Between the advent of motion pictures in the 1890s and the close of the ‘silent’ era at the end of the 1920s, many of the longest, most expensive and most watched films on both sides of the Atlantic drew upon biblical traditions. David J. Shepherd traces the evolution of the biblical film through the silent era, asking why the Bible attracted early filmmakers, how biblical films were indebted to other interpretive traditions, and how these films were received. Drawing upon rarely seen archival footage and early landmark films of directors such as Louis Feuillade, D. W. Griffith, Michael Curtiz and Cecil B. DeMille, this history treats well-known biblical stars including Joseph, Moses, David and Jesus, along with lesser-known biblical subjects such as Jael, Judith and Jephthah’s daughter. This book will be of great interest to students of biblical studies, Jewish studies and film studies.

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THE BIBLE ON SILENT FILM

Spectacle, Story and Scripture in the Early Cinema

DAVID J. SHEPHERD
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## Abbreviations

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AMPAS</td>
<td>Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences</td>
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<td>AFF</td>
<td>Archives Françaises du Film</td>
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<tr>
<td>ASV</td>
<td>American Standard Version</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BFI</td>
<td>British Film Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BFR</td>
<td>Cinemateca Brasileira National Film Archive (Rio de Janeiro)</td>
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<td>Bio</td>
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<td>CF</td>
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<td>FI</td>
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<tr>
<td>FJS</td>
<td>Fondation Jérôme Seydoux-Pathé (<a href="http://www.fondation-">www.fondation-</a> jeromeseydoux-pathe.com/)</td>
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<tr>
<td>FRB</td>
<td>AFF (Bois D'Arcy)</td>
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<td>GPA</td>
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<tr>
<td>LOC</td>
<td>Library of Congress</td>
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<tr>
<td>MOMA</td>
<td>Museum of Modern Art (New York)</td>
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<tr>
<td>MPW</td>
<td>Moving Picture World</td>
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<tr>
<td>NJDH</td>
<td>New Jersey Digital Highway (<a href="http://www.njdigitalhighway.org/">www.njdigitalhighway.org/</a>)</td>
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<td>New Revised Standard Version</td>
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