

## ISRAEL AND JUDAH REDEFINED

In *Israel and Judah Redefined*, C. L. Crouch uses trauma studies, postcolonial theory, and social-scientific research on migration to assess the impact of mass displacements and imperial power on Israelite and Judahite identity in the sixth century BCE. Crouch argues that the effect of the Babylonian deportations on Israelite identity varied according to the deportees' resettlement context. Deportees resettled in rural Babylonia took an isolationist approach to Israelite identity, whereas deportees resettled in urban contexts took a more integrationist approach. Crouch also addresses the impact of mass displacement on identity concerns in the homeland, demonstrating that repeated displacement and the experience of Babylonian imperial rule together facilitated major developments in Judahite identity. These experiences produced bitter conflict between the Israelites deported to Babylonia and the Judahites who remained in the homeland, as well as a range of efforts to resolve this conflict. Inspired by social-scientific studies of involuntary migration and by postcolonial analyses of the effects of imperial domination, Crouch's book highlights the crucial contribution of this era to the story of Israel and Judah.

C. L. Crouch is Professor in Hebrew Bible/Old Testament and Ancient Judaism and Chair of the Department of Textual, Historical, and Systematic Studies at Radboud University and Research Associate in the Department of Old Testament and Hebrew Scriptures at the University of Pretoria. She is author of *War and Ethics in the Ancient Near East* (2009), *Israel and the Assyrians* (2014), *The Making of Israel* (2014), *An Introduction to the Study of Jeremiah* (2017) and, with J. M. Hutton, *Translating Empire* (2019).

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# Israel and Judah Redefined

Migration, Trauma, and Empire in the  
Sixth Century BCE

C. L. CROUCH  
*Radboud University*



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\*

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## ABBREVIATIONS

The work employs the standard abbreviations listed in the *SBL Handbook of Style* (2nd ed.), in addition to the following:

<i>JRS</i>	<i>Journal of Refugee Studies</i>
<i>RSQ</i>	<i>Refugee Survey Quarterly</i>
SSL	Studies in Semitic Languages and Linguistics

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