Early Modern Drama and the Bible
Contexts and Readings, 1570–1625

Edited by
Adrian Streete
# Contents

**Acknowledgements** ix  
**Notes on Contributors** x  

1. Introduction: Situating the Bible in Early Modern Drama  
   *Adrian Streete*  
   1  

**Part 1 Representing the Bible in Early Modern Drama: Material and Verbal Contexts**  

2. Enter the Book: Reading the Bible on the Early Modern Stage  
   *Michael Davies*  
   27  

3. Measuring up to Nebuchadnezzar: Biblical Presences in Shakespeare’s Tragicomedies  
   *Helen Wilcox*  
   48  

4. ‘Fatal Visions’: The Image as Actor in Early Modern Tragedy  
   *Patricia Canning*  
   68  

**Part 2 Political Theology, the Bible and Drama**  

5. Political Theology in George Buchanan’s *Baptistes*  
   *Dermot Cavanagh*  
   89  

6. The Ethics of Pardoning in Shakespeare’s *Measure for Measure*  
   *Paul Cefalu*  
   105  

7. Punishing Perjury in *Love’s Labour’s Lost*  
   *Judith Hudson*  
   118  

**Part 3 Biblical Readings On-stage: Pulpit, Household and Political Controversy**  

8. ‘They repented at the preachyng of Ionas: and beholde, a greater then Ionas is here’: *A Looking Glass for London and England*, Hosea and the Destruction of Jerusalem  
   *Beatrice Groves*  
   139
9. Marital Infidelity and Christian Self-Sacrifice in Thomas Heywood's *How a Man May Choose a Good Wife from a Bad*  
Emer McManus  
156

10. Reading the White Devil in Thomas Adams and John Webster  
Emma Rhatigan  
176

11. Situating Political and Biblical Authority in Massinger and Field's *The Fatal Dowry*  
Adrian Streete  
195

12. Afterword  
Hannibal Hamlin  
223

Bibliography  
230

Index  
253