



Bandits, Prophets, and Messiahs: Popular Movements at the Time of Jesus

Richard A. Horsley

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The Trinity Press edition of this popular book includes a new preface by the author, responding to reviews of earlier editions. Horsley also sets forth the continuing value of *Bandits, Prophets, and Messiahs* for reconstructing the social history background of the New Testament. This book represents a brilliant portrait of Jewish culture in the first century and contains a fresh evaluation of Jesus' relation to this complex society. Horsley rediscovers the "common people" (Jewish peasantry) in the time of Jesus – the masses led by bandit forces, apocalyptic prophets, and messianic leaders – and provides new insights into their significance. "Important and ground-breaking . . . A major contribution to our understanding of the first-century Jewish social world." – *Journal of Biblical Literature* "Social history at its best . . . Important material for understanding the Gospels' confession of Jesus as the Messiah." — *America* Richard A. Horsley is Professor of Classics and Religion at the University of Massachusetts, Boston. He is author of *Galilee: History, Politics, People; Archaeology, History, and Society in Galilee: The Social Context of Jesus and the Rabbis*; and editor of *Paul and Empire: Religion and Power in Roman Imperial Society*, all published by Trinity Press.

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