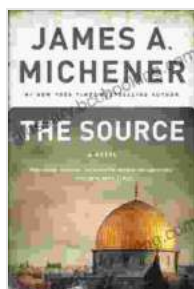


# The Source: A Novel by James Michener

The Source is a sweeping historical novel by James Michener that tells the story of Israel from its beginnings to the present day. The book is a richly detailed and engrossing account of the people, places, and events that have shaped the history of this ancient land.



## The Source: A Novel by James A. Michener

★★★★☆ 4.5 out of 5

Language	: English
File size	: 10932 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
X-Ray	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 1425 pages



Michener begins his story with the arrival of the first humans in the region that would become Israel. He then follows the history of the Israelites through their time as slaves in Egypt, their Exodus to the Promised Land, and their establishment of a kingdom under King David. Michener also tells the story of the Babylonian conquest of Jerusalem, the Roman occupation of Israel, and the rise of Christianity.

In the second half of the book, Michener focuses on the modern history of Israel. He tells the story of the Zionist movement, the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948, and the subsequent Arab-Israeli wars. Michener

also explores the complex social and political issues that have faced Israel since its founding.

The Source is a masterful work of historical fiction. Michener's writing is clear and concise, and he brings the history of Israel to life in a vivid and engaging way. The book is a must-read for anyone who is interested in the history of the Middle East or in the story of one of the world's most fascinating countries.

## Characters

The Source features a large cast of characters, both real and fictional. Some of the most important characters include:

- **Abraham:** The patriarch of the Israelites. He is called by God to leave his home in Mesopotamia and travel to the Promised Land.
- **Moses:** The leader of the Israelites during their Exodus from Egypt. He receives the Ten Commandments from God on Mount Sinai.
- **David:** The second king of Israel. He is a great warrior and king, and he establishes Jerusalem as the capital of Israel.
- **Jesus:** The founder of Christianity. He is born in Bethlehem and crucified in Jerusalem.
- **Muhammad:** The founder of Islam. He is born in Mecca and dies in Medina.
- **Theodore Herzl:** The founder of the Zionist movement. He is instrumental in the establishment of the State of Israel.

- **David Ben-Gurion:** The first prime minister of Israel. He leads the country through its early years and helps to establish its independence.

## Themes

The Source explores a number of important themes, including:

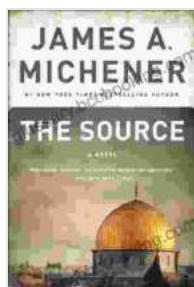
- **The nature of faith:** The book explores the different ways that people believe in God and the role that faith plays in their lives.
- **The importance of history:** The book shows how the past can shape the present and how it is important to remember the lessons of history.
- **The power of hope:** The book shows how hope can sustain people even in the darkest of times.
- **The importance of peace:** The book shows the devastating effects of war and the importance of working for peace.

## Critical reception

The Source was a critical and commercial success. It was praised for its sweeping scope, its rich detail, and its engrossing storytelling. The book has been translated into more than 40 languages and has sold more than 10 million copies worldwide.

The Source has also been the subject of some criticism. Some critics have argued that the book is too long and that it is too focused on the history of Israel. Others have criticized Michener for his portrayal of certain characters and events. However, despite these criticisms, The Source remains a classic work of historical fiction and a must-read for anyone who is interested in the history of the Middle East.

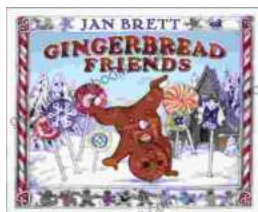
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