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# OLD TESTAMENT ABSTRACTS

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## HISTORICAL BOOKS

762. [Joshua 2] ANDRZEJ TOCZYŃSKI, SDB, *The 'Geometrics' of the Rahab Story: A Multi-dimensional Analysis of Joshua 2* (LHBOTS 664; New York/London/Oxford/New Delhi/Sidney: T&T Clark, 2018). Pp. xv + 196. \$114. ISBN 978-0-5676-7904-8.

This study examines the relationship between the text, conceived as the vehicle of narrative communication, and the reader in an assessment of the story of Rahab in Joshua 2. In it, T. surveys the ways in which the story has been read by various audiences across time, the different interpretative perspectives and methodologies that have been brought to bear on the text, and the influence these have had on the story's interpretation. T. gives particular attention to the internal literary analysis of Joshua 2 as well as to the external historical approach and what this can tell us about readers of the text. His purpose in so doing is to identify how successive interpretations overlap and thereby set the interpretative agenda for subsequent generations of readers. On the basis of this conceptual framework, T. situates the Rahab story, which has posed a challenge to readers for centuries, within the broader context of the communicative process. T.'s deep immersion in both the story's internal and external contexts brings to light a generally overlooked thread within the Rahab story, i.e., "the power of storytelling," which might prove relevant for contemporary readers by providing a basis for intercultural dialogue in the postmodern world. [Adapted from published abstract.] The volume comprises an introduction and conclusion, framing its five component chapters: (1) Developing the Research Model; (2) The Reader's Vantage Point in Joshua 2; (3) The Mental Library of the Reader; (4) "Rahab in 3D"; and (5) The Power of Story-Telling.—C.T.B.

763. [1–2 Samuel] MOSHE GARSIEL, *The Book of Samuel: Studies in History, Historiography, Theology and Poetics Combined. Part One. The Story and History of David and His Kingdom* (Jerusalem: Rubin Mass, 2018). Pp. xiii + 561. N.P. ISBN 978-965-09-0348-0.

G.'s approach to the Samuel material is multidisciplinary, as suggested by his book's subtitle. A lengthy introduction covers previous approaches to the study of 1 Samuel and concludes with the suggestion that the book was begun during the reign of Solomon and completed in discrete stages of editing. Drawing heavily from archaeology as well as from other texts such as Chronicles, G. begins his analysis of the book with the rise of David to prominence following his encounter with Goliath, his conflicts with Saul, and Saul's downfall at the hand of the Philistines, with whom David had allied himself. He then turns to David's kingship, his development of a military force, and the creation of a "mini-empire." After reflecting on the sin of David and his confrontations with Joab and Nathan, G. addresses internal family disputes, and concludes with David's crushing of Absalom's coup.—I.M. A.

764. [1–2 Samuel] ROBERTO REGGI and MARTINA CAVALLARI, *Samuele* (La Bibbia Quadri-forme; Bologna: EDB, 2018). Pp. 299. Paper €32. ISBN 978-88-10-82139-8.

Part of a project that will eventually encompass the entire OT, this volume provides the MT and LXX (Codex Vaticanus) versions of the Books of Samuel on facing pages along with interlinear translations of each version. At the foot of the facing pages one finds, respectively, the translations of the *Nova Vulgata* and of the 2008 Italian Episcopal Conference. See also #766.—C.T.B.