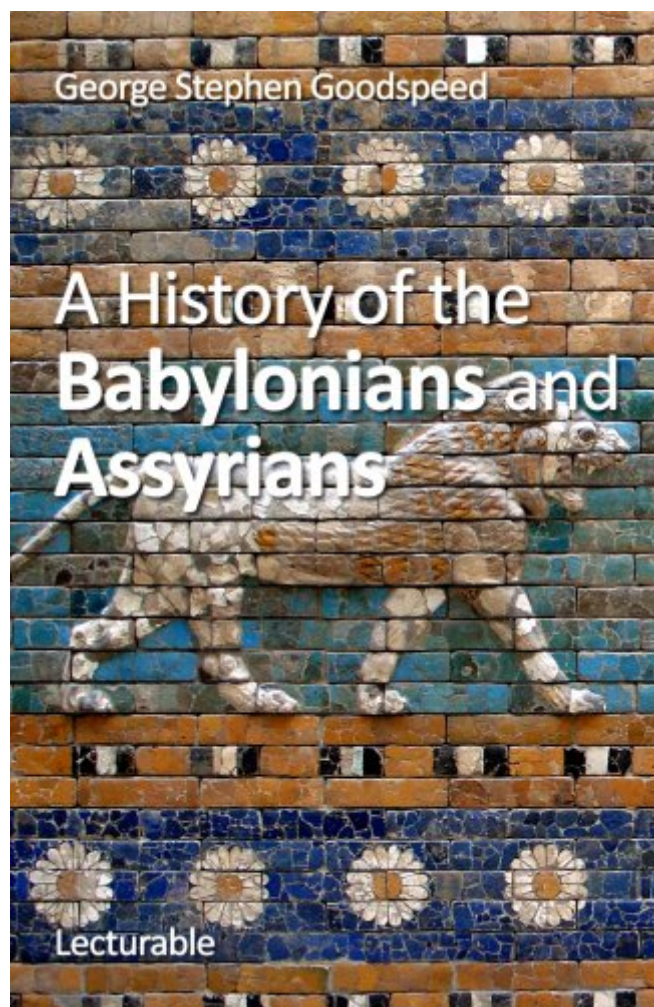


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A History Of The Babylonians And Assyrians



Synopsis

"Who were the people by whose energy this region was transformed into so fair and flourishing a land, at a time when elsewhere, with hardly an exception, the upward course of humanity did not yet reveal any trace of orderly and civilized conditions? What are their antecedents, and whence did they come to occupy the alluvial plain?" - George Stephen Goodspeed "In these regions of Mesopotamia and Babylonia, so diversified in physical characteristics, the one essential unifying element was the rivers. To them a large section of the land owed its existence; the fertility and the prosperity of the whole was dependent upon them; they were the chief means of communication, the main channels of trade, the distributors of civilization. It was in recognition of this that the ancient inhabitants called the Euphrates 'the life of the land,' and the Tigris 'the bestower of blessing.'" - G.S.G.

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Book Information

File Size: 892 KB

Print Length: 444 pages

Simultaneous Device Usage: Unlimited

Publisher: Lecturable (January 24, 2013)

Publication Date: January 24, 2013

Sold by: Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B00B5WH5EQ

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #230,370 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #68

in Books > History > Ancient Civilizations > Mesopotamia #69 in Books > History > Ancient

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Customer Reviews

Well, that's what it is: a history book, written by a historian for historians and their students. More and more history books are being written by historians for lay readers; a wonderful turn I think. But this book isn't one of them. Even so, it is a well done work on a somewhat arcane subject with a substantial level of depth. It is an older book, and along with its depth comes an older scholarly assumption on the writer's part. There's a lot of "we" implied and supplied -- meaning the author and the reader -- and the reader is presumed to be scholarly, as of course is the writer. Can an ordinary reader -- someone, say, who devours mystery and suspense -- enjoy this book? Emphatically, yes! if you are really interested in the Babylonians and Assyrians (a.k.a. Iraq and Iran) and wonder occasionally why Iraq and Iran are so self congratulatory about their land, their people, and their history. But it's a slow read and requires both interest and stamina from its readers.

I bought this book in hope of getting complete big picture about the history of Babylonians and link our heritage since the dawn of civilization. The book contains valuable information and good amount of knowledge but, unfortunately - at least for me- it is confusing as it does not have logical organization for the beginner readers. Talking about cities and kings without proper introduction makes the reader lost sometimes. I think this book suits the people who already have background knowledge about the subject.

This is an excellent history in outline from a very complex period in the development of civilization in the Fertile Crescent. Even in its abbreviated form, it shows the numerous powers extant in this period which shaped the civilizations which were constantly in the process of rising and falling.

This history of Babylonian and Assyria was first published in 1902. Thus it is badly dated. Although the average reader will likely feel overwhelmed by masses of unfamiliar names, this is true of any history of this region for this period. On the other hand, the author's focus on Assyria and Babylon and his characterisation of the former as the political and military heart of the region and the latter as the cultural and religious center provides some welcome simplification. Maps and an index would have been appreciated.

This is an interesting coverage of the first Middle Eastern/Asian civilization in the Tigris and Euphrates rivers, from Ur and Uruk of the Sumerians to the final downfall of the last Babylonian empire, but reading it was quite dry. The book dates from 1902 and was written in a dry academic style that showed no deference to a lay audience. The names of specific historical have evolved over the last century, making identification challenging. As an example, the well-known people the Hittites never appear by that name, leaving confusion as to which people were engaged in strife with Assyria. For those with the will to read a challenging book, I can recommend this book, but I fear many will only read a portion before laying it down, never to be picked back up.

I have yet to finish the book. I find it somewhat difficult to connect due to the many names and amount of facts. It is well written and filled with facts and information of that period of history. It is presented in a logical manner and probably would make a good text book for a class studying this period in ancient history.

Do not buy from First Rate Publishers. They take an old book and copy each page onto a smaller page thereby reducing the font to around 6, making the book nearly unreadable. Some companies will do any thing to make an extra few cents per copy.

This was a great book! Hard to put down. Very informative to the student of Bible history, especially if your looking for background info, like why things happened the way they did. A couple opinions on Scripture I didn't agree with, but other than that, was respectful to God's Word and used it at times to explain certain aspects of the history discussed in this book. I would recommend this book to any

one, especially Christians who are looking for background information regarding Bible history.

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