Contents

Preface, or, Why Did We Write This Book?, ix List of Abbreviations, xiii

- 1. All Things Change: Language and Method, 1
- 2. Kinds and Causes of Linguistic Change, 11
- 3. How to Handle Linguistic Variation, 31
- 4. Textual History and Linguistic History, 47
- 5. Inscriptions and Preexilic Hebrew Literature, 60
- 6. Transitional Biblical Hebrew, 73
- 7. Pseudoclassicism: Late Biblical Hebrew and Qumran Hebrew, 85
- 8. Consilience and Cultural History: The Ages of Biblical Literature, 98

Appendix 1. Historical Linguistics and the Books of the Hebrew Bible: A Bibliographical Survey, 127

Appendix 2. A Critique of the Revisionist Model, 135

Notes, 145

Bibliography, 181

Index of Scripture and Other Ancient Sources, 201

Index of Authors, 210

Index of Subjects, 215

Index of Words and Expressions, 218

