

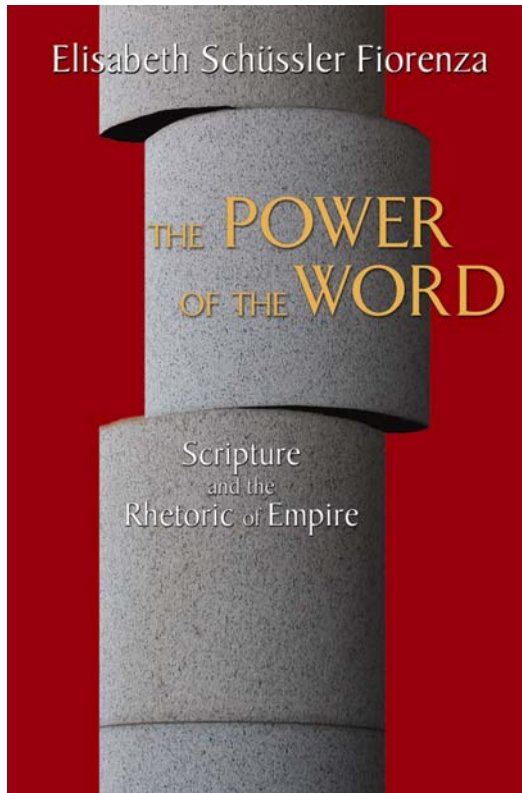
# The Power of the Word

## Scripture and the Rhetoric of Empire

 FORTRESS PRESS  
An imprint of Augsburg Fortress

Elisabeth Schüssler Fiorenza

*Reading the Bible in a global context*



**Shelving:** Religion / Bible  
**Readers:** College, university and seminary professors and students; Bible scholars; clergy; librarians

**Reading Level:** 7  
**ISBN-13:** 978-0-8006-3834-4, paperback  
**ISBN-10:** 0-8006-3834-4  
**Price:** \$19.00 / CAN \$23.00 / UK £10.99

**ISBN-13:** 978-0-8006-3833-7, hardcover with jacket  
**ISBN-10:** 0-8006-3833-6  
**Price:** \$29.00 / CAN \$35.00 / UK £16.99

**Spec:** 6" x 9", 176 pages  
**Rights:** World  
**Pub Date:** June 2007  
**BISAC:** REL000000, REL006000

### SELLING POINTS

- Esteemed biblical scholar on the role of the Bible today
- Astute analysis of how religious ideas influence policy and politics
- A clear vision of how the biblical legacy can help liberate people and cultures

What is the purpose of reading the Bible? Elisabeth Schüssler Fiorenza tackles the tough question of the Bible's role in the world today and how its vision can further a more just world. She shows particularly the radical power of the Word to challenge imperial ways, the humiliation of persons, and the use of religion itself to keep people down, today as then. Finally, she offers an understanding of the implications of such a program for the field and practice of biblical studies, an indispensable partner in challenging the status quo.

### Contents

1. Introduction: A Critical Feminist Emancipatory Hermeneutics
2. Scripture and the Rhetoric of Empire
3. Empire and Subordination
4. The Rhetoric of Empire and Language about the Divine
5. The Execution of Jesus and the Exculpation of Empire
6. Empire and Radical Democracy: The *Ekklesia* of Women
7. Ethos and Empire: Transforming Biblical Studies

**Elisabeth Schüssler Fiorenza** is the Krister Stendahl Professor of Scripture and Interpretation at Harvard Divinity School and past President of the Society of Biblical Literature. Among her many and influential works are *Revelation: Vision of a Just World* (1991, 0-8006-2510-2) and *Rhetoric and Ethic* (1999, 0-8006-2795-4).