



The King and the Land: A Geography of Royal Power in the Biblical World (Hardback)

By Stephen C. Russell

Oxford University Press Inc, United States, 2016. Hardback. Condition: New. Language: English . Brand New Book. In The King and the Land, Stephen C. Russell offers a history of space and power in the biblical world by demonstrating how the monarchies in ancient Israel and Judah asserted their power over strategically important spaces such as privately-held lands, religious buildings, collectively-governed towns, and urban water systems. Case studies in the book treat Solomon s use of foreign architecture (1 Kings 5-8), David s dedication of land to Yahweh (2 Samuel 24), Jehu s decommissioning of Baal s temple (2 Kings 10), Absalom s navigation of the collective politics of Levantine towns (2 Samuel 15), and Hezekiah s reshaping of the tunnels that supplied Jerusalem with water (2 Kings 20; 2 Chronicles 32). Steeped in archaeological and textual evidence, this book contextualizes Israelite and Judahite royal and tribal politics within broader patterns of ancient Near Eastern spatial power. By providing a historical investigation into the nature of power and physical space in the Iron Age Levant, this book also offers fresh literary readings of the biblical texts that anchor its theses.

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