



What Really Happened in the Garden of Eden?

By Ziony Zevit

Download now

Read Online ➔

What Really Happened in the Garden of Eden? By Ziony Zevit

The Garden of Eden story, one of the most famous narratives in Western history, is typically read as an ancient account of original sin and humanity's fall from divine grace. In this highly innovative study, Ziony Zevit argues that this is not how ancient Israelites understood the early biblical text. Drawing on such diverse disciplines as biblical studies, geography, archaeology, mythology, anthropology, biology, poetics, law, linguistics, and literary theory, he clarifies the worldview of the ancient Israelite readers during the First Temple period and elucidates what the story likely meant in its original context.

Most provocatively, he contends that our ideas about original sin are based upon misconceptions originating in the Second Temple period under the influence of Hellenism. He shows how, for Ancient Israelites, the story was really about how humans achieved ethical discernment. He argues further that Adam was not made from dust and that Eve was not made from Adam's rib. His study unsettles much of what has been taken for granted about the story for more than two millennia and has far-reaching implications for both literary and theological interpreters.

 [Download What Really Happened in the Garden of Eden? ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online What Really Happened in the Garden of Eden? ...pdf](#)

What Really Happened in the Garden of Eden?

By Ziony Zevit

What Really Happened in the Garden of Eden? By Ziony Zevit

The Garden of Eden story, one of the most famous narratives in Western history, is typically read as an ancient account of original sin and humanity's fall from divine grace. In this highly innovative study, Ziony Zevit argues that this is not how ancient Israelites understood the early biblical text. Drawing on such diverse disciplines as biblical studies, geography, archaeology, mythology, anthropology, biology, poetics, law, linguistics, and literary theory, he clarifies the worldview of the ancient Israelite readers during the First Temple period and elucidates what the story likely meant in its original context.

Most provocatively, he contends that our ideas about original sin are based upon misconceptions originating in the Second Temple period under the influence of Hellenism. He shows how, for Ancient Israelites, the story was really about how humans achieved ethical discernment. He argues further that Adam was not made from dust and that Eve was not made from Adam's rib. His study unsettles much of what has been taken for granted about the story for more than two millennia and has far-reaching implications for both literary and theological interpreters.

What Really Happened in the Garden of Eden? By Ziony Zevit Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #240548 in Books
- Published on: 2013-11-26
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.25" h x 1.17" w x 6.13" l, 1.56 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 400 pages

 [Download What Really Happened in the Garden of Eden? ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online What Really Happened in the Garden of Eden? ...pdf](#)

Editorial Review

Review

"Classical Hebrew in the hands of Ziony Zevit is like a cello in the hands of a master cellist. He knows all the hidden subtleties of the instrument, and he makes you hear them in this rendition of the profoundly simple story of Adam, Eve, the Serpent, and their Creator in the Garden of Eden. Zevit brings a great deal of other biblical learning to bear in a surprisingly light-hearted book. He is playing in that sense, too. But for me it is the touch of the master in his handling of Hebrew syntax that stands out most. Others can equal him in those other regards. In this one he is without peer."—Jack Miles, author of *God: A Biography*
(Jack Miles)

"Ziony Zevit's new book is far more than an exploration of the Garden of Eden narrative alone. Along the way, he leads his readers into a host of related topics: ancient biblical interpretation, Jewish and Christian; the Documentary Hypothesis and modern scholars; feminist readings of the Bible; ancient Near Eastern geography; the development of the Hebrew alphabet; Egyptian garden landscaping; Israelite curse formulae; blood avengers in the biblical world—and, believe it or not, a good deal more. Without ever leaving Eden behind, his book is thus an enticing *vade mecum* into the various fields that make up modern biblical scholarship."—James Kugel, author of *How to Read the Bible*
(James Kugel)

"Zevit provides a clearly written, learned, and imaginative reinterpretation of the Garden of Eden story. Drawing on his broad knowledge of the Bible, other ancient sources, as well as from modern and medieval biblical scholarship, he tests traditional views while suggesting new ways of understanding this biblical classic."—Mark Smith, New York University
(Mark Smith)

"Zevit's careful analysis of the Garden Story significantly challenges the traditional interpretation and theological understanding of this pivotal text. All who read this book will deepen their understanding of the biblical text and future studies will have to take Zevit's conclusions into account."—Tremper Longman III, Westmont College

(Tremper Longman III)

"A model of biblical scholarship that is also wholly accessible to the general reader . . . enlivened by Zevit's wit and good humor . . . Artful, charming, and informative."—Jonathan Kirsch, *Jewish Journal*
(Jonathan Kirsch *Jewish Journal*)

"Consistently engaging"—Mary Joan Winn Leith, *Biblical Archaeology Review* (Mary Joan Winn Leith *Biblical Archaeology Review*)

"Zevit's captivating style makes this material not only accessible but also fascinating."—A.J. Levine,

CHOICE

(A.J. Levine *CHOICE* 2014-07-01)

About the Author

Ziony Zevit is Distinguished Professor of Biblical Literature and Northwest Semitic Languages and Literatures at the American Jewish University in Los Angeles. He is widely recognized for his publications in Hebrew epigraphy, biblical studies, and ancient Israelite religion.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Ettie Hardcastle:

This book untitled *What Really Happened in the Garden of Eden?* to be one of several books that will best seller in this year, honestly, that is because when you read this e-book you can get a lot of benefit in it. You will easily to buy this specific book in the book shop or you can order it by means of online. The publisher of this book sells the e-book too. It makes you quickly to read this book, since you can read this book in your Smart phone. So there is no reason to you personally to past this guide from your list.

Robert Armistead:

A lot of people always spent their free time to vacation or maybe go to the outside with them family members or their friend. Did you know? Many a lot of people spent these people free time just watching TV, or even playing video games all day long. If you wish to try to find a new activity this is look different you can read some sort of book. It is really fun to suit your needs. If you enjoy the book you read you can spent all day every day to reading a e-book. The book *What Really Happened in the Garden of Eden?* it is rather good to read. There are a lot of folks that recommended this book. These were enjoying reading this book. When you did not have enough space to deliver this book you can buy typically the e-book. You can m0ore quickly to read this book from the smart phone. The price is not too expensive but this book possesses high quality.

Bonnie Camacho:

Are you kind of busy person, only have 10 as well as 15 minute in your day time to upgrading your mind talent or thinking skill also analytical thinking? Then you are experiencing problem with the book compared to can satisfy your short space of time to read it because all of this time you only find guide that need more time to be examine. *What Really Happened in the Garden of Eden?* can be your answer because it can be read by anyone who have those short spare time problems.

Tim Gonzalez:

As we know that book is significant thing to add our know-how for everything. By a publication we can

know everything we wish. A book is a set of written, printed, illustrated or perhaps blank sheet. Every year seemed to be exactly added. This reserve What Really Happened in the Garden of Eden? was filled about science. Spend your time to add your knowledge about your scientific research competence. Some people has several feel when they reading a book. If you know how big benefit of a book, you can feel enjoy to read a e-book. In the modern era like today, many ways to get book that you just wanted.

Download and Read Online What Really Happened in the Garden of Eden? By Ziony Zevit #DYW87LKCB5N

Read What Really Happened in the Garden of Eden? By Ziony Zevit for online ebook

What Really Happened in the Garden of Eden? By Ziony Zevit Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read What Really Happened in the Garden of Eden? By Ziony Zevit books to read online.

Online What Really Happened in the Garden of Eden? By Ziony Zevit ebook PDF download

What Really Happened in the Garden of Eden? By Ziony Zevit Doc

What Really Happened in the Garden of Eden? By Ziony Zevit Mobipocket

What Really Happened in the Garden of Eden? By Ziony Zevit EPub

DYW87LKCB5N: What Really Happened in the Garden of Eden? By Ziony Zevit