



Discovering the Lead Codices: The Book of Seven Seals and the Secret Teachings of Jesus

By David Elkington, Jennifer Elkington

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In March 2011, *The Sunday Times* ran an article on the discovery of a mysterious cache of palm-sized, ring-bound books made of lead. These lead codices, as they have become known, contain mysterious symbols and inscriptions. One tablet in particular features a portrait of Jesus and has preserved the seven seals that would have bound it together along its left-hand side.

David and Jennifer Elkington photographed the books, brought samples to the UK for analysis, and assembled a team of eminent scholars to study them. At the same time, the books were quickly becoming an international phenomenon, the Israelis and Jordanians began a very public dispute over the location of the site where they were discovered. Convinced that the codices are the earliest Christian documents ever found, the Elkingtons put their reputations on the line as they raced to authenticate the find amidst an array of vested interests which sought to suppress them.

In their quest to crack the code, the Elkingtons have been subjected to personal threat but they have continued the fight to ensure the world understands the importance of the codices, which may well pre-date the New Testament. Their significance in our understanding of early Christianity cannot be underestimated.

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Editorial Review

Review

"They could prove to be immensely important, both to Christianity and Judaism." FATHER JEROME MURPHY O'CONNOR, Former Head of the Ecole Biblique in Jerusalem

This is a very exciting discovery of a large number of hitherto unknown documents from the 1st or 2nd century CE. The idiosyncratic Old Hebrew script in which the texts are written is hard to decipher, but preliminary indications suggest they contain ethical teaching derived in part from the Hebrew Bible. **Prof Emeritus John FA Sawyer, Honorary post, Durham University, Former President of the Society for Old Testament Study**

'I have been following the story of the lead codices with interest and look forward to the results of future research.' ? **Prof CTR Hayward of the University of Durham**

According to the Department of Antiquities, initial carbon tests to determine the authenticity of lead-sealed metal books billed as the greatest find in biblical archaeology since the Dead Sea scrolls have been "encouraging". The tests, carried out at the Royal Scientific Society labs, indicate that the texts may date back to the early first century AD, at a time when Christians took refuge from persecution on the east bank of the Jordan River. **Taylor Luck, Jordan Times**

We really believe that we have evidence from this analysis to prove that these materials are authentic. **Prof Ziad Saad, Former Direct General of the Department of Antiquities in Amman, told to The Jordan Times**

From the Inside Flap

One day in Oxfordshire, England, in 2007, husband and wife academics David and Jennifer Elkington viewed a set of photographs that would change their lives. The objects in the pictures appeared to be antiquated books, made of metal and replete with inconography and inscribed with ancient script.

The couple travelled to Jordan where the codices were found, brought samples to the UK for analysis and assembled a team of eminent scholars to study them. At the same time, the books were quickly becoming an international phenomenon - the Israelis and Jordanians began a very public dispute over the location of the site where they were discovered. Convinced that the codices are the earliest Christian artefacts ever found, the Elkingtons put their reputations on the line as they raced to authenticate the find amidst an array of vested interests which sought to suppress them.

This is the journey that takes them from the sleepy shires of England to harrowing trips to the Middle East, involving Bedouin dealers and expeditions to unexplored caverns dating from the dawn of Christianity.

"Although I heard, I did not understand. So I said, 'My Lord, what shall be the end of these things?' He replied, 'Go your way, Daniel, for the words are closed up and sealed until the end of time.'" DANIEL 12:8-9

From the Back Cover

Part detective story, part historical analysis, this thrilling account of the search for the truth behind the Jordan codices challenges our understanding of biblical history and archaeology, and reveals how these incredible artefacts that belonged to Jesus' followers in Jerusalem may be the only Hebrew-Christian texts in existence. In 2007 David and Jennifer Elkington were shown images of a hoard of lead books covered in mysterious symbols and inscriptions, found in a cave in a remote valley in northern Jordan - one of them containing a portrait of Jesus and with seven seals along its side.

Experts believe these lead codices are the most significant find since the Dead Sea Scrolls were unearthed 60 years ago, forcing scholars to completely rewrite our view of Jesus and the early Church. In their quest to crack the code of the biggest biblical discovery to date, the Elkingtons had their emails hacked, received death threats and feared for their lives.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Nancy Farley:

Do you one of people who can't read pleasant if the sentence chained inside the straightway, hold on guys that aren't like that. This Discovering the Lead Codices: The Book of Seven Seals and the Secret Teachings of Jesus book is readable through you who hate those straight word style. You will find the facts here are arrange for enjoyable studying experience without leaving even decrease the knowledge that want to deliver to you. The writer associated with Discovering the Lead Codices: The Book of Seven Seals and the Secret Teachings of Jesus content conveys the thought easily to understand by many people. The printed and e-book are not different in the articles but it just different available as it. So , do you nevertheless thinking Discovering the Lead Codices: The Book of Seven Seals and the Secret Teachings of Jesus is not loveable to be your top listing reading book?

Bryan Perry:

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Tiffany Reyes:

Precisely why? Because this Discovering the Lead Codices: The Book of Seven Seals and the Secret Teachings of Jesus is an unordinary book that the inside of the reserve waiting for you to snap it but latter it will distress you with the secret that inside. Reading this book close to it was fantastic author who also write the book in such wonderful way makes the content inside of easier to understand, entertaining approach but still convey the meaning fully. So , it is good for you because of not hesitating having this any more or you going to regret it. This excellent book will give you a lot of benefits than the other book possess such as help improving your ability and your critical thinking approach. So , still want to hold up having that book? If I ended up you I will go to the e-book store hurriedly.

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