

The Best Resources for Studying Scripture

By Dave Detwiler, Pastor of Teaching & Ceremonies, BranchCreek Community Church – Spring 2005

As I often get asked to recommend resources that will prove helpful in studying Scripture, I thought I'd finally create a basic, annotated list of the best stuff out there (in my opinion, of course, but based on quite a bit of research). My goal in sharing this with you is to further equip you to become one who "correctly handles the word of truth" (2 Timothy 2:15). God bless you as you seek to understand and apply the Bible more effectively!

Basic Tools for Bible Study

A Caution Regarding the Internet

All of the resources recommended in this list can be purchased through the internet (I use both www.christianbook.com, and www.amazon.com, with the latter often having great deals on used books). However, almost none of these resources can be found online for you to read (I will note the rare exceptions below). What *can* be found online is all sorts of stuff claiming to provide insight into understanding the Bible. I would urge you to be very cautious in using what you find through a "google" search! It is often either quite old, with the copyright having expired, or questionable in terms of its scholarship. Use the resources below first, and if you do find something online that seems trustworthy and helpful, run it by a pastor or Bible teacher you trust—just to make sure.

Good English Translation(s)

Assuming you don't read Hebrew or Greek, the most basic tool for your study of Scripture is a good English translation or, actually, *several* good translations. The reason for this is explained well in chapter 2 of Gordon Fee and Douglas Stuart, *How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth* (Zondervan, 2003), but the bottom line is this: No translation is perfect. Some try to be as literal as possible (called "formal equivalence"), but this sometimes obscures meaning and often reads funny; others try for a more "thought-for-thought" approach (called "functional equivalence"), but this can end up being more interpretation than translation at times, and some significant nuances in the original language can be lost. So, use a couple of different translations, and when they read quite differently for a particular

verse, you'll likely need to seek outside help (such as a good commentary) to clarify what the verse says. Here are the best translations to use, listed from the more "word-for-word" to the more "thought-for-thought" in approach:

NASB	New American Standard Bible
ESV	English Standard Version
TNIV	Today's New International Version (an excellent revision of the best-selling NIV)
NLT	New Living Translation

There are certainly other translations that you may find helpful, such as *The Message* (which is actually more a paraphrase than a translation), but these are the ones I primarily use. You can access any of them (and more) for free online at www.biblegateway.com (the TNIV will be there shortly; for now you can get it at www.tniv.info/bible/index.php). I go there all the time to compare translations and create my teaching outlines by cutting and pasting verses (you can look up the same passage in multiple translations at www.biblegateway.com/passage).

One last tip: There is a great web-based translation found at www.bible.org/netbible that has thousands of excellent footnotes giving you insight into the original languages. Check it out—it's free!

Guide to Bible Interpretation

Now, with several good translations in hand, you'll need some guidance concerning how to read and study the Bible well. Here are the best resources to help:

- William & Howard Hendricks, *Living By the Book*. Moody, 1991. Basic, but very thorough.
- Gordon Fee & Douglas Stuart, *How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth*. Zondervan, 2003. This is the one I've used the most. More advanced.
- J. Scott Duvall & J. Daniel Hays, *Grasping God's Word*. Zondervan, 2001. An excellent, practical resource to train you to study and apply the Bible. Also has an accompanying workbook.

Basic Bible Concordance

A concordance is simply an alphabetical index, listing all of the verses in a Bible version where you can find a particular word. You should have an

abridged one in the back of your Bible (I use mine all the time), but you should really own an exhaustive one, based on the primary translation you use, and coded to Goodrick-Kohlenberger's (G/K) numbering system. This way you will not only find, say, every verse where the word "worship" appears, but also be able to see the different words in the original languages that are all translated as "worship." Then you can begin to pursue the differences in those words and learn a ton more about biblical worship!

Remember, get the one that matches the translation you use most. Here are the current options:

The Strongest NIV Exhaustive Concordance.
Zondervan, 2004.

The Strongest TNIV Exhaustive Concordance.
Zondervan, 2005.

The Strongest NASB Exhaustive Concordance.
Zondervan, 2004.

Versions of the above can be found on CD-Rom, such as the *Zondervan Bible Study Library*.

Basic Bible Dictionary

A Bible dictionary gathers material from different parts of the Bible (and elsewhere) and brings it together to clarify a single biblical subject. It provides helpful information on biblical books, terms, people, places, doctrines, history and culture. Say, for example, you're reading a passage that speaks of "repentance." A concordance would help you find all occurrences of that term, but what does it mean? That's where a Bible dictionary can help. Plus, it will explain important words that don't occur in the Bible (such as "trinity").

New Bible Dictionary, 3rd ed. Eds. I. H. Marshall, et al. InterVarsity, 1996. This is my favorite, and is available on the CD-Rom, *The Basic IVP Reference Collection*, as well as the larger CD-Rom, *The Essential IVP Reference Collection*.

There are two good (but not the best) Bible Dictionaries available for free online. The 1991 edition of the *Holman Bible Dictionary* can be found at www.studylight.org/dic/hbd, and *Baker's Evangelical Dictionary of Biblical Theology* can be found at www.bible.crosswalk.com/Dictionaries. Anything else you find on the web will likely be much older resources that won't give you the best biblical scholarship.

Basic Bible Commentary

This is simply one or two books that contain a basic commentary on every book of the Bible, helping you close the gaps on matters of interpretation that

require outside help (such as language or cultural issues). Obviously, it will be limited, but it can be a helpful reference prior to more in-depth study (and at least you'll have *something* on every book of the Bible).

New Bible Commentary, 21st Century Edition. Eds. G. J. Wenham, et al. InterVarsity, 1994. This is the one I use, and it's available on the CD-Rom, *The Basic IVP Reference Collection*, as well as the larger CD-Rom, *The Essential IVP Reference Collection*.

This is the place to mention *The Hard Sayings of the Bible*. Walter C. Kaiser, Jr., et al. InterVarsity, 1996 (included on *The Essential IVP Reference Collection*, by the way). I consult it often when I come to a difficult passage. Also, some of the IVP New Testament Commentaries are available online for your use. You'll find them at www.biblegateway.com/resources/commentaries.

Basic Background Help

Finally, dealing specifically with background issues (matters of history and culture that are crucial for proper interpretation), the following basic resources are very helpful (good Bible commentaries will typically provide this information, but these general reference books are handy):

The IVP Bible Background Commentary: Old Testament. Eds. John Walton, et al. InterVarsity, 2000.

The IVP Bible Background Commentary: New Testament, by Craig Keener. InterVarsity, 1994.

Both of these resources are included on the CD-Rom, *The Essential IVP Reference Collection*.

Advanced Tools for Bible Study

When you're ready to dig deeper, here are the best resources available to you. And while you should probably own one of each of the kinds of resources mentioned above under "Basic Tools for Bible Study," the resources below should not be purchased hastily (besides, the money really starts to add up!). See if you can first borrow the book from a pastor or a local library (such as Biblical Theological Seminary's library, in nearby Hatfield), and then invest only in the tools that *you* find helpful.

Advanced Word Study

To really get access to the words in the original languages, these concordances are indispensable—and they use the same G/K numbers as the

concordances already mentioned. So, say you discover, using your basic concordance, that there are many Hebrew and Greek words translated as “worship” (the G/K numbers reveal this). But how would you know if that same word (or words) is found elsewhere but not translated as “worship”? Following the G/K numbers, these resources will tell you:

The Hebrew-English Concordance to the Old Testament. Zondervan, 1998.
The Greek-English Concordance to the New Testament. Zondervan, 1997.

Both of these are included (with basic concordances and a whole lot more) on the CD-Rom, *Zondervan Bible Study Library, Leader’s Edition*.

Further, once you’ve found all occurrences of an important word in the passage you are studying (say, the word *proskuneo*, often translated “worship,” but not always), how do you find out what it means? The context is key in helping to discern this, but you may need more help. Here it is, using the same G/K numbers (meaning, you still don’t have to know Hebrew or Greek—just numbers!):

Willem A. VanGemeren, (ed.). *New International Dictionary of Old Testament Theology & Exegesis* (5 vols). Zondervan, 1997. Available on CD-Rom as well.
Colin Brown, (ed.). *The New International Dictionary of New Testament Theology* (4 vols). Zond, 1975-86. Also available on CD-Rom, as well as in a handy one-volume abridged edition, edited by Verlyn Verbrugge.

Advanced Bible Dictionaries/Encyclopedias

Basic Bible Dictionaries are great, but if you want to be able to dig even deeper, these are the best resources of their kind (the latter three of which are included on the CD-Rom, *The Essential IVP Reference Collection*, as well as condensed into the single volume book, *The IVP Dictionary of the New Testament*):

The International Standard Bible Encyclopedia. Revised (4 vols.). Ed. Geoffrey W. Bromiley. Eerdmans, 1988. In-depth, technical.
Dictionary of Jesus and the Gospels. Eds. Joel B. Green, et al. InterVarsity, 1992.
Dictionary of Paul and His Letters. Eds. Gerald F. Hawthorne and Ralph P. Martin. InterVarsity, 1993.
Dictionary of the Later New Testament & Its Developments. Eds. Ralph P. Martin and Peter Davids. InterVarsity, 1997.

InterVarsity plans to come out with similar Dictionaries for the Old Testament, but I haven’t seen or used one yet. I’m sure they’ll be excellent, though.

Advanced Background help

To really dig into the historical and cultural backgrounds of the New Testament, the following are outstanding resources:

Dictionary of New Testament Background. Eds. Craig Evans and Stanley Porter. InterVarsity, 2000. Also included on the CD-Rom, *The Essential IVP Reference Collection.*
Zondervan Illustrated Bible Backgrounds Commentary, 4 vols (covering NT only). Ed. Clinton Arnold. Zondervan, 2002. Beautifully produced, with lots of pictures.

Theological Reference Books

Theological Dictionaries cover some of the same ground as Bible Dictionaries (for example, you will find articles on Baptism, Homosexuality, Prayer, Sanctification, the Trinity, and Worship), but they also cover fresh ground (such as articles on Calvinism and Postmodernism, and important historical figures, such as Augustine, Martin Luther, and Jonathan Edwards).

Evangelical Dictionary of Theology. Second Edition. Ed. Walter A. Elwell. Baker, 2001. I use this resource regularly. Very helpful.

InterVarsity publishes a work similar to the one above (although I don’t like it quite as much as the one listed), and it is included on the CD-Rom, *The Essential IVP Reference Collection*—just so you know.

There are also books that cover in greater detail the major teachings of the Bible. So, for example, if I’m studying a passage on the Holy Spirit, I would consult the chapters in the book below that cover that topic, in order to better grasp the big picture of what the Bible teaches about the Spirit:

Wayne Grudem, *Systematic Theology: An Introduction to Biblical Doctrine.* Zondervan, 1994. I find myself consulting this resource pretty regularly (although there are other good books of this kind). It is very well organized and clear. And it’s available in a somewhat condensed form, titled *Bible Doctrine*.

Commentaries on Individual Books

I’ll offer separate sections below for both Old Testament commentaries and New Testament commentaries.

Old Testament Commentaries

Good commentaries make up the heart of a Bible reference library. They are to be used *after* you've prayed and worked through the text yourself, to help you catch important matters you overlooked or were unable to discern—all of which will help you better understand and apply Scripture. The following list identifies the very best up-to-date commentaries on each OT book, and they are identified as falling into one of three categories: *Devotional* (basic, readable and typically with practical application), *Expositional* (more academic and detailed, but no knowledge of Hebrew is needed), and *Exegetical* (in-depth and technical—interacting extensively with the Hebrew).

The commentaries are listed following this order of categories (in other words, the most basic commentary is listed first, and the most scholarly is listed last). There are certainly more than this for each OT book, but these are my recommendations (and I'll put an asterisk * by my favorite of each category):

Genesis

- D. Atkinson, *The Message of Genesis 1-11* (BST). InterVarsity, 1990. Devotional.
- Joyce Baldwin, *The Message of Genesis 12-50* (BST). InterVarsity, 1986. Devotional.
- *John Walton, *Genesis* (NIVAC). Zondervan, 2001. Devotional.
- John Sailhamer, "Genesis" in *Expositor's Bible Commentary*. Zondervan, 1990. Expositional.
- Allen P. Ross, *Creation and Blessing*. Baker, 1988. Expositional.
- *Bruce Waltke, *Genesis: A Commentary*. Zondervan, 2001. Expositional.
- Kenneth A. Mathews, *Genesis 1-11:26* (NAC). Broadman & Holman, 1996. Expositional.
- Victor P. Hamilton, *The Book of Genesis*, 2 vols. (NICOT). Eerdmans, 1990, 1995. Expositional.
- *Gordon J. Wenham, *Genesis 1-15, 16-50* (WBC). Word, 1987, 1994. Exegetical.

Exodus

- *Peter Enns, *Exodus* (NIVAC). Zondervan, 2000. Devotional.
- R. Alan Cole, *Exodus* (TOTC). InterVarsity, 1973. Expositional.
- *Walter Kaiser, "Exodus" in *Expositor's Bible Commentary*. Zondervan, 1990. Expositional.
- J. I. Durham, *Exodus* (WBC). Word, 1987. Exegetical.
- *B. S. Childs, *The Book of Exodus* (OTL). Westminster, 1974. Exegetical.

Leviticus

- *G. W. Demarest, *Leviticus* (CC). Word, 1990. Devotional.

- R. K. Harrison, *Leviticus* (TOTC). InterVarsity, 1980. Expositional.
- Mark F. Rooker, *Leviticus* (NAC). Broadman, 2000. Expositional.
- Allen P. Ross, *Holiness to the LORD: A Guide to the Exposition of the Book of Leviticus*. Baker, 2002.
- *Gordon J. Wenham, *The Book of Leviticus* (NICOT). Eerdmans, 1979. Expositional.
- *John E. Hartley, *Leviticus* (WBC). Word, 1992. Exegetical.

Numbers

- *Raymond Brown, *The Message of Numbers* (BST). InterVarsity, 2002.
- J. Philip, *Numbers* (CC). Word, 1987. Devotional.
- *Gordon J. Wenham, *Numbers* (TOTC). InterVarsity, 1981. Expositional.
- Ronald B. Allen, "Numbers" in *Expositor's Bible Commentary*. Zondervan, 1990. Expositional.
- R. Dennis Cole, *Numbers* (NAC). Broadman, 2000. Expositional.
- Timothy Ashley, *The Book of Numbers* (NICOT). Eerdmans, 1993. Expositional.

Deuteronomy

- *Raymond Brown, *The Message of Deuteronomy* (BST). InterVarsity, 1993. Devotional.
- J. A. Thompson, *Deuteronomy* (TOTC). InterVarsity, 1974. Expositional.
- *Christopher J. H. Wright, *Deuteronomy* (NIBC). Hendrickson, 1996. Expositional.
- Eugene H. Merrill, *Deuteronomy* (NAC). Broadman, 1994. Expositional.
- J. Gordon McConville, *Deuteronomy* (AOTC). InterVarsity, 2002. Expositional.
- Peter C. Craigie, *The Book of Deuteronomy* (NICOT). Eerdmans, 1976. Expositional.

Joshua

- *Richard S. Hess, *Joshua* (TOTC). InterVarsity, 1996. Expositional.
- David M. Howard, *Joshua* (NAC). Broadman & Holman, 1998. Expositional.
- M. Woudstra, *The Book of Joshua* (NICOT). Eerdmans, 1981. Expositional.
- *Trent C. Butler, *Joshua* (WBC). Word, 1983. Exegetical.

Judges

- David Jackman, *Judges, Ruth* (CC). Word, 1993. Devotional.
- Michael Wilcock, *The Message of Judges* (BST). InterVarsity, 1992. Devotional.
- *K. Lawson Younger, *Judges, Ruth* (NIVAC). Zondervan, 2002. Devotional.
- H. Wolf, "Judges" in *Expositor's Bible Commentary*. Zondervan, 1992. Expositional.
- *Daniel I. Block, *Judges, Ruth* (NAC). Broadman & Holman, 1999. Expositional.

Ruth

- David Jackman, *Judges, Ruth* (CC). Word, 1993. Devotional.
- D. Atkinson, *The Message of Ruth* (BST). InterVarsity, 1983. Devotional.
- *K. Lawson Younger, *Judges, Ruth* (NIVAC). Zondervan, 2002. Devotional.
- Daniel I. Block, *Judges, Ruth* (NAC). Broadman & Holman, 1999. Exegetical.
- *Robert L. Hubbard, *The Book of Ruth* (NICOT). Eerdmans, 1990. Exegetical.
- *Frederick W. Bush, *Ruth, Esther* (WBC). Word, 1996. Exegetical.

1 and 2 Samuel

- *Bill T. Arnold, *1 and 2 Samuel* (NIVAC). Zondervan, 2003.
- Joyce Baldwin, *1 and 2 Samuel* (TOTC). InterVarsity, 1988. Exegetical.
- Ronald F. Youngblood, "1, 2 Samuel" in *Expositor's Bible Commentary*. Zondervan, 1992. Exegetical.
- Robert Gordon, *1 and 2 Samuel: A Commentary*. Zondervan, 1986. Exegetical.
- *R. D. Bergen, *1 and 2 Samuel* (NAC). Broadman & Holman, 1996. Exegetical.
- *Ralph Klein, *1 Samuel* (WBC). Word, 1983. Exegetical.
- *A. A. Anderson, *2 Samuel* (WBC). Word, 1989. Exegetical.

1 and 2 Kings

- *Robert L. Hubbard, *1 and 2 Kings*. Moody, 1991. Devotional.
- D. J. Wiseman, *1 and 2 Kings* (TOTC). InterVarsity, 1993. Exegetical.
- Iain W. Provan, *1 and 2 Kings* (NIBC). Hendrickson, 1995. Exegetical.
- *Paul R. House, *1, 2 Kings* (NAC). Broadman, 1995. Exegetical.
- *T. R. Hobbs, *2 Kings* (WBC). Word, 1985. Exegetical.

1 and 2 Chronicles

- Michael Wilcock, *The Message of Chronicles* (BST). InterVarsity, 1982. Devotional.
- *Andrew Hill, *1 and 2 Chronicles* (NIVAC). Zondervan, 2003.
- Leslie C. Allen, *1 and 2 Chronicles* (CC). Word, 1987. Devotional.
- Martin J. Selman, *1 Chronicles, 2 Chronicles* (TOTC, 2 vols.). InterVarsity, 1994. Exegetical.
- *J. A. Thompson, *1, 2 Chronicles* (NAC). Broadman, 1994. Exegetical.
- *Roddy Braun, *1 Chronicles* (WBC). Word, 1986. Exegetical.
- *Raymond B. Dillard, *2 Chronicles* (WBC). Word, 1987. Exegetical.

Ezra and Nehemiah

- J. I. Packer, J. I. *A Passion for Faithfulness (Nehemiah)*. Crossway, 1995. Devotional.
- *Raymond Brown, *The Message of Nehemiah* (BST). InterVarsity, 1998. Devotional.
- Derek Kidner, *Ezra and Nehemiah* (TOTC). InterVarsity, 1979. Exegetical.
- *Mervin Breneman, *Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther* (NAC). Broadman, 1993. Exegetical.
- Edwin Yamauchi, "Ezra, Nehemiah" in *Expositor's Bible Commentary*. Zondervan, 1988. Exegetical.
- F. Charles Fensham, *The Books of Ezra and Nehemiah* (NICOT). Eerdmans, 1982. Exegetical.
- *H. G. M. Williamson, *Ezra, Nehemiah* (WBC). Word, 1985. Exegetical.

Esther

- *Karen J. Jobes, *Esther* (NIVAC). Zondervan, 1999. Devotional.
- Joyce Baldwin, *Esther* (TOTC). InterVarsity, 1984. Exegetical.
- *Mervin Breneman, *Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther* (NAC). Broadman, 1993. Exegetical.
- F. B. Huey, "Esther" in *Expositor's Bible Commentary*. Zondervan, 1988. Exegetical.
- *Frederick W. Bush, *Ruth, Esther* (WBC). Word, 1996. Exegetical.

Job

- *David Atkinson, *The Message of Job* (BST). InterVarsity, 1991. Devotional.
- Francis I. Anderson, *Job* (TOTC). InterVarsity, 1976. Exegetical.
- Elmer Smick, "Job" in *Expositor's Bible Commentary*. Zondervan, 1988. Exegetical.
- Robert L. Alden, *Job* (NAC). Broadman, 1993. Exegetical.
- *John E. Hartley, *The Book of Job* (NICOT). Eerdmans, 1988. Exegetical.
- *D. J. A. Clines, *Job 1-20, 21-42* (WBC, 2 vols.). Word, 1989, 1995. Exegetical.

Psalms

- Michael Wilcock, *The Message of Psalms, 2 vols.* (BST). InterVarsity, 2001.
- Williams, D. M. *Psalms* (CC, 2 vols.). Word, 1986, 1989. Devotional.
- *Gerald H. Wilson, *Psalms, Volume 1* (NIVAC). Zondervan, 2002.
- Derek Kidner, *Psalms 1-72, Psalms 73-150* (TOTC, 2 vols.). InterVarsity, 1973, 1975. Exegetical.
- *Willem A. VanGemeren, "Psalms" in *Expositor's Bible Commentary*. Zondervan, 1991. Exegetical.
- J. L. Mays, *Psalms* (Interp.). John Knox, 1994. Exegetical.

Peter Craigie, *Psalms 1-50* (WBC). Word, 1983. Exegetical.

Leslie C. Allen, *Psalms 101-150* (WBC). Word, 1983. Exegetical.

Marvin Tate, *Psalms 51-100* (WBC). Word, 1992. Exegetical.

*Samuel Terrien, *The Psalms: Strophic Structure and Theological Commentary* (ECC). Eerdmans, 2003. Exegetical.

Proverbs

David Atkinson, *The Message of Proverbs* (BST). InterVarsity, 1996. Devotional.

David A. Hubbard, *Proverbs* (CC). Word, 1989. Devotional.

*Paul E. Koptak, *Proverbs* (NIVAC). Zondervan, 2003. Devotional.

Derek Kidner, *Proverbs* (TOTC). InterVarsity, 1975. Exegetical.

Duane A. Garrett, *Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon* (NAC). Broadman, 1993. Exegetical.

Allen P. Ross, "Proverbs" in *Expositor's Bible Commentary*. Zondervan, 1991. Exegetical.

*Bruce K. Waltke, *The Book of Proverbs Chapters 1-15, 16-31* (NICOT). Eerdmans, 2004, 2005. Exegetical.

Ecclesiastes

Derek Kidner, *The Message of Ecclesiastes* (BST). InterVarsity, 1988. Devotional.

*Iain Provan, *Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs* (NIVAC). Zondervan, 2001. Devotional.

David A. Hubbard, *Ecclesiastes and Song of Solomon* (CC). Word, 1991. Devotional.

Michael A. Eaton, *Ecclesiastes* (TOTC). InterVarsity, 1983. Exegetical.

Duane A. Garrett, *Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon* (NAC). Broadman, 1993. Exegetical.

*Tremper Longman, III, *Ecclesiastes* (NIC). Eerdmans, 1997. Exegetical.

*Roland E. Murphy, *Ecclesiastes* (WBC). Dallas, 1992. Exegetical.

Song of Solomon

Tom Gledhill, *The Message of the Song of Songs* (BST). InterVarsity, 1994. Devotional.

*Iain Provan, *Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs* (NIVAC). Zondervan, 2001. Devotional.

David A. Hubbard, *Ecclesiastes and Song of Solomon* (CC). Word, 1991. Devotional.

G. Lloyd Carr, G. *The Song of Solomon* (TOTC). InterVarsity, 1984. Exegetical.

Duane A. Garrett, *Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon* (NAC). Broadman, 1993. Exegetical.

*Tremper Longman, III, *Song of Songs* (NICOT). Eerdmans, 2001. Exegetical.

*Duane A. Garrett and Paul R. House, *Song of Songs, Lamentations* (WBC). Nelson, 2004. Exegetical.

Isaiah

Barry G. Webb, *The Message of Isaiah* (BST). InterVarsity, 1996. Devotional.

*John N. Oswalt, *Isaiah* (NIVAC). Zondervan, 2003. Devotional.

J. Alec Motyer, *Isaiah* (TOTC). Eerdmans, 1999. Exegetical (abbreviated form of work below).

G. W. Grogan, "Isaiah" in *Expositor's Bible Commentary*. Zondervan, 1986. Exegetical.

J. Alec Motyer, J. *The Prophecy of Isaiah: An Introduction and Commentary*. InterVarsity, 1993. Exegetical.

*John N. Oswalt, *Isaiah 1-39, 40-66* (NICOT). Eerdmans, 1986, 1998. Exegetical.

Jeremiah, Lamentations

Derek Kidner, *The Message of Jeremiah* (BST). InterVarsity, 1987. Devotional.

*J. Andrew Dearman, *Jeremiah, Lamentations* (NIVAC). Zondervan, 2002. Devotional.

R. K. Harrison, *Jeremiah and Lamentations* (TOTC). InterVarsity, 1973. Exegetical.

F. B. Huey, *Jeremiah and Lamentations* (NAC). Broadman, 1993. Exegetical.

*J. A. Thompson, *The Book of Jeremiah* (NICOT). Eerdmans, 1979. Exegetical.

*Iain Provan, *Lamentations* (NCBC). Cambridge, 1991. Exegetical.

*P. Craigie, P. H. Kelley and J. F. Drinkward, *Jeremiah 1-25* (WBC). Word, 1991. Exegetical.

Ezekiel

*Douglas Stuart, *Ezekiel* (CC). Word, 1989. Devotional.

Peter C. Craigie, *Ezekiel* (DSB). Westminster, 1983. Devotional.

Iain M. Duguid, *Ezekiel* (NIVAC). Zondervan, 1999. Devotional.

*Daniel I. Block, *The Book of Ezekiel, Chapters 1-24, Chapters 25-48* (NICOT). Eerdmans, 1997, 1998. Exegetical.

*Leslie C. Allen, *Ezekiel 1-19, 20-48* (WBC, 2 vols.). Word, 1990, 1995. Exegetical.

Daniel

Ronald S. Wallace, *The Message of Daniel* (BST). InterVarsity, 1979. Devotional.

*Tremper Longman, III, *Daniel* (NIVAC). Zondervan, 1999. Devotional.

Joyce Baldwin, *Daniel* (TOTC). InterVarsity, 1978. Exegetical.

*Stephen R. Miller, *Daniel* (NAC). Broadman, 1994. Exegetical.

*John Goldingay, *Daniel* (WBC). Word, 1989. Exegetical.

The Minor Prophets

- *Peter C. Craigie, *Twelve Prophets* (DSB, 2 vols). Westminster, 1985. Devotional.
- *T. E. McComiskey (ed.). *The Minor Prophets: An Exegetical and Expository Commentary* (3 vols.). Baker, 1992 - 1998.

Hosea

- Derek Kidner, *The Message of Hosea* (BST). InterVarsity, 1981. Devotional.
- *Gary V. Smith, *Hosea, Amos, and Micah* (NIVAC). Zondervan, 2001.
- D. A. Hubbard, *Hosea* (TOTC). InterVarsity, 1989. Exegetical.
- *Duane A. Garrett, *Hosea, Joel* (NAC). Broadman & Holman, 1997. Exegetical.
- *Douglas Stuart, *Hosea - Jonah* (WBC). Word, 1987. Exegetical.
- T. E. McComiskey, "Hosea" in *The Minor Prophets: An Exegetical and Expository Commentary*. Baker, 1992. Exegetical.

Joel

- *D. A. Hubbard, *Joel and Amos* (TOTC). InterVarsity, 1989. Devotional - expository.
- Duane A. Garrett, *Hosea, Joel* (NAC). Broadman & Holman, 1997. Exegetical.
- *Leslie C. Allen, *The Books of Joel, Obadiah, Jonah, and Micah* (NICOT). Eerdmans, 1976. Exegetical.
- Thomas J. Finley, *Joel, Amos, Obadiah* (WEC). Moody, 1990. Exegetical.
- *Douglas Stuart, *Hosea - Jonah* (WBC). Word, 1987. Exegetical.
- R. B. Dillard, "Joel" in *The Minor Prophets: An Exegetical and Expository Commentary*. Baker, 1992.

Amos

- J. Alec Motyer, *The Message of Amos* (BST). InterVarsity, 1974. Devotional.
- *Gary V. Smith, *Hosea, Amos, and Micah* (NIVAC). Zondervan, 2001.
- D. A. Hubbard, *Joel and Amos* (TOTC). InterVarsity, 1989. Exegetical.
- T. E. McComiskey, T. E. "Amos" in *Expositor's Bible Commentary*. Zondervan, 1985. Exegetical.
- *Gary Smith, *Amos: A Commentary*. Zondervan, 1989. Exegetical.
- Thomas J. Finley, *Joel, Amos, Obadiah* (WEC). Moody, 1990. Exegetical.
- *Douglas Stuart, *Hosea - Jonah* (WBC). Word, 1987. Exegetical.
- J. Niehaus, "Amos" in *The Minor Prophets: An Exegetical and Expository Commentary*. Baker, 1992.

Obadiah

- D. W. Baker, T. D. Alexander, and B. K. Waltke. *Obadiah, Jonah, Micah* (TOTC). InterVarsity, 1988. Exegetical.
- *Leslie C. Allen, *The Books of Joel, Obadiah, Jonah, and Micah* (NICOT). Eerdmans, 1976. Exegetical.
- Thomas J. Finley, *Joel, Amos, Obadiah* (WEC). Moody, 1990. Exegetical.
- *Douglas Stuart, *Hosea - Jonah* (WBC). Word, 1987. Exegetical.
- J. Niehaus, "Obadiah" in *The Minor Prophets: An Exegetical and Expository Commentary*. Baker, 1993.

Jonah

- D. W. Baker, T. D. Alexander, and B. K. Waltke. *Obadiah, Jonah, Micah* (TOTC). InterVarsity, 1988. Exegetical.
- *Leslie C. Allen, *The Books of Joel, Obadiah, Jonah, and Micah* (NICOT). Eerdmans, 1976. Exegetical.
- *Douglas Stuart, *Hosea - Jonah* (WBC). Word, 1987. Exegetical.
- J. Baldwin, "Jonah" in *The Minor Prophets: An Exegetical and Expository Commentary*. Baker, 1993.

Micah

- Walter C. Kaiser, *Micah - Malachi* (CC). Word, 1992. Devotional.
- *Gary V. Smith, *Hosea, Amos, and Micah* (NIVAC). Zondervan, 2001.
- D. W. Baker, T. D. Alexander, and B. K. Waltke. *Obadiah, Jonah, Micah* (TOTC). InterVarsity, 1988. Exegetical.
- T. E. McComiskey, "Micah" in *Expositor's Bible Commentary*. Zondervan, 1985. Exegetical.
- *Leslie C. Allen, *The Books of Joel, Obadiah, Jonah, and Micah* (NICOT). Eerdmans, 1976. Exegetical.
- R. L. Smith, *Micah - Malachi* (WBC). Word, 1984. Exegetical.
- *B. Waltke, "Micah" in *The Minor Prophets: An Exegetical and Expository Commentary*. Baker, 1993.

Nahum, Habbakuk, Zephaniah

- Walter C. Kaiser, *Micah - Malachi* (CC). Word, 1992. Devotional.
- D. W. Baker, *Nahum, Habakkuk and Zephaniah* (TOTC). InterVarsity, 1988. Exegetical.
- *O Palmer Robertson, *Nahum, Habbakuk, and Zephaniah* (NICOT). Eerdmans, 1990. Exegetical.
- R. L. Smith, *Micah - Malachi* (WBC). Word, 1984. Exegetical.
- *T. Longman III, "Nahum" in *The Minor Prophets: An Exegetical and Expository Commentary*.

Baker, 1993. Exegetical.

- *F. F. Bruce, "Habakkuk" in *The Minor Prophets: An Exegetical and Expository Commentary*. Baker, 1993. Exegetical.
- *J. Alec Motyer, "Zephaniah" in *The Minor Prophets: An Exegetical and Expository Commentary*, vol. 3. Baker, 1998. Exegetical.

Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi

- *Walter C. Kaiser, *Micah - Malachi* (CC). Word, 1992. Devotional.
- Joyce Baldwin, *Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi* (TOTC). InterVarsity, 1972. Expository.
- *Pieter A. Verhoef, *The Books of Haggai and Malachi* (NICOT). Eerdmans, 1987. Expository.
- R. L. Smith, *Micah - Malachi* (WBC). Word, 1984. Exegetical.
- *J. Alec Motyer, "Haggai," *The Minor Prophets: An Exegetical and Expository Commentary*, vol. 3. Baker, 1998. Exegetical.
- *T. E. McComiskey, "Zechariah," *The Minor Prophets: An Exegetical and Expository Commentary*, vol. 3. Baker, 1998. Exegetical.
- *Douglas Stuart, "Malachi," *The Minor Prophets: An Exegetical and Expository Commentary*, vol. 3. Baker, 1998. Exegetical.

New Testament Commentaries

Good commentaries make up the heart of a Bible reference library. They are to be used *after* you've prayed and worked through the text yourself, to help you catch important matters you overlooked or were unable to discern—all of which will help you better understand and apply Scripture. The following list identifies the very best up-to-date commentaries on each NT book, and they are identified as falling into one of three categories: *Devotional* (basic, readable and typically with practical application), *Expositional* (more academic and detailed, but no knowledge of Greek is needed), and *Exegetical* (in-depth and technical—interacting extensively with the Greek).

The commentaries are listed following this order of categories (in other words, the most basic commentary is listed first, and the most scholarly is listed last). There are certainly more than this for each NT book, but these are my recommendations (and I'll put an asterisk * by my favorite of each category):

Matthew

- Michael Green, *The Message of Matthew* (BST). InterVarsity, 2000. Devotional.
- Craig Keener, *Matthew* (IVPNTC). InterVarsity, 1997. Devotional.
- *Michael Wilkins, *Matthew* (NIVAC). Zondervan,

2004. Devotional-Expositional.

- *Craig Blomberg, *Matthew* (NAC). Broadman, 1992. Expository.
- D. A. Carson, "Matthew" in *Expositor's Bible Commentary*. Zondervan, 1984. Expository.
- Leon Morris, *The Gospel According to Matthew*. Eerdmans, 1992. Expository.
- Craig Keener, *A Commentary on the Gospel of Matthew*. Eerdmans, 1999. Expository.
- *Hagner, Donald. *Matthew 1-13, Matthew 14-28* (WBC). Word, 1993, 1995. Exegetical.

Mark

- Donald English, *The Message of Mark* (BST). InterVarsity, 1992. Devotional.
- *David E. Garland, *Mark* (NIVAC). Zondervan, 1996. Devotional.
- James A. Brooks, *Mark* (NAC). Broadman, 1991. Expository.
- *James R. Edwards, *The Gospel According to Mark* (PNTC). Eerdmans, 2002. Expository.
- William Lane, *The Gospel According to Mark* (NICNT). Eerdmans, 1974. Expository.
- Robert A. Guelich, *Mark 1-8:26* (WBC). Word, 1989. Exegetical.
- Craig A. Evans, *Mark 8:27-16:20* (WBC). Nelson, 2001. Exegetical.
- *R. T. France, *The Gospel of Mark* (NIGTC). Eerdmans, 2002. Exegetical.

Luke

- Michael Wilcock, *The Message of Luke* (BST). InterVarsity, 1984. Devotional.
- *Darrell Bock, *Luke* (NIVAC). Zondervan, 1996. Devotional.
- Leon Morris, *Luke*, Revised (TNTC). Eerdmans, 1983. Devotional - expositional.
- Robert H. Stein, *Luke* (NAC). Broadman, 1992. Expository.
- *Joel B. Green, *The Gospel of Luke* (NICNT). Eerdmans, 1997. Expository.
- *Darrell Bock, *Luke 1:11-9:50, Luke 9:51-24:53* (BEC). Baker, 1994, 1996. Exegetical.
- I. Howard Marshall, *Commentary on Luke* (NIGTC). Eerdmans, 1978. Exegetical.

John

- Bruce Milne, *The Message of John* (BST). InterVarsity, 1993. Devotional.
- *Gary Burge, *John* (NIVAC). Zondervan, 2000. Devotional.
- Colin Kruse, *John* (TNTC). Eerdmans, 2004. Expository.
- Leon Morris, *The Gospel According to John* (NICNT). Eerdmans, 1995. Expository.
- *D. A. Carson, *The Gospel According to John*. Eerdmans, 1991. Expository.
- George R. Beasley-Murray, *John*, 2nd Edition (WBC). Word, 1999. Exegetical.

Craig Keener, *The Gospel of John: A Commentar* (2 vols.). Hendrickson, 2003. Exegetical.

*Andreas Kostenberger, *John* (BEC). Baker, 2004. Exegetical.

Acts

Michael Green, *Thirty Years that Changed the World: The Book of Acts for Today*. Eerdmans, 2004. Devotional.

William J. Larkin, *Acts* (IVPNTC). InterVarsity, 1995. Devotional.

*John R. W. Stott, *The Message of Acts* (BST). InterVarsity, 1990. Devotional-Expositional.

I. Howard Marshall, *Acts* (TNTC). Eerdmans, 1980. Expositional.

Richard N. Longenecker, "Acts" in *Expositor's Bible Commentary*. Zondervan, 1981. Expositional.

F. F. Bruce, *The Book of Acts*, Revised (NICNT). Eerdmans, 1988. Expositional.

*Ben Witherington, III, *The Acts of the Apostles: A Socio-Rhetorical Commentary*. Eerdmans, 1998. Expositional.

F. F. Bruce, *The Acts of the Apostles: Greek Text with Introduction and Commentary*, Revised. Eerdmans, 1990. Exegetical.

*C. K. Barrett, *A Critical and Exegetical Commentary on the Acts of the Apostles* (ICC, rev.). T & T Clark, 1994-98. Exegetical.

Romans

Grant Osborne, *Romans* (IVPNTC). InterVarsity, 2004. Devotional.

*John R. W. Stott, *The Message of Romans* (BST). InterVarsity, 1995. Devotional.

Douglas J. Moo, *Romans* (NIVAC). Zondervan, 2000. Devotional.

Leon Morris, *The Epistle to the Romans* (PNTC). Eerdmans, 1988. Expositional.

Ben Witherington, III & Darlene Hyatt, *Paul's Letter to the Romans: A Socio-Rhetorical Commentary*. Eerdmans, 2004. Expositional.

*Douglas J. Moo, *Romans* (NICNT). Eerdmans, 1996. Expositional.

Thomas R. Schriener, *Romans* (BEC). Baker, 1998. Exegetical.

*C. E. B. Cranfield, *Romans* (ICC, 2 vols.). T & T Clark, 1975, 1979. Exegetical.

1 Corinthians

David Prior, *The Message of 1 Corinthians* (BST). InterVarsity, 1985. Devotional.

*Craig Blomberg, *1 Corinthians* (NIVAC). Zondervan, 1995. Devotional.

Leon Morris, *1 Corinthians*, Revised (TNTC). Eerdmans, 1983. Expositional.

Ben Witherington, III, *Conflict & Community in Corinth: A Socio-Rhetorical Commentary on 1 and 2 Corinthians*. Eerdmans, 1995. Expositional.

*Gordon D. Fee, *The First Epistle to the Corinthians* (NICNT). Eerdmans, 1987. Expositional.

David E. Garland, *1 Corinthians* (BEC). Baker, 2003. Exegetical.

*Anthony C. Thiselton, *The First Epistle to the Corinthians* (NIGTC). Eerdmans, 2000. Exegetical.

2 Corinthians

Paul Barnett, *The Message of 2 Corinthians* (BST). InterVarsity, 1988. Devotional.

*Linda Belleville, *2 Corinthians* (IVPNTC). InterVarsity, 1996. Devotional.

Scott J. Hafemann, *2 Corinthians* (NIVAC). Zondervan, 2000. Devotional.

Colin Kruse, *2 Corinthians* (TNTC). Eerdmans, 1987. Expositional.

Ben Witherington, III, *Conflict & Community in Corinth: A Socio-Rhetorical Commentary on 1 and 2 Corinthians*. Eerdmans, 1995. Expositional.

David E. Garland, *2 Corinthians* (NAC). Broadman, 1999. Expositional.

*Paul Barnett, *2 Corinthians* (NICNT). Eerdmans, 1997. Expositional.

Ralph P. Martin, *2 Corinthians* (WBC). Word, 1986. Exegetical.

*Murray J. Harris, *The Second Epistle to the Corinthians* (NIGTC). Eerdmans, 2005. Exegetical.

Galatians

John R. W. Stott, *The Message of Galatians* (BST). InterVarsity, 1968. Devotional.

*G. Walter Hansen, *Galatians* (IVP). InterVarsity, 1994. Devotional.

Scot McKnight, *Galatians* (NIVAC). Zondervan, 1995. Devotional.

R. Alan Cole, *Galatians* (TNTC). Eerdmans, 1989. Expositional.

Timothy George, *Galatians* (NAC). Broadman & Holman, 1994. Expositional.

*Ben Witherington, III, *Grace in Galatia: A Commentary on Paul's Letter to the Galatians*. Eerdmans, 1998. Expositional.

Ronald Y. K. Fung, *Galatians* (NICNT). Eerdmans, 1988. Expositional.

*Richard N. Longenecker, *Galatians* (WBC). Word, 1990. Exegetical.

F. F. Bruce, *Commentary on Galatians* (NIGTC). Eerdmans, 1982. Exegetical.

Ephesians

Walter Liefeld, *Ephesians* (IVPNTC). InterVarsity, 1997. Devotional.

*John R. W. Stott, *The Message of Ephesians* (BST). InterVarsity, 1979. Devotional.

Klyne Snodgrass, *Ephesians* (NIVAC). Zondervan, 1996. Devotional.

F. F. Bruce, *The Epistle to the Colossians, Philemon, and the Ephesians* (NICNT). Eerdmans, 1984. Exegetical.

*Peter T. O'Brien, *The Letter to the Ephesians* (PNTC). Eerdmans, 1999. Exegetical.

*Andrew T. Lincoln, *Ephesians* (WBC). Word, 1990. Exegetical.

Harold Hoehner, *Ephesians: An Exegetical Commentary*. Baker, 2002. Exegetical.

Philippians

J. Alec Motyer, *The Message of Philippians* (BST). InterVarsity, 1984. Devotional.

Gordon D. Fee, *Philippians* (IVPNTC). InterVarsity, 1999. Devotional.

*Frank Thielman, *Philippians* (NIVAC). Zondervan, 1995. Devotional.

F. F. Bruce, *Philippians* (NIBC). Hendrickson, 1983. Exegetical.

*Gordon D. Fee, *Paul's Letter to the Philippians* (NICNT). Eerdmans, 1995. Exegetical.

Moises Silva, *Philippians*, 2nd ed. (BEC). Baker, 2005. Exegetical.

Gerald F. Hawthorne, *Philippians* (WBC, rev. by R. P. Martin). Word, 2004. Exegetical.

*Peter T. O'Brien, *The Epistle to the Philippians* (NIGTC). Eerdmans, 1991. Exegetical.

Colossians, Philemon

R. C. Lucas, *The Message of Colossians and Philemon* (BST). InterVarsity, 1980. Devotional.

*David E. Garland, *Colossians* (NIVAC). Zondervan, 1998. Devotional.

*N. T. Wright, *Colossians* (TNTC). Eerdmans, 1986. Exegetical.

F. F. Bruce, *The Epistle to the Colossians, Philemon, and the Ephesians* (NICNT). Eerdmans, 1984. Exegetical.

*Peter T. O'Brien, *Colossians, Philemon* (WBC). Word, 1982. Exegetical.

James D. G. Dunn, *The Epistles to the Colossians and Philemon* (NIGTC). Eerdmans, 1996. Exegetical.

1 and 2 Thessalonians

John R. W. Stott, *The Message of 1 and 2 Thessalonians* (BST). InterVarsity, 1991. Devotional.

G. K. Beale, *1-2 Thessalonians* (IVPNTC). InterVarsity, 2003. Devotional.

*Michael W. Holmes, *1 & 2 Thessalonians* (NIVAC). Zondervan, 1998. Devotional.

*Leon Morris, *1 and 2 Thessalonians*, Revised (NICNT). Eerdmans, 1991. Exegetical.

Gene L. Green, *The Letters to the Thessalonians* (PNTC). Eerdmans, 2002. Exegetical.

F. F. Bruce, *1 and 2 Thessalonians* (WBC). Word, 1982. Exegetical.

*Charles A. Wanamaker, *The Epistles to the*

Thessalonians (NIGTC). Eerdmans, 1990. Exegetical.

1 and 2 Timothy, Titus (Pastorals)

Philip H. Towner, *1-2 Timothy & Titus* (IVPNTC). InterVarsity, 1994. Devotional.

*John R. W. Stott, *The Message of 1 Timothy and Titus* (BST). InterVarsity, 1997; *The Message of 2 Timothy* (BST). InterVarsity, 1973.

Walter L. Liefeld, *1 & 2 Timothy/Titus* (NIVAC). Zondervan, 1999. Devotional.

Donald Guthrie, *The Pastoral Epistles*, Revised (TNTC). Eerdmans, 1990. Exegetical.

*Gordon D. Fee, *1 and 2 Timothy, Titus* (NIBC). Hendrickson, 1988. Exegetical.

William D. Mounce, *Pastoral Epistles* (WBC). Nelson, 2000. Exegetical.

George W. Knight, III, *Commentary on the Pastoral Epistles* (NIGTC). Eerdmans, 1992. Exegetical.

*I. Howard Marshall, *The Pastoral Epistles* (ICC). T & T Clark, 1999. Exegetical.

Hebrews

Raymond Brown, *The Message of Hebrews* (BST). InterVarsity, 1982. Devotional.

William Lane, *Call to Commitment: Responding to the Message of Hebrews*. Hendrickson, 1988. Devotional.

*George H. Guthrie, *Hebrews* (NIVAC). Zondervan, 1998. Devotional.

Donald Hagner, Donald. *Hebrews* (NIBC). Hendrickson, 1990. Exegetical.

*F. F. Bruce, *The Book of Hebrews*, Revised (NICNT). Eerdmans, 1990. Exegetical.

D. A. deSilva, *Perseverance in Gratitude: A Socio-Rhetorical Commentary on the Epistle to the Hebrews*. Eerdmans, 2000. Exegetical.

*William Lane, *Hebrews 1-8, Hebrews 9-13* (WBC). Word, 1991. Exegetical.

Paul Ellingsworth, *Commentary on Hebrews* (NIGTC). Eerdmans, 1993. Exegetical.

James

J. Alec Motyer, *The Message of James* (BST). InterVarsity, 1985. Devotional.

*D. P. Nystrom, *James* (NIVAC). Zondervan, 1997. Devotional.

Peter H. Davids, *James* (NIBC). Hendrickson, 1989. Exegetical.

D. E. Hiebert, *The Epistle of James*. Moody, 1979. Exegetical.

*Douglas J. Moo, *The Letter of James* (PNTC). Eerdmans, 2000. Exegetical.

Ralph P. Martin, *James* (WBC). Word, 1988. Exegetical.

*Peter H. Davids, *Commentary on James* (NIGTC). Eerdmans, 1982. Exegetical.

1 Peter

- Edmond Clowney, *The Message of First Peter* (BST). InterVarsity, 1988. Devotional.
- *I. Howard Marshall, *1 Peter* (IVPNTC). InterVarsity, 1991. Devotional.
- Scot McKnight, *1 Peter* (NIVAC). Zondervan, 1996. Devotional.
- Wayne Grudem, *1 Peter* (TNTC). Eerdmans, 1988. Exegetical.
- Thomas Schreiner, *1, 2 Peter, Jude* (NAC). Broadman, 2003. Exegetical.
- *Peter H. Davids, *The First Epistle of Peter* (NICNT). Eerdmans, 1990. Exegetical.
- J. Ramsey Michaels, *1 Peter* (WBC). Word, 1988. Exegetical.
- *P. D. Achtemeier, *1 Peter* (Hermeneia). Fortress, 1996. Exegetical.

2 Peter, Jude

- Dick Lucas & Christopher Green. *The Message of 2 Peter and Jude* (BST). InterVarsity, 1995. Devotional.
- *Douglas J. Moo, *2 Peter, Jude* (NIVAC). Zondervan, 1996. Devotional.
- Michael Green, *2 Peter and Jude*, Revised (TNTC). Eerdmans, 1987. Exegetical.
- *Thomas Schreiner, *1, 2 Peter, Jude* (NAC). Broadman, 2003. Exegetical.
- *Richard Bauckham, *Jude, 2 Peter* (WBC). Word, 1983. Exegetical.

1, 2, 3 John

- David Jackman, *The Message of John's Letters* (BST). InterVarsity, 1988. Devotional.
- Marianne Meye Thompson, *1, 2, 3, John* (IVP). InterVarsity, 1992. Devotional.
- *Gary M. Burge, *The Letters of John* (NIVAC). Zondervan, 1996. Devotional.
- John R. W. Stott, *The Letters of John*, Revised (TNTC). Eerdmans, 1988. Exegetical.
- I. Howard Marshall, *The Epistles of John* (NICNT). Eerdmans, 1978. Exegetical.
- *Colin Kruse, *The Letters of John* (PNTC). Eerdmans, 2000. Exegetical.
- *Stephen S. Smalley, *1, 2, 3 John* (WBC). Word, 1984. Exegetical.

Revelation

- Michael Wilcock, *The Message of Revelation* (BST). InterVarsity, 1988. Devotional.
- J. Ramsey Michaels, *Revelation* (IVPNTC). InterVarsity, 1997. Devotional.
- *Craig S. Keener, *Revelation* (NIVAC). Zondervan, 2000. Devotional.
- G. R. Beasley-Murray, *The Book of Revelation*, Revised (NCB). Eerdmans, 1981. Exegetical.
- Phillip E. Hughes, *The Book of Revelation* (PNTC). Eerdmans, 1990. Exegetical.

- *Robert H. Mounce, *The Book of Revelation*, Revised (NICNT). Eerdmans, 1997. Exegetical.
- Ben Witherington, III, *Revelation* (NCBC). Cambridge, 2003. Exegetical.
- *Grant Osborne, *Revelation* (BEC). Baker, 2002. Exegetical.
- G. K. Beale, *The Book of Revelation* (NIGTC). Eerdmans, 1999. Exegetical.
- David E. Aune, *Revelation* (WBC, 3 volumes!). Nelson, 1998. Exegetical.

More Information on Resources

The basis for the above recommendations comes not only from personal use of many of these reference books, but also from reading book reviews in theological journals (esp. *Journal of the Evangelical Theological Society*, *Bibliotheca Sacra*, and *Themelios*). In addition, the following resources have been very helpful:

- Arnold, Clint. *Top Picks: Commentaries on the New Testament*. Talbot, 1999.
- Carson, D. A. *New Testament Commentary Survey*. 5th ed. Baker, 2003.
- Duvall, J. Scott, and J. Daniel Hays, *Grasping God's Word*. Zondervan, 2001.
- Fee, Gordon, and Douglas Stuart, *How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth*, 3rd ed. Zondervan, 2003.
- Fowler, David M. *The CBD Guide to Bible Reference Resources*. Prince Press, 1998.
- Glynn, John, *Commentary & Reference Survey*. Kregel, 2003.
- Guthrie, George H., and J. Scott Duvall. "Commentaries and Special Studies" in *Biblical Greek Exegesis*. Zondervan, 1998.
- Hagner, Donald. *New Testament Exegesis and Research: A Guide for Seminarians*. Fuller Seminary, 1993.
- Klein, W., C. Blomberg, and R. Hubbard. *Introduction to Biblical Interpretation*. Word, 1993 (Second Edition coming in 2005).
- Kohlenberger, John R., III. *Your Guide to Bible Reference Books and Software*. Zondervan, n.d. (an abridged version can be accessed for free at www.zondervan.com/reference).
- Longman, Tremper, III. *Old Testament Commentary Survey*. 3rd ed. Baker, 2004.
- Rosscup, James E. *Commentaries for Biblical Expositors*. Grace Book Shack, 1993.

Denver Seminary maintains an updated list of recommended resources for both the OT and NT (and more). Go to www.denverseminary.edu/dj.