ELLIOTT FRIEDMAN is one of the premier bible scholars in the country. He earned his doctorate at Harvard and was a visiting fellow at Oxford and Cambridge, a Senior Fellow of the American Schools of Oriental Research in Jerusalem, and a Visiting Professor at the University of Haifa. He is the Ann & Jay Davis Professor of Jewish Studies at the University of Georgia and the Katzin Professor of Jewish Civilization Emeritus of the University of California, San Diego. He is the author of Commentary on the Torah, The Disappearance of God, The Hidden Book in the Bible, The Bible with Sources Revealed, The Bible Now, The Exile and Biblical Narrative, the bestselling Who Wrote the Bible?, and most recently, The Exodus. He was an American Council of Learned Societies Fellow and was elected to membership in The Biblical Colloquium. His books have been translated into Hebrew, German, Italian, Spanish, Russian, Japanese, Polish, Hungarian, Dutch, Portuguese, Czech, Turkish, Korean, and French. He was a consultant for the Dreamworks film The Prince of Egypt, for Alice Hoffman’s The Dovekeepers, and for NBC, A&E, PBS, and Nova.

I use this text in combination with other materials to teach Adult Education at the church I pastor. It has been particularly useful in teaching Genesis. This book provides a useful introduction to and supporting argument for the Documentary Hypothesis then color codes the text of the Torah to show which of the various origin documents are in use from passage to passage. If you are working with intelligent adults who are ready for something more substantial and thought-provoking that traditional Sunday School fare I highly recommend this book and suggest that you may find Friedman’s other works useful, too, particularly Who Wrote the Bible.J. Steven BeckhamPastorGloria Dei Lutheran Church, Long Beach, CA

The Pentateuch with sources differentiated by font is very convenient for distinguishing between the different literary styles and possible authors and redactors and reading one source at a time. However, the fonts are shades of blue and green which are not easily distinguishable in soft white lighting. The copy of the book that arrived at my door has some pages with lighter ink than facing pages, making it a bit challenging to know at a glance whether facing pages have different fonts

(regular and bold) indicating different sources or just a problem with the ink. The book is readable as it was designed to be read, but requires more work than it might otherwise if the fonts were more easily distinguishable and the printing was consistent weight.

Friedman offers a very sensible and even handed approach to a very old and complex question. Sages have been wrestling with the issue of the Bible's own testimony of itself versus the accumulated traditions and myths about the Bible for centuries. My own confidence in the Bible's inspiration has been greatly enhanced by studies such as the one offered here by Richard Elliott Friedman. I know that many other believers will balk at tackling this issue with anything even approaching the sincerity and honesty that Friedman displays and I find this to be a tragic loss for the church and synagogue.To fully appreciate the "discoveries" of the modern Documentary Hypothesis we must be willing to separate the things that the Bible actually says about itself from the things that religion has said about it. (I put the word "discoveries" in quotes because these are actually things that the Bible has been saying all along). Friedman's approach does this while showing great respect for the texts and for those who hold other opinions as well. And make no mistake about it, the issues discussed here focus entirely upon what the Bible says about itself along with expert analysis of the various stages of the Hebrew language. This is "Higher Criticism" of the highest order.The Bible with Sources Revealed by Richard Elliott Friedman makes an important contribution to the library of any serious Bible student. Friedman's contribution to this field is a very easy to use book. The introductory remarks and notes alone make this a great buy. But, having the Pentateuch clearly divided into its various sources along with references to further contributions by these sources that are found in other books of the Bible makes this work indispensable, in my opinion.

The Kindle I have is black and white, so the parts of this book that are color coded can't be seen and the point of the book is to show which statements belong with each other and that is done by color coding them. Get the hard copy. Otherwise it is what I expected and I recommend it.

For the money, this is a nice explanation and source regarding the Documentary Theory. The colors read well: i keep a key from the beginning sourcing the traditions as a bookmark as reference. As in most new theories, the door is opened, and so the beginning of many rich changes. I do not believe that there is a turning back and so this book is a source for the moving forward. Good to have in one's library if one is interested in new approaches to biblical exegesis.

I have just started reading over this invaluable book, the hypothesis about the different origins of part of the Bible is convincing. But then the publisher to save a few pennies decides to only use 3 ink colors, when there are 6 main sources. There is a key at the top right page, but maybe one more color at least could have helped. Then there is the paperback which has the flimsiest cover, I would have expected a University standard hard wearing book.I know quite a bit about the Bible having done Biblical Archaeology, lived in a Minister's family, and my own religious studies. This book strengthens my ideas fostered by "The Bible Unearthed" by Finkelstein and Silberman, that the whole course of human history has been sabotaged by the source Deuteronomy, from the reign of King Josiah. Here we have murderous barbarism. And it set the seeds for the isolation of Jews Christians and Moslems, with a myriad of rules; and also separation from other faiths and extremism. Thats how I read it, it is obvious.But on the other hand my respect for the source P is enormous, and so by allowing us to differentiate we can also have greater positive feelings.It may be harder to really bring out all sources. For instance the story of Noah is taken from the Sumerian Epic of Gilgamesh, picked up by the Patriarchs on their journey to Palestine, easily one thousand years before it was written down, possibly two. And the story of the Garden of Eden seems to me to be very old, and not history, but a very important myth. A myth is not something which is false in religion, but a central idea of immense importance. Taking them literally is to miss the meaning.I also noticed in the source E that other laws from Sumer had been moved over, simple matters such as "if a man's ox gores another man then..."It would be interesting to have an online resource to read each source separately, given that conflicting versions of even the "ten commandments" have been put side by side, it suggests that editors over the years have erred by inclusion.I think in my University days 35 years ago I wanted a Bible with sources identified, now I have it for the first five books.

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