

Contents

<i>Abbreviations</i>	xii
Introduction	
The Scene	3
The Time	17
Witnesses and Evidence	25
<i>Part One</i>	
The Birth of the People of Israel	
1 The Patriarchs	41
2 Semitic Elements in Egypt and the Tradition of the 'Exodus'	56
3 Tribal Operations in the Sinai Peninsula. The Mountain of God and Kadesh	69
4 The Penetration of the Tribes into the Land East and West of the Jordan	86
5 The Life of the Tribes before the Formation of the State. The 'Judges'	112
<i>Part Two</i>	
The Kingdoms of Israel and Judah	
1 The Kingdom of Saul	131
2 The Kingdom of David	145
3 David's Kingdom under Solomon	174
4 The Division of the Kingdom and its Immediate Consequences	187
5 Omri and his Dynasty in Israel	206
6 Two Revolutions – Jehu in Israel and Athaliah in Jerusalem	220
7 Israel and Judah under the Shadow of the Struggle for Power in Syria	227
8 Assyrian Expansion down to the Fall of Samaria	243
9 Judah down to the Accession of Josiah	255

10	Josiah's Reform and the End of the Assyrians	263
11	The Babylonians and the End of the State of Judah	274

Part Three

Israel in the Hands of the Great Powers

1	The Period of the Babylonian Exile	289
2	The First Decades of Persian Supremacy. The Post-Exilic Temple	298
3	The Reconstruction of Post-Exilic Jerusalem. Ezra and Nehemiah	307
4	The Second Half of the Persian Period and the Emergence of the Greeks in the Near East	320

	Bibliography	329
--	--------------	-----

Maps

1	General Map of Syria and Palestine	334
2	General Map of Palestine	335
3	The Settlement of Palestine	336
4	Central Transjordan	337
5	Southern Transjordan (<i>el-belqa</i>)	338
6	South-western Palestine	339
7	Map of the Northern Approaches to Jerusalem	340
8	The Persian Province of Judah (<i>j.hd</i>) and its Neighbours in the Time of Nehemiah	341

	<i>Index of Names</i>	343
--	-----------------------	-----

	<i>Index of Biblical References</i>	357
--	-------------------------------------	-----