

RBL 01/28/2001

Grabbe, Lester L., ed.
Can a "History of Israel" Be Written?

JSOTSup 245/European Seminar in Historical Methodology 1

Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press, 1997. Pp. 201, Hardcover, £40.00/\$66.00, ISBN 1850756694.

Gary N. Knoppers
The Pennsylvania State University
University Park, PA 16802-5500

This work is a collection of twenty-two essays on a very topical issue. All of the essays stem from the 1996 meeting of the "European Seminar on Methodology in Israel's History," The essays are "Are Historians of Ancient Palestine Fellow Creatures—or Different Animals?" by Lester L. Grabbe (pp. 19-36); "History and the Hebrew Bible," by Hans M. Barstad (pp. 37-64); "Inscribed Seals as Evidence for Biblical Israel? Jeremiah 40.7-41.15 *par exemple*," by Bob Becking (pp. 65-83); "Madonna of Silences: Clio and the Bible," by Robert P. Carroll (pp. 84-103); "Whose History? Whose Israel? Whose Bible? Biblical Histories, Ancient and Modern," by Philip R. Davies (pp. 104-22); "Clio is Also among the Muses! Keith W. Whitelam and the History of Palestine: A Review and Commentary," by Niels Peter Lemche (pp. 123-55); "Some Aspects of Working with Textual Sources," by Herbert Niehr (pp. 156-65); "Defining History and Ethnicity in the South Levant," by Thomas L. Thompson (pp. 166-87); "Reflections on the Discussion," by Lester L. Grabbe (pp. 188-96). The book also contains an introduction (pp. 11-18) by the editor and an index of authors.