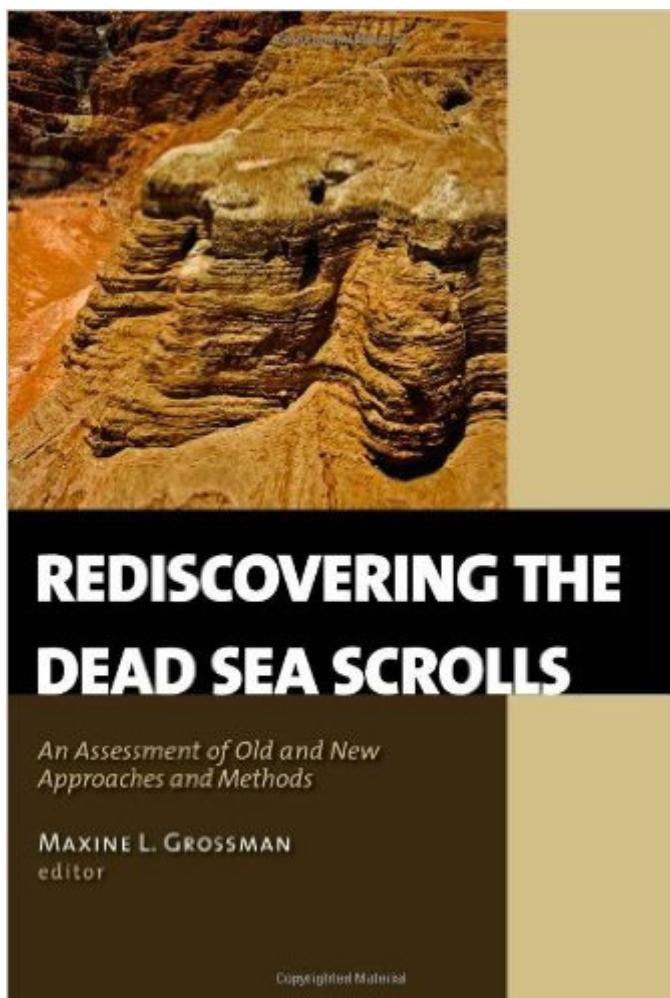


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Rediscovering The Dead Sea Scrolls: An Assessment Of Old And New Approaches And Methods



Synopsis

Tools for Our Work introduces readers to a wide range of established and experimental treatments of the Dead Sea Scrolls, including paleography, archaeology, manuscript analysis, and a variety of literary, historical, and social scientific approaches. Written by experts in Dead Sea Scrolls studies, these essays • while each able to stand on their own as state-of-the-field discussions • together provide a vibrant intersectional picture of scrolls studies on the cusp of its seventh decade.

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Customer Reviews

The Dead Sea Scrolls have attracted a great deal of attention in the Western world since their discovery in the mid-20th century. The huge amount of scholarly writing about them is daunting. But it also offers a rare opportunity for scholars to reflect on what they have learned and how they learned it, allowing them to achieve a level of methodological self-awareness that is almost unheard of in academic Jewish studies today. Rediscovering the Dead Sea Scrolls is devoted to consideration of the methods used to study the scrolls. Some of the chapters describe and summarize the type of work that has been carried out by Scrolls scholars for years now - studying the fragments, piecing them together into larger pieces, reading them carefully. Other chapters describe methods that have been used only sparingly or sporadically. These new methods include the imaging technologies pioneered and described here by Bruce Zuckerman. A dynamic PDF version of his chapter, with animated images, can be found at [...]. Another fascinating chapter is James Davila's suggested method of using 'counterfactual history' (i.e., history as it did not happen)

to pinpoint the questions that still need to be asked. The articles excel in their clarity of language and structure, allowing non-specialists to benefit from their insights. The volume is an important component in any collection on Bible or Dead Sea Scrolls, but its methodological value for other areas of the humanities is considerable. Pinchas Roth

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