

LIFE, LAND, AND ELIJAH IN THE BOOK OF KINGS

In this book, Daniel J. D. Stulac brings a canonical-agrarian approach to the Elijah narratives and demonstrates the rhetorical and theological contribution of these texts to the Book of Kings. This unique perspective yields insights into Elijah's iconographical character (1 Kings 17–19), which is contrasted sharply against the Omride dynasty (1 Kings 20–2 Kings 1). It also serves as a template for Elisha's activities in chapters to follow (2 Kings 2–8). Under circumstances that foreshadow the removal of both monarchy and temple, the book's middle third (1 Kings 17–2 Kings 8) proclaims Yhwh's enduring care for Israel's land and people through various portraits of resurrection, even in a world where Israel's sacred institutions have been stripped away. Elijah emerges as the archetypal ancestor of a royal-prophetic remnant with which the reader is encouraged to identify.

Daniel J. D. Stulac is Visiting Professor of Old Testament at Duke University's Divinity School.

SOCIETY FOR OLD TESTAMENT STUDY

MONOGRAPH SERIES

Series Editor: Lena-Sofia Tiemeyer, Örebro School of Theology, Sweden

The SOTS monograph series seeks to showcase the best of modern biblical studies. All published books will have the Hebrew Bible/Old Testament as their focal point. There will also be scope for volumes that take an interdisciplinary approach, such as studies which look at the biblical texts from a comparative perspective, in dialogue with ancient Near Eastern studies or modern literary theory. Similarly, volumes which explore the reception history of a particular text or set of texts will be encouraged.

Editorial Board:

John Goldingay, *Fuller Theological Seminary*

Anselm Hagedorn, *Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin*

Charlotte Hempel, *University of Birmingham*

William Tooman, *University of St Andrews*

Rebecca Watson, *Faraday Institute for Science and Religion in Cambridge*

Peter Williams, *Warden at Tyndale House*

Recent titles in the series:

Marriage by Capture in the Book of Judges: An Anthropological Approach

KATHERINE E. SOUTHWOOD

YHWH and Israel in the Book of Judges: An Object–Relations Analysis

DERYN GUEST

Sennacherib's Campaign against Judah: A Source Analysis of Isaiah 36–37

DAN'EL KAHN

Cognitive Science and Ancient Israelite Religion: New Perspectives on Texts, Artefacts, and Culture

BRETT E. MAIDEN

Royal Illness and Kingship Ideology in the Hebrew Bible

ISABEL CRANZ

Divine Aggression in Psalms and Inscriptions: Vengeful Gods and Loyal Kings

COLLIN CORNELL

Cambridge University Press & Assessment
978-1-108-82654-9 — Life, Land, and Elijah in the Book of Kings
Daniel J. D. Stulac
Frontmatter
[More Information](#)

Life, Land, and Elijah in the Book of Kings

DANIEL J. D. STULAC

Duke University, North Carolina



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge University Press & Assessment
 978-1-108-82654-9 — Life, Land, and Elijah in the Book of Kings
 Daniel J. D. Stulac
 Frontmatter
[More Information](#)



CAMBRIDGE
 UNIVERSITY PRESS

Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8EA, United Kingdom
 One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA
 477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia
 314–321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre, New Delhi – 110025, India
 103 Penang Road, #05–06/07, Visioncrest Commercial, Singapore 238467

Cambridge University Press is part of Cambridge University Press & Assessment, a department of the University of Cambridge.

We share the University's mission to contribute to society through the pursuit of education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org
 Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781108826549

DOI: 10.1017/9781108920018

© Cambridge University Press & Assessment 2021

This publication is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception and to the provisions of relevant collective licensing agreements, no reproduction of any part may take place without the written permission of Cambridge University Press & Assessment.

First published 2021
 First paperback edition 2023

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication data

Names: Stulac, Daniel J. (Daniel John), author.
 Title: Life, land, and Elijah in the Book of Kings / Daniel J.D. Stulac, Duke University, North Carolina.

Description: Cambridge, United Kingdom ; New York, NY, USA : Cambridge University Press, 2021. | Series: Society for Old Testament study monographs | Includes bibliographical references and index.

Identifiers: LCCN 2020027567 (print) | LCCN 2020027568 (ebook) | ISBN 9781108843744 (hardback) | ISBN 9781108826549 (paperback) | ISBN 9781108920018 (epub)

Subjects: LCSH: Bible. Kings—Criticism, interpretation, etc.
 Classification: LCC BS1335.52 .S78 2021 (print) | LCC BS1335.52 (ebook) | DDC 222/.506—dc23

LC record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2020027567>
 LC ebook record available at <https://lcn.loc.gov/2020027568>

ISBN 978-1-108-84374-4 Hardback
 ISBN 978-1-108-82654-9 Paperback

Cambridge University Press & Assessment has no responsibility for the persistence or accuracy of URLs for external or third-party internet websites referred to in this publication and does not guarantee that any content on such websites is, or will remain, accurate or appropriate.

Cambridge University Press & Assessment
978-1-108-82654-9 — Life, Land, and Elijah in the Book of Kings
Daniel J. D. Stulac
Frontmatter
[More Information](#)

*for Danielle
who shares my hope*

CONTENTS

<i>List of Abbreviations</i>	<i>page</i> ix
Introduction	1
Book Overview	7
1 Solving for Pattern	10
2 The Body and the Earth (1 Kings 17–19)	38
3 A Native Hill (1 Kings 20–22)	87
4 Life Is a Miracle (2 Kings 1–8)	140
5 The Long-Legged House	196
Conclusion	262
<i>Bibliography</i>	267
<i>Index of Scriptures</i>	299
<i>Index of Authors</i>	313
<i>General Index</i>	315

ABBREVIATIONS

General

ANE	Ancient Near East
BHS	Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia
DtrH	Deuteronomistic History
LXX	Septuagint
MT	Masoretic Text

Reference Works

AASF	Annales Academiae Scientiarum Fennicae
ABC	Anchor Bible Commentary
ABD	<i>Anchor Bible Dictionary</i>
ABR	<i>Australian Biblical Review</i>
ABRL	Anchor Bible Reference Library
AIL	Ancient Israel and Its Literature
AnBib	Analecta Biblica
AOTC	Abingdon Old Testament Commentaries
ApOTC	Apollos Old Testament Commentary
ASTI	<i>Annual of the Swedish Theological Institute</i>
ATANT	Abhandlungen zur Theologie des Alten und Neuen Testaments
AUSS	<i>Andrews University Seminary Studies</i>
BAR	<i>Biblical Archaeology Review</i>
BBR	<i>Bulletin for Biblical Research</i>
BETL	Bibliotheca Ephemeridum Theologicarum Lovaniensium
<i>Bib</i>	<i>Biblica</i>
<i>BibInt</i>	<i>Biblical Interpretation</i>
BibInt	<i>Biblical Interpretation Series</i>
BibSem	The Biblical Seminar
BJS	Brown Judaic Studies

x List of Abbreviations

<i>BN</i>	<i>Biblische Notizen</i>
<i>BR</i>	<i>Biblical Research</i>
<i>BRev</i>	<i>Bible Review</i>
<i>BSac</i>	<i>Bibliotheca Sacra</i>
<i>BTB</i>	<i>Biblical Theology Bulletin</i>
<i>BWANT</i>	Beiträge zur Wissenschaft vom Alten und Neuen Testament
<i>BZAW</i>	Beihefte zur Zeitschrift für die alttestamentliche Wissenschaft
<i>CBC</i>	Cambridge Bible Commentary
<i>CBQ</i>	<i>Catholic Biblical Quarterly</i>
<i>CBQMS</i>	<i>Catholic Biblical Quarterly</i> Monograph Series
<i>CC</i>	Continental Commentaries
<i>CIS</i>	Comparative Islamic Studies
<i>CQR</i>	<i>Church Quarterly Review</i>
<i>CTJ</i>	<i>Calvin Theological Journal</i>
<i>CTM</i>	<i>Concordia Theological Monthly</i>
<i>CTQ</i>	<i>Concordia Theological Quarterly</i>
<i>CurBR</i>	<i>Currents in Biblical Research</i>
<i>CurTM</i>	<i>Currents in Theology and Mission</i>
<i>CV</i>	<i>Communio Viatorum</i>
<i>ER</i>	<i>Encyclopedia of Religion</i> , edited by James Hastings, 13 vols. New York: Scribner's Sons, 1908–27. Repr., 7 vols. 1951
<i>EstBib</i>	<i>Estudios bíblicos</i>
<i>EvJ</i>	<i>Evangelical Journal</i>
<i>FAT</i>	Forschungen zum Alten Testament
<i>FCB</i>	Feminist Companion to the Bible
<i>FOTL</i>	Forms of the Old Testament Literature
<i>FRLANT</i>	Forschungen zur Religion und Literatur des Alten und Neuen Testaments
<i>HAR</i>	<i>Hebrew Annual Review</i>
<i>HBT</i>	<i>Horizons in Biblical Theology</i>
<i>HCOT</i>	Historical Commentary on the Old Testament
<i>HS</i>	<i>Hebrew Studies</i>
<i>HSM</i>	Harvard Semitic Monographs
<i>HTR</i>	<i>Harvard Theological Review</i>
<i>HUCA</i>	<i>Hebrew Union College Annual</i>
<i>IBC</i>	Interpretation: A Bible Commentary for Teaching and Preaching

List of Abbreviations

xi

IBT	Interpreting Biblical Texts
ICC	International Critical Commentary
IDS	<i>In die Skriflig</i>
<i>Int</i>	<i>Interpretation</i>
ITC	International Theological Commentary
JANER	<i>Journal of Ancient Near Eastern Religions</i>
JANES	<i>Journal of the Ancient Near Eastern Society</i>
JBL	<i>Journal of Biblical Literature</i>
JBQ	<i>Jewish Bible Quarterly</i>
JETS	<i>Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society</i>
JHebS	<i>Journal of Hebrew Scriptures</i>
JJS	<i>Journal of Jewish Studies</i>
JJT	<i>Josephinum Journal of Theology</i>
JNSL	<i>Journal of Northwest Semitic Languages</i>
JR	<i>Journal of Religion</i>
JRS	<i>Journal of Roman Studies</i>
JRT	<i>Journal of Religious Thought</i>
JSOT	<i>Journal for the Study of the Old Testament</i>
JSOTSup	<i>Journal for the Study of the Old Testament</i> Supplement Series
JTI	<i>Journal for Theological Interpretation</i>
LHBOTS	The Library of Hebrew Bible/Old Testament Studies
LTJ	<i>Lutheran Theological Journal</i>
NAC	New American Commentary
NCB	New Century Bible
NIB	<i>The New Interpreter's Bible</i>
NIBC	New International Biblical Commentary
OBO	Orbis Biblicus et Orientalis
OTE	<i>Old Testament Essays</i>
OTG	Old Testament Guides
OTL	Old Testament Library
OTS	Old Testament Studies
OtSt	Oudtestamentische Studiën
PEQ	<i>Palestine Exploration Quarterly</i>
<i>Proof</i>	<i>Prooftexts: A Journal of Jewish Literary History</i>
PTMS	Pittsburgh Theological Monograph Series
QR	<i>Quarterly Review</i>
RB	<i>Revue biblique</i>
RefR	<i>Reformed Review</i>
RelSRev	<i>Religious Studies Review</i>

xii List of Abbreviations

<i>ResQ</i>	<i>Restoration Quarterly</i>
<i>RevExp</i>	<i>Review and Expositor</i>
SBLDS	Society of Biblical Literature Dissertation Series
SBT	Studies in Biblical Theology
<i>ScrB</i>	<i>Scripture Bulletin</i>
SHBC	Smyth & Helwys Bible Commentary
<i>SJOT</i>	<i>Scandinavian Journal of the Old Testament</i>
<i>SR</i>	<i>Studies in Religion</i>
SSN	Studia Semitica Neerlandica
<i>ST</i>	<i>Studia Theologica</i>
<i>Text</i>	<i>Textus</i>
TOTC	Tyndale Old Testament Commentaries
<i>TynBul</i>	<i>Tyndale Bulletin</i>
<i>VT</i>	<i>Vetus Testamentum</i>
VTSup	Supplements to <i>Vetus Testamentum</i>
WBC	Word Bible Commentary
WMANT	Wissenschaftliche Monographien zum Alten und Neuen Testament
<i>WTJ</i>	<i>Westminster Theological Journal</i>
<i>ZABR</i>	<i>Zeitschrift für altorientalische und biblische Rechtsgeschichte</i>
<i>ZAW</i>	<i>Zeitschrift für die alttestamentliche Wissenschaft</i>