



Dismembering the Whole **Composition and Purpose of Judges 19–21**

Cynthia Edenburg

A fresh literary analysis of political polemic in the Bible

The book of Judges ends with a bizarre narrative of sex and violence that starts with a domestic tiff and ends with the decimation of a tribe that is restored by means of abduction and rape. Cynthia Edenburg applies a fresh literary analysis, recent understandings of historical linguistics, and historical geography in her exploration of the origin of the anti-Benjamin polemic found in Judges 19–21, the growth and provenance of the book of Judges, and the shape of the Deuteronomistic History. Her study exposes how Judges 19–21 function as political polemic reflecting not the pre-monarchic period but instead the historical realities of the settlement of Benjamin during the Babylonian and Persian period.

February 2016, 440 pages
Ancient Israel and Its Literature 24

Paperback \$51.95
ISBN 9781628371246
Hardcover \$71.95
ISBN 9781628371260
eISBN 9781628371253

Features:

- Methodological discussions that open each chapter
- Charts and tables
- Engagement with current research produced by scholars from around the world

Cynthia Edenburg teaches Hebrew Bible in the Department of History, Philosophy and Jewish Studies at The Open University of Israel. She is the co-editor of *Is Samuel among the Deuteronomists? Current Views on the Place of Samuel in a Deuteronomistic History* (2013).

PURCHASE FROM:

SBL Press Customer Service
P.O. Box 2243, Williston, VT 05495
Phone: 802-864-6185 / 877-725-3334 (toll-free)
Fax: 802-864-7626
Email: sblpressorders@aidcvt.com
Web: www.sbl-site.org/publications

REQUEST REVIEW COPIES FROM:

SBL Press
Heather McMurray, Sales Manager
825 Houston Mill Road, Suite 350, Atlanta, GA 30329
Phone: 404-727-3096
Email: heather.mcmurray@sbl-site.org