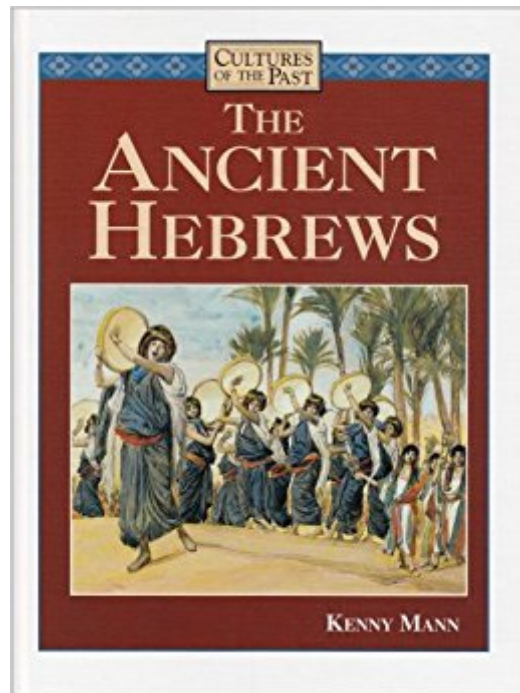




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The Ancient Hebrews (Cultures Of The Past)



Synopsis

This appealing series presents historically important cultures from the past ranging from the well-known ancient Greeks to the lesser-known Kingdom of Kush. Each volume examines both the political and the cultural history of an ancient culture.

Book Information

Series: Cultures of the Past

Library Binding: 80 pages

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Customer Reviews

Grade 6-9-Good-quality full-color photographs, reproductions, drawings, and maps combine with lucid texts to create informative and attractive research sources on ancient cultures. The Ancient Hebrews discusses the social and religious history of the Jewish people and its influence on modern Judaism, and touches on the relationship between present-day Israel and Arab countries.

Mesopotamia examines the social structure and cultural history of that area and the legacy the people have left to the modern world. Clarice Swisher's *The Ancient Near East* (Lucent, 1995) offers a more detailed study of Mesopotamian cultures but with black-and-white images. Sidebars provide additional information on the language, literature, law, and beliefs of both societies. Helpful glossaries and time lines are also included. Eye-catching, useful titles for collections needing historical material about the Middle East. Cynthia M. Sturgis, Ledding Library, Milwaukee, OR
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The way in which "The Ancient Hebrews" volume of the Cultures of the Past series is different from others is that the illustrations are mostly paintings rather than archaeological artifacts, which is

particularly telling as to what centuries of dispute over the Holy Land have done to such treasures. In this volume Kenny Mann basically provides a historical perspective on the people and history of the Bible. Mann follows the standard five chapter format of the series in examining the history, culture, religion, daily life, and legends of the Jewish people: (1) In the Beginning deals with their history, from first arriving in the Promised Land to the triumph of the Romans; (2) A Living Faith covers their belief system, from God and the Prophets to the Torah; (3) The Tellers of the Tales provides a concise look at the Hebrew Bible and the Jewish tradition of religious scholarship as their cultural history; (4) The Universal Way examines the relationship between beliefs and society; and (5) Past, Present, and Future deals with the legacy of the Hebrews from the idea of trade as a tool for survival in the Arab world to the nation of Israel. Obviously the chief attraction of this book for young readers is how it goes beyond the Bible to provide a look at the history and culture of the Hebrew people. The back of the book includes a time line of the history of the ancient Hebrews, a glossary, books for further reading, a bibliography, and an index. Other volumes in this excellent series look at not only the major civilizations of the past, such as the Ancient Egyptians, Greeks, and Romans, but also at civilizations that usually do not get near as much treatment in your standard World History textbook such as the Ancient African Kingdom of Kush, the Celts of Northern Europe, and India's Gupta Dynasty.

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