



## The Dead Sea Scrolls Deception

*By Michael Baigent, Richard Leigh*

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Investigates why the contents of the earliest biblical manuscripts, found forty years ago, are still being withheld from the general public and studies unpublished materials that provide some startling new views about the early Christians. 40,000 first printing.

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## **The Dead Sea Scrolls Deception By Michael Baigent, Richard Leigh Bibliography**

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## Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

For the lay reader, this crystalline, well-documented work offers substantive evidence that for more than 40 years a small coterie of Catholic scholars established a stranglehold on access to the Dead Sea Scrolls, which were discovered in the Qumran caves east of Jerusalem in 1947. Baigent and Leigh ( *Holy Blood, Holy Grail* ) claim that the elite group had direct links to official Vatican propaganda offices, that at least two among them were outspoken anti-Semites, and that they suppressed material that connects early Christianity to the Qumran community as well as to the zealous defenders of the fortress of Masada. Drawing on the findings of independent Dead Sea Scrolls scholar Robert Eisenman of California State University, the authors advance startling theories that should change the way we view ancient Judaism and nascent Christianity. They argue that the Essenes, Zealots and Nazorenes or early Christians in first-century Palestine weren't different Jewish sects but were, rather, various sobriquets for members of a broad messianic nationalistic movement dedicated to upholding the Law of Moses and determined to violently overthrow the Roman occupiers. The authors also amass evidence that the Habakkuk Commentary and other Dead Sea Scrolls refer to the same events as those recounted in Acts, in Josephus and in the works of early Christian historians; that Paul was sent forth by the hierarchy in Jerusalem for the express purpose of recruiting an army, and by preaching a new religion, he was depoliticizing and emasculating the militant movement; and that Paul might have been a Roman agent or informer. Baigent and Leigh demonstrate the perfidies of clandestine, cliquish scholarship that isn't accountable to the public and make urgent the forthwith publication and translation of all Scrolls material. Photos. BOMC and QPB selections.

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From Library Journal

This emotional account of the events surrounding the discovery and translation of the scrolls attempts to uncover the theological and political efforts by individuals, governments, and religious institutions to keep controversial documents unpublished, ostensibly to preserve orthodox interpretations. The English authors, Baigent and Leigh, base their study on the work of Robert Eisenman and other religious scholars who maintain that a conspiracy of consensus led to stagnant reinterpretation of old doctrine, rather than true research which would contest preconceived notions with newly discovered evidence. New theories by Eisenman and others, which challenge the roots of Christianity as well as New Testament doctrine and history, are discussed. Standard works such as John M. Allegro's *The Dead Sea Scrolls & the Christian Myth* ( LJ 6/1/84), Roland De Vaux's *Discoveries in the Judean Desert* (Oxford Univ. Pr., 1977), and Geza Vermes's *The Dead Sea Scrolls in English* (Viking, 1988. rev. ed.), and many others are preferable to this acrid introductory "expose."-- Paula I. Nielson, Loyola Marymount Univ. Lib., Los Angeles

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Review

*Newsweek* A lively tale of one controversial interpretation of the scrolls.

*Antiquity* (U.K.) An engrossing read....A racy tale of archaeological sins, religious bigotry, academic megalomania, misconduct and possible criminality, along with bizarre political intrigue.

*Publishers Weekly* Crystalline, well-documented....Baigent and Leigh advance startling theories that should change the way we view ancient Judaism and nascent Christianity....

John Leonard *New York Newsday* A wonder of savage detail....The reading of the archaeological, historical

and analytic-textual evidence is always ingenious.

*Chicago Tribune* Not for the theologically faint of heart.

## **Users Review**

### **From reader reviews:**

#### **Adrian Woodson:**

In this 21st centuries, people become competitive in every way. By being competitive now, people have do something to make these survives, being in the middle of typically the crowded place and notice simply by surrounding. One thing that occasionally many people have underestimated this for a while is reading. Sure, by reading a guide your ability to survive enhance then having chance to endure than other is high. For you who want to start reading the book, we give you this kind of *The Dead Sea Scrolls Deception* book as nice and daily reading publication. Why, because this book is greater than just a book.

#### **Jennifer Bell:**

The experience that you get from *The Dead Sea Scrolls Deception* is the more deep you looking the information that hide into the words the more you get considering reading it. It doesn't mean that this book is hard to be aware of but *The Dead Sea Scrolls Deception* giving you joy feeling of reading. The author conveys their point in a number of way that can be understood simply by anyone who read this because the author of this e-book is well-known enough. This kind of book also makes your own vocabulary increase well. Therefore it is easy to understand then can go along with you, both in printed or e-book style are available. We propose you for having that *The Dead Sea Scrolls Deception* instantly.

#### **Franklin Crossland:**

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