

An Annotated Bibliography of Reference Works and Commentaries on the Greek New Testament

Prepared by Jon Weatherly, Cincinnati Bible College & Seminary, for Fall Semester, 2003.

This bibliography is aimed at introducing students in at least their second year of study of NT Greek to the range of resources available for NT exegesis. The commentary listing should also be useful to students of the NT in English. The bibliography focuses mostly on print media, with occasional nods to digital resources. For a guide to the New Testament on the web, see Mark Goodacre's wonderful New Testament Gateway (www.ntgateway.com).

Editions of the Greek New Testament

Most editions of the GNT differ only slightly in regard to which of the relatively minor variations among NT manuscripts that they follow. Each of the following are "modern critical texts," not the "Received Text" or *Textus Receptus* on which the KJV was based, a text assembled before the development of principles of textual criticism.

The Greek New Testament. K. Aland, B. Metzger, *et al.*, editors. 4th ed. New York: United Bible Societies, 1994. The current standard critical text of the GNT. The edition with the dictionary appended at the end is probably the easiest to use of current GNTs. Lists only the textual variants that affect translation but gives very full information about their support. [1]

New Testament in the Original Greek. B. F. Westcott and F. J. A. Hort, editors. New York: Macmillan, 1944. Westcott and Hort were eighteenth-century English scholars who led the development of NT textual criticism. This edition is no longer representative of the best-informed opinions about the text. [3]

Novum Testamentum Graece. E. Nestle, K. Aland, *et al.*, editors. 27th ed. Stuttgart: Deutsche Bibelgesellschaft, 1995. A text identical to the UBS 4th ed., but with a textual apparatus indicating more variants. [2]

Novum Testamentum Graece. C. Tischendorf, editor; 8th ed. Leipzig: Gieseke and Devrient, 1869-94. Long out of print but useful for its detailed textual apparatus. [3]

Lexicons

Alsop, John R. *An Index to the Revised Bauer-Arndt-Gingrich Greek Lexicon*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1981. Lists words in the GNT in the order in which they appear and gives the page number and section of the page from BAGD 2nd edition, where the word as it is used in that text is discussed. Speeds up the use of BAGD, but doesn't work with the BDAG (3rd edition). [2]

Bauer, Walter, Frederick W. Danker, William F. Arndt, and F. Wilbur Gingrich. *A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature*. 3rd ed. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2000. Common abbreviation: BDAG. The standard Greek-English lexicon of the GNT. This is the newest edition, easier to read and use than earlier editions, and updated with more effective definitions. [1]

Gingrich, F. Wilbur and Frederick W. Danker. *Shorter Lexicon of the Greek New Testament*. 2nd ed. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1983. Abridged edition of the second edition of the Bauer lexicon. Cheaper

LIBRARY BUILDING GUIDE

These numbers at the end of entries indicate recommendations on the value of each work for the typical personal library:

- [1] Among the most useful for personal study.
- [2] A helpful supplement to the most useful works.
- [3] Important for specialized research but less valuable for ordinary exegesis.
- [4] Widely circulated but now superseded by other works.

- Porter, Stanley E. *Verbal Aspect in the Greek New Testament: With Reference to Tense and Mood*. New York: Peter Lang, 1993. The prolific Porter's published doctoral dissertation, taking a provocative, even extreme, approach to the significance of tense and mood. [3]
- Robertson, A. T. *A Grammar of the Greek New Testament in the Light of Historical Research*. Nashville: Broadman, 1934. Famous for asserting that Koine Greek has eight cases instead of five. [3]
- Wallace, Daniel B. *Greek Grammar Beyond the Basics: An Exegetical Syntax of the New Testament*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1996. Intended as a textbook to be read, it's closer to a reference work, worth consulting on matters that appear to be controversial. [3]
- Young, Richard A. *Intermediate New Testament Greek: A Linguistic and Exegetical Approach*. Nashville: Broadman & Holman, 1994. More detail than Easley (see "Works on the Use of Greek in Interpretation" below) but with the same clear, practical approach. [1]
- Zerwick, Maximilian. *Biblical Greek*. Rome: Scripta Pontificii Instituti Biblici, 1963. Another intermediate grammar, worth consulting on controversial matters. [3]

Concordances

- Bachmann, H. and W. A. Slaby. *Komputerkonkordanz zum Novum Testamentum Graece*. Berlin: DeGruyter, 1980. A very thorough concordance based on the current critical text of the GNT. Cost rules this out as an easy purchase: buy Moulton or use concordance software *preferably based on the current critical edition of the GNT*. [2]
- Hatch, E. and H. A. Redpath. *A Concordance to the Septuagint*. 2 vols. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1983 (= 1906). A must for the thorough word study, available at a reasonable cost. [2]
- Kraft, Henricus. *Clavis Patrum Apostolicorum: Catalogum Vocum in Libris Patrum qui Dicuntur Apostolici non raro Occurrentium*. Munich: Kösel, 1963. Concordance of the Apostolic Fathers, useful for thorough word studies. [3]
- Kohlenberger III, John R. *The Greek-English Concordance of the New Testament*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1993. Based on the UBS GNT and gives the cuttings of the text in English, so more usable than most rivals. [1]
- Mayer, Gunter. *Index Philoneus*. New York: De Gruyter, 1974. Concordance to Philo of Alexandria, first-century Jewish writer. [3]
- Moulton, W. F., A. S. Geden, H. K. Moulton, and I. Howard Marshall. *A Concordance to the Greek Testament*. 6th ed. Edinburgh: Clark, 2002. Originally based on the Westcott and Hort GNT, this latest printed concordance to the GNT has been completely revised to conform to UBS 4 and NA 27. Less expensive than other printed concordances, but the cuttings are in Greek. [2]
- Rengstorff, K. H. and A. Schalit. *A Complete Concordance to Flavius Josephus*. 4 vols. Leiden: Brill, 1973. Useful for advanced word studies or historical studies. [3]
- Wahl, C. A. *Clavis Librorum Veteris Testamenti Apocryphorum Philologica*. Graz, Austria: Akademische Druck- und Verlagsanstalt, 1972. Concordance to the apocrypha (mostly included in Hatch and Redpath also). [3]
- Wigram, George V. *The Englishman's Greek Concordance*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1979. Like Kohlenberger but less current and accurate. [4]

Note also the widely marketed programs that generate concordances of words or phrases in the GNT (Logos Library, BibleWorks), the TLG program that generates concordances of Greek words from about 80% of extant ancient Greek literature, the Perseus web site that allows searches for Greek words in a decent range of literature (<http://www.perseus.tufts.edu/cgi-bin/vor?lang=greek>) and the GRAMCORD program (ACCORDANCE for Mac, some limited capability also on BibleWorks) that generates concordances of the GNT based on combinations of grammatical features. When evaluating concurring software, note the edition of the GNT on which the program is based and remember that cheap systems based on the KJV and Strong's numbers only let the user see through a glass darkly. As with other matters, one gets what one pays for with concurring software.

Theological Dictionaries

Balz, Horst and Gerhard Schneider, edd. *Exegetical Dictionary of the New Testament*. 3 vols. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1990-93. The most recent of these, focusing especially on the use of words in particular texts. Beware the assumptions of German critical scholarship. [2]

Brown, Colin, ed. *The New International Dictionary of New Testament Theology*. 4 vols. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1975-79. Useful for studying the background and usage of theologically significant words in the GNT. Note also the useful appendix on theologically significant prepositions. [1]

Kittel, G. and G. Friedrich, edd. *Theological Dictionary of the New Testament*. 10 vols. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1933-1976. TMI ("too much information") for most uses, and flawed especially in the early volumes by critical and theological agendas, but still the most thorough source for information about words in the GNT. Also available in an abridged one-volume edition. [3]

Works on the New Testament Text and Textual Criticism

Aland, Kurt and Barbara Aland. *The Text of the New Testament: An Introduction to the Theory and Practice of Modern Textual Criticism*. ET; 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1989. Standard introduction to the subject. [2]

Epp, Eldon Jay and Gordon D. Fee, edd. *New Testament Textual Criticism: Its Significance for Exegesis. Essays in Honour of Bruce M. Metzger*. New York: Oxford U.P., 1980. A collection of specialized essays on textual criticism. [3]

Metzger, Bruce M. *A Textual Commentary on the Greek New Testament*. New York: United Bible Societies, 1975. Discusses the variants cited in the UBS GNT, laying out the issues and explaining the editors' conclusions. The quickest way to get a thorough explanation of any major variant in the NT. [1]

_____. *The Early Versions of the New Testament: Their Origin, Transmission and Limitations*. Oxford: Clarendon, 1977. A discussion of early translations and their significance for reconstructing the original NT text. [3]

_____. *The Text of the New Testament: Its Transmission, Corruption, and Restoration*. 3rd ed. New York: Oxford University Press, 1992. Similar to Aland and Aland. [2]

Vaganay, Léon and Christian-Bernard Amphoux. *An Introduction to New Testament Textual Criticism*. ET. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1992. Similar to Aland and Aland. [2]

Tools, Aids, Crutches and Cheaters

The outstanding electronic crutch is BibleWorks, which enables the user to point and parse/define. If the following print works are addictive like cocaine, then BibleWorks is crack cocaine.

- Brown, Robert K. and Philip W. Comfort, trans.; J. D. Douglas, ed. *The New Greek-English Interlinear New Testament*. Wheaton: Tyndale, 1990. Like a narcotic: useful in certain situations, but dangerously habit forming and potentially destructive. Use an interlinear *only when you're utterly stuck*. This is the only one based on the same text as the UBS 4th ed. of the GNT. [2]
- Carson, D. A. *Greek Accents: A Student's Manual*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1985. An introduction to accents for those who never learned them, especially useful to those who have learned or are learning Greek though J. W. Wenham's *Elements*. [3]
- Friberg, Barbara and Timothy Friberg. *Analytical Greek New Testament*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1981. Identifies all the grammatical characteristics of every word of the GNT in the order of appearance. Use it *only when you're utterly stuck*. [2]
- Han, Nathan. *A Parsing Guide to the Greek New Testament*. Scottsdale, PA: Herald Press, 1971. Lists all the verbs in the GNT in order of appearance and parses them. Use it *only when you're utterly stuck*. [2]
- Kubo, Sakae. *A Reader's Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1975. Words that appear infrequently in the GNT are listed in their order of appearance in the text with a definition. Frequently occurring words are listed alphabetically. Useful for "rapid" reading. [3]
- MacDonald, William G. *Greek Enchiridion: A Concise Handbook of Grammar for Translation and Exegesis*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1987. A useful set of charts and paradigms to keep at hand for reference and review. [2]
- Marshall, Alfred, ed. *The Zondervan Parallel New Testament in Greek and English*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1975. Another interlinear, based on an earlier critical edition of the GNT. [4]
- Mounce, William D. *Analytical Lexicon to the Greek New Testament*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1993. Lists all inflected forms in the GNT, parses them and gives first form. Use it *only when you are totally stuck*. [2]
- Pershbacher, Wesley J., ed. *The New Analytical Greek Lexicon*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1989. Similar to Mounce. [2]
- Rienecker, Fritz. *A Linguistic Key to the Greek New Testament*. 2 vols. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1976. Like the Cliff Notes to the GNT: the editor explains elements of the text that he expects students to cause students trouble. [2]
- Trenchard, Warren C. *The Student's Complete Vocabulary Guide to the Greek New Testament*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1992. Lists words from the GNT in order of frequency of usage, and connects related words. Very useful for those who want to improve their reading speed by learning vocabulary systematically. [3]
- Van Voorst, Robert E. *Building Your New Testament Greek Vocabulary*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1990. Similar to Trenchard. [3]
- Zerwick, Max and Mary Grosvenor. *A Grammatical Analysis New Testament*. 2 vols. Rome: Biblical Institute Press, 1974. Similar to Rienecker. [2]

At the time that this bibliography was assembled, a completely parsed and lemmatized text of the GNT was available at <http://www-users.cs.york.ac.uk/~fisher/gnt/>.

Works on the Use of Greek in Interpretation

Barr, James. *The Semantics of Biblical Language*. London: SCM, 1983 (= 1961). Pointed out some of the common mistakes in the study of Hebrew and Greek words. Often referred to in current discussion. [3]

Black, David Alan, ed. *Linguistics and New Testament Interpretation: Essays on Discourse Analysis*. Nashville: Broadman, 1992. A semi-specialized study of discourse analysis, a way of describing how the elements of a text function together to convey meaning. [3]

_____. *Linguistics for Students of New Testament Greek*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1988. A survey of general linguistics for the exegete. [2]

Cotterell, Peter and Max Turner. *Linguistics and Biblical Interpretation*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1989. An incisive and readable discussion of general linguistics. A stimulating follow-up to a second-year Greek course. [1]

Easley, Kendell H. *User-Friendly Greek: A Common Sense Approach to the Greek New Testament*. Nashville: Broadman, 1995. Actually delivers what the title offers: a readable and practical discussion of Greek grammar with suggestions on methods for analyzing texts in preparation for teaching and preaching. [1]

Fee, Gordon D. *New Testament Exegesis: A Handbook for Students and Pastors*. Rev. ed. Philadelphia: Westminster, 1993. The closest thing to a cookbook on interpreting the NT, including discussion of how the language fits in. [1]

Kaiser, Walter C. *Toward an Exegetical Theology: Biblical Exegesis for Preaching and Teaching*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1981. Suggestions on moving from a grammatical diagram to a sermon or lesson. [2]

Louw, Johannes P. *Semantics of New Testament Greek*. Philadelphia: Fortress, 1982. Rather technical and demanding discussion of lexical semantics, i.e. how words convey meaning, as it affects the study of the NT. [3]

Silva, Moisés. *Biblical Words and Their Meaning: An Introduction to Lexical Semantics*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1983. Readable discussion of lexical semantics. [2]

_____. *God, Language and Scripture: Reading the Bible in Light of General Linguistics*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1990. Similar to Cotterell and Turner. [2]

Stagg, Frank. "The Abused Aorist," *Journal of Biblical Literature* 91 (1972) 222-31. Famous article pointing out the many ways that the fallacy of "one-time action" for the aorist has been put to use in NT exegesis. [3]

Thiselton, Anthony C. "Semantics and New Testament Interpretation." In I. H. Marshall, editor, *New Testament Interpretation*, 75-104. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1977. Brief, incisive discussion of lexical semantics. [1]

Windham, Neal. *New Testament Greek for Preachers and Teachers: Five Areas of Application*. Lanham, MD: University Press of America, 1991. Highly readable and practical guide to putting your Greek knowledge to God-honoring use, including a discussion of textual criticism, forms, word study, sentence structure, and discourse analysis. [1]

Commentaries on Matthew

Blomberg, Craig. *Matthew*. New American Commentary 22. Nashville: Broadman, 1992. Readable and insightful. [1]

Carson, D. A. *Matthew*. EBC. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1984. Thorough and conservative. [2]

Davies, W. D. and Dale C. Allison, Jr. *A Critical and Exegetical Commentary on the Gospel According to Saint Matthew*. ICC; 3 vols. Edinburgh: Clark, 1988. The most thorough commentary on the Greek text of Matthew, not conservative. [2]

France, R. T. *The Gospel According to Matthew*. TNTC. Leicester: Inter-Varsity, 1985. Highly readable. [2]

Hagner, Donald. *Matthew*. WBC 33; 2 vols. Dallas: Word, 1994. Thorough, on the Greek text, from an evangelical. [2]

Keener, Craig S. *A Commentary on the Gospel of Matthew*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1999. Thorough, including thoughtful insights on the social and literary world of the first century and Matthew's interaction with it, at points idiosyncratic. [2]

Commentaries on Mark

Cranfield, C. E. B. *The Gospel According to St. Mark*. Cambridge Greek Testament Commentary. Cambridge: C.U.P., 1963. Competent but dated discussion of the Greek text. [2]

Evans, Craig A. *Mark 8:27–16:20*. WBC 34B. Nashville: Nelson, 2001. Completes what Robert Guelich's untimely death interrupted, to be followed by Evans's treatment of the first half of Mark. Thoroughly informed in all areas of Gospels scholarship. [2]

France, R. T. *The Gospel of Mark: A Commentary on the Greek Text*. NIGTC. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2002. Thorough, careful, balanced, clear, informed and up to date, this is a model commentary, most useful for readers of the Greek text but still mostly accessible for readers of translations. [1]

Guelich, Robert A. *Mark 1-8:26*. WBC 34A. Dallas: Word, 1989. Thorough but not terribly readable discussion of the Greek text of half of Mark. [2]

Gundry, Robert H. *Mark: A Commentary on His Apology for the Cross*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1993. Thorough, over-long but stimulating discussion of the Greek text. [2]

Hurtado, Larry W. *Mark*. New International Biblical Commentary. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1983. Concise and readable, insightful. [1]

Lane, W. L. *The Gospel According to Mark*. NICNT. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1974. Competent comments from an evangelical, needs updating. [2]

Taylor, Vincent. *The Gospel According to St. Mark*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1981 (reprint of 1966 ed.). Classic commentary on the Greek text. [2]

Witherington, Ben. *The Gospel of Mark: A Socio-Rhetorical Commentary*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2001. Informed comments emphasizing the text's effect on readers in its original social context. [2]

Commentaries on Luke

Bock, Darrell L. *Luke*. Baker Exegetical Commentary; 2 vols. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1994. Highly thorough and conservative discussion of the Greek text, though over-long. [2]

Fitzmyer, Joseph A. *The Gospel According to Luke*. AB 28; 2 vols. Garden City, NY: Doubleday, 1981, 1985. A scholarly standard. [2]

Green, Joel. *The Gospel of Luke*. NICNT. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1997. Thorough discussion of Luke as a continuous narrative. [2]

Marshall, I. Howard. *The Gospel of Luke*. NIGTC. Exeter: Paternoster, 1978. Conservative interaction with critical views on the Greek text. [2]

Morris, Leon. *The Gospel According to St. Luke*. TNTC. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1974. Concise and readable. [2]

Nolland, John. *Luke*. WBC 35; 3 vols. Dallas: Word, 1989-93. Thorough and insightful on the Greek text but overly detailed and repetitive. [2]

Plummer, Alfred. *A Critical and Exegetical Commentary on the Gospel According to S. Luke*. ICC. Edinburgh: Clark, 1896. Classic commentary on the Greek text. [3]

Stein, Robert H. *Luke*. New American Commentary 24. Nashville: Broadman, 1992. Readable and concise with excellent insights. [1]

Commentaries on John

Beasley-Murray, G. R. *John*. WBC 36. Waco, TX: Word, 1987. Conservative interaction with critical views on the Greek text by an evangelical. [2]

Barrett, C. K. *The Gospel According to St. John*. 2nd ed. Philadelphia: Westminster, 1978. Not conservative, but containing keen insights into the theology of the Greek text. [2]

Brown, Raymond F. *The Gospel According to John*. AB 29. Garden City, NY: Doubleday, 1966-70. A scholarly standard. [2]

Carson, D. A. *The Gospel According to John*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1991. Most recent evangelical commentary on the Greek text. [1]

Morris, Leon. *The Gospel According to John*. NICNT. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1971. Thorough and conservative. [2]

Commentaries on Acts

Barrett, C. K. *A Critical and Exegetical Commentary on the Acts of the Apostles*. ICC; 2 vols. Edinburgh: Clark, 1994-98. The most thorough, current commentary on the Greek text of Acts. Not conservative but always careful. [2]

Bruce, F. F. *The Acts of the Apostles. The Greek Text with Introduction and Commentary*. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1988. Classic commentary on the Greek text, not helpful for what most people read commentaries for. [3]

_____. *Commentary on the Book of the Acts*. NICNT; 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1988. Bruce's more useful contribution, dealing more with the significance of the text. [2]

Dunn, James D. G. *The Acts of the Apostles*. Narrative Commentaries. Valley Forge, PA: Trinity Press International, 1996. A readable commentary, stimulating but idiosyncratic. [2]

Fitzmyer, Joseph A. *The Acts of the Apostles*. AB 31. New York: Doubleday, 1998. A thorough, thoughtful, careful, but not always conservative work from the leading American Roman Catholic NT scholar. [2]

Foakes-Jackson, F. J. and Kirsopp Lake, edd. *The Beginnings of Christianity. Part I: The Acts of the Apostles*. 5 vols. London: Macmillan, 1933. Highly detailed specialized studies from an earlier generation, important for thorough research. [3]

Gaertner, Dennis. *Acts*. The College Press NIV Commentary. Joplin, MO: College Press, 1993. Readable comments from the Restoration Movement. [3]

Haenchen, Ernst. *The Acts of the Apostles. A Commentary*. Oxford: Blackwell; Philadelphia: Westminster, 1971. The standard critical commentary of the previous generation. [4]

Johnson, Luke Timothy. *The Acts of the Apostles*. Sacra Pagina 5. Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press, 1992. Good insights into the theology of the book and the structure of the story. [2]

Longenecker, Richard N. *The Acts of the Apostles*. EBC. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1995. Conservative, readable, insightful. [1]

Marshall, I. Howard. *The Acts of the Apostles*. TNTC. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1980. Similar to Longenecker. [1]

McGarvey, J. W. *New Commentary on Acts of Apostles*. Cincinnati: Standard, 1892. The commentary that has most influenced the Restoration Movement. [4]

Polhill, John. *Acts*. The New American Commentary. Nashville: Broadman, 1991. Balanced between readability and thoroughness. [2]

Reese, Gareth L. *New Testament History: A Critical and Exegetical Commentary on the Book of Acts*. Joplin, MO: College Press, 1976. Large compendium of material from other works. Includes the best comments from McGarvey and helpful theological and historical excursuses. [4]

Stott, John R. W. *The Message of Acts: The Spirit, the Church and the World*. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press, 1994. Focuses on the relevance of Acts to modern Christians. [2]

Witherington, Ben, III. *The Acts of the Apostles: A Socio-Rhetorical Commentary*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998. Good discussion of historical matters but extremely verbose. [2]

Commentaries on Romans

Cottrell, Jack. *Romans*. College Press NIV Commentary; 2 vols. Joplin, MO: College Press, 1996-98. Emphasis on the theological significance of the text from one of our own. [2]

Cranfield, C. E. B. *A Critical and Exegetical Commentary on the Epistle to the Romans*. ICC; 2 vols. Edinburgh: Clark, 1975-79. Thorough discussion of the Greek text. [2]

Dunn, J. D. G. *Romans*. WBC; 2 vols. Waco: Word, 1988. Thorough discussion of the Greek text with consideration for the most recent research on Paul plus Dunn's own idiosyncratic views. [2]

Fitzmyer, Joseph A. *Romans*. AB 33. New York: Doubleday, 1993. Thorough discussion of the Greek text. [2]

Johnson, Luke Timothy. *Reading Romans: A Literary and Theological Commentary*. Macon, GA: Smyth & Helwys, 2001. A treatment informed by the "new perspective" on Paul but not excessively trendy. [2]

Moo, Douglas. *The Epistles to the Romans*. NICNT. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1996. Thorough discussion from an evangelical with a traditional view of Paul's theology. [1]

Morris, Leon. *The Epistle to the Romans*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1989. Concise and readable. [2]

Commentaries on 1 Corinthians

Barrett, C. K. *A Commentary on the First Epistle to the Corinthians*. HNTC. New York: Harper & Row, 1968. Careful commentary with good insights though assuming many skeptical critical conclusions. [2]

Bruce, F. F. *First and Second Corinthians*. NCB. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1971. Concise, clear and conservative. [2]

Fee, Gordon D. *The First Epistle to the Corinthians*. NICNT. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1987. The most thorough commentary currently available, conservative, sympathetic to Pentecostal interests and expansion of women's ministry. [1]

Robertson, A. T. and Alfred Plummer. *A Critical and Exegetical Commentary on the First Epistle of Paul to the Corinthians*. ICC. Edinburgh: Clark, 1975 (= 1911). The classic commentary on the Greek text. [2]

Commentaries on 2 Corinthians

Baker, William R. *2 Corinthians*. College Press NIV Commentary. Joplin, MO: College Press, 1999. Informed, readable comments from one of our own. [2]

Barrett, C. K. *A Commentary on the Second Epistle to the Corinthians*. HNTC. New York: Harper, 1973. Similar to Barrett's commentary on 1 Corinthians. [2]

Harris, M. J. *2 Corinthians*. EBC. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1976. Conservative and stimulating. [1]

Martin, Ralph T. *2 Corinthians*. WBC. Waco: Word, 1986. Thorough, informed commentary on the Greek text. [2]

Plummer, Alfred. *A Critical and Exegetical Commentary on the Second Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians*. ICC. Edinburgh: Clark, 1915. Classic commentary on the Greek text. [2]

Thrall, Margaret. *A Critical and Exegetical Commentary on the Second Epistle to the Corinthians*. ICC. A thorough and scholarly treatment of the Greek text, updating Plummer. [2]

Commentaries on Galatians

Bruce, F. F. *A Commentary on Paul's Epistle to the Galatians*. NIGTC. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1982. Probably Bruce's best commentary: clear and thorough on the Greek text. [1]

Burton, E. DeWitt. *A Critical and Exegetical Commentary on the Epistle to the Galatians*. ICC. Edinburgh: Clark, 1920. Classic commentary on the Greek text. [2]

Dunn, James D. G. *The Epistle to the Galatians*. BNTC. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1993. Informed and readable comments taking the "new" Paul into account. [2]

Lightfoot, J. B. *St. Paul's Epistle to the Galatians*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1971 (= 1896). An enduring classic by the all-time greatest NT commentator in English. [2]

Longenecker, Richard N. *Galatians*. WBC. Dallas: Word, 1990. Rivals Bruce in all characteristics. [1]

Commentaries on Ephesians

Barth, Markus. *Ephesians*. AB; 2 vols. Garden City, NY: Doubleday, 1974. The most thorough work on Ephesians to date, stimulating but idiosyncratic on many points. [2]

Best, Ernest. *Ephesians*. ICC. Edinburgh: Clark, 1998. Thorough and informed comments on the Greek text, deliberately leaving the question of authorship open. [2]

Bruce, F. F. *The Epistles to the Colossians, to Philemon, and to the Ephesians*. NICNT. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1984. Informed and thoughtful if not always stimulating. [2]

Hoehner, Harold W. *Ephesians: An Exegetical Commentary*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 2002. At 930 pages, certainly the most thorough commentary on this letter. [3]

Lincoln, Andrew. *Ephesians*. WBC. Waco, TX: Word, 1990. Thorough on the Greek text like all Word commentaries, but rejection of Paul's authorship distorts some conclusions. [2]

Moule, H. C. G. *The Epistle to the Ephesians*. CGTC. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1899. Classic commentary on the Greek text. [2]

O'Brien, Peter T. *The Letter to the Ephesians*. Pillar New Testament Commentary. Careful, balanced and informed. [1]

Commentaries on Philippians

Fee, Gordon D. *Paul's Letter to the Philippians*. New International Commentary on the New Testament. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1995. Thorough, careful and up-to-date. [1]

Hawthorne, Gerald. *Philippians*. WBC. Waco, TX: Word, 1983. Thorough and conservative on the Greek text. [2]

Lightfoot, J. B. *St. Paul's Epistle to the Philippians*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1953 (= 1913). Classic commentary by one of the greatest English-speaking NT scholars of all time. [2]

Martin, Ralph P. *Philippians*. Rev. ed.; NCB. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1980. Clear and informed. [2]

O'Brien, Peter, T. *Commentary on Philippians*. NIGTC. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1991. Thorough and insightful comments on the Greek text. [1]

Silva, Moisés. *Philippians*. Baker Exegetical Commentary. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1993. Sound comments on the Greek text. [2]

Commentaries on Colossians and Philemon

- Barth, Markus and Helmut Blanke. *The Letter to Philemon: A New Translation with Notes and Commentary*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2000. With over 500 pages devoted to a letter that was probably written on a single sheet of papyrus, this work will be consulted by all who want the most thorough treatment of Philemon and avoided by the rest of us. [3]
- Bruce, F. F. *The Epistles to the Colossians, to Philemon, and to the Ephesians*. NIC. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1984. See comments under “Commentaries on Ephesians.” [2]
- Fitzmyer, Joseph A. *The Letter to Philemon*. AB 34C. New York: Doubleday, 2000. Thorough treatment of this one-page letter. [2]
- Lightfoot, J. B. *St. Paul's Epistles to the Colossians and to Philemon*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1959 (= 1879). Classic comments by one of the greatest. [2]
- Martin, Ralph P. *Colossians and Philemon*. NCB. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1981. Informed and clear. [2]
- O'Brien, Peter T. *Colossians, Philemon*. WBC. Waco, TX: Word, 1982. Thorough and insightful on the Greek text. [1]
- Wright, N. T. *The Epistles of Paul to the Colossians and to Philemon*. TNTC. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1988. Exceptionally clear and insightful. [1]

Commentaries on 1–2 Thessalonians

- Bruce, F. F. *1 and 2 Thessalonians*. WBC 45. Waco, TX: Word, 1982. Rather fragmented in presentation, this commentary is not Bruce's best but still reflects considerable learning and mature reflection. [3]
- Green, Gene L. *The Letters to the Thessalonians*. Pillar New Testament Commentary. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2002. Very thorough treatment of Thessalonica as the setting of the letters, consistently close examination of the significance of Greek words in the letters. [2]
- Malherbe, Abraham. *The Letters to the Thessalonians*. AB 32B. New York: Doubleday, 2000. The *magnum opus* of one of the leading scholars of Paul in his Greco-Roman social setting, this commentary is remarkably readable for so thorough and learned a work. [1]
- Marshall, I. Howard. *1 and 2 Thessalonians*. NCB. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1983. Clearly written comments with balanced, informed conclusions. [2]
- Morris, Leon. *1 and 2 Thessalonians*. TNTC; Rev. ed. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1984. Like the one below, only shorter and cheaper. [2]
- _____. *The First and Second Epistles to the Thessalonians*. NTCNT; Rev. ed. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1991. Morris has to be the writer of the clearest exegetical commentaries on the NT in the twentieth century. Informed, responsible comments expressed in crisp sentences.
- Wanamaker, Charles A. *The Epistles to the Thessalonians: A Commentary on the Greek Text*. NIGTC. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1990. Best available commentary on the Greek text of the epistles, advocating the unusual notion that 2 Thessalonians was written first. [2]
- Weatherly, Jon A. *1 & 2 Thessalonians*. College Press NIV Commentary. Joplin, MO: College Press, 1996. Modesty forbids further remarks. [2]

Commentaries on 1-2 Timothy and Titus

- Fee, Gordon. *1 and 2 Timothy and Titus*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1984. Balanced and insightful. [1]
- Guthrie, Donald. *The Pastoral Epistles: An Introduction and Commentary*. TNTC; 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1990. Informed, conservative, clear. [2]
- Johnson, Luke Timothy. *The First and Second Letters to Timothy*. AB 35A. New York: Doubleday, 2001. Who would have expected that the Anchor Bible would include a commentary on these letters that

- argues for Paul's authorship? Johnson reads with a keen eye to the setting of the letters and to their contemporary relevance. [1]
- Kelly, J. N. C. *A Commentary on the Pastoral Epistles*. HNTC. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1981 (= 1963). Older but still useful. [2]
- Knight, George W., III. *Commentary on the Pastoral Epistles*. NIGTC. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1993. Thorough and thoroughly conservative on the Greek text. [2]
- Marshall, I. Howard. *1 and 2 Timothy and Titus*. ICC. Edinburgh: Clark, 1999. The most thorough and up-to-date on the Greek text, expressing doubt about authorship but noting the literary and thematic unity of the letters. [2]

Commentaries on Hebrews

- Bruce, F. F. *The Epistle to the Hebrews*. NICNT; Rev ed. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1990. Competent but not stimulating. [2]
- Ellingworth, Paul. *The Epistle to the Hebrews*. NIGTC. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1993. Thorough and insightful on the Greek text. [1]
- Guthrie, Donald. *The Letter to the Hebrews*. TNTC. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1983. The best short commentary on the book. [2]
- Hagner, Donald A. *Hebrews*. BNTC. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1990. Informed commentary of medium length. [2]
- Lane, William L. *Hebrews*. WBC 47. Dallas: Word, 1991. Similar to Ellingworth in scope. [2]

Commentaries on James

- Davids, Peter H. *The Epistle of James*. NIGTC. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1982. Thorough and insightful comments on the Greek text. [1]
- Laws, Sophie. *The Epistle of James*. BNTC. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1993 (= 1980). Competent medium-length commentary.
- Martin, Ralph P. *James*. WBC. Waco, TX: Word, 1988. Similar to Davids in scope, updates his discussion. [2]
- Moo, Douglas J. *The Letter of James*. TNTC. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1985. The best short commentary. [2]
- Wall, Robert W. *Community of the Wise: The Letter of James*. Valley Forge, PA: Trinity Press International, 1997. Stimulating comments based on a helpful theological integration of the letter, though perhaps pressing some matters. [2]

Commentaries on 1 Peter

- Davids, Peter H. *The First Epistle of Peter*. NICNT. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1990. Readable and thoughtful comments. [1]
- Goppelt, Leonhard. *A Commentary on 1 Peter*. ET. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1993. An example of the best German scholarship of this century, now somewhat out of date. [2]
- Marshall, I. Howard. *1 Peter*. IVP NT Commentaries. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity, 1991. Clear, informed and relevant. [2]
- Michaels, J. Ramsey. *1 Peter*. WBC 49. Waco, TX: Word, 1988. The most thorough recent commentary on the Greek text. [2]

Commentaries on 2 Peter and Jude

- Bauckham, Richard J. *Jude, 2 Peter*. WBC 50. Waco, TX: Word, 1983. Thorough and stimulating, argues against Petrine authorship of 2 Peter. [2]

Green, Michael. *2 Peter and Jude*. TNTC. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1987. Most recent commentary defending Petrine authorship, responds to the best of Bauckham. [1]

Kelly, J. N. D. *A Commentary on the Epistles of Peter and of Jude*. BNTC. New York: Harper and Row, 1969. The best of the older commentaries, accepts traditional authorship. [2]

Neyrey, Jerome. *2 Peter, Jude*. AB 37C. New York: Doubleday, 1993. Thorough recent comments, updating Bauckham, not conservative. [2]

Commentaries on 1-3 John

Brown, Raymond E. *The Epistles of John*. AB 30. Garden City: Doubleday, 1982. Thorough but highly speculative. [2]

Kruse, Colin G. *The Letters of John*. Pillar NT Commentary. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2000. Informed, balanced comments with concern for contemporary theological application. [1]

Marshall, I. H. *The Epistles of John*. NICNT. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1978. Thorough and clear. [2]

Smalley, Stephen. *1, 2, 3 John*. WBC 51. Waco, TX: Word, 1984. On the Greek text, uneven in value. [2]

Stott, John R. W. *The Epistles of John*. TNTC. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1978. Clear and concise. [2]

Commentaries on Revelation

Aune, David. *Revelation*. WBC. 3 vols. Dallas: Word, 1997-98. Thoroughly discusses the text against its literary background, though too detailed for many readers. [2]

Bauckham, Richard J. *The Theology of the Book of Revelation*. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1993. Not a commentary but a stimulating guide to understanding the book. [2]

Beale, G. K. *The Book of Revelation: A Commentary on the Greek Text*. NIGTC. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998. Thorough like Aune, with a comparable focus. Detailed argument may make it difficult for many readers to extract the point, but it's there to be found. [2]

Beasley-Murray, G. R. *The Book of Revelation*. NCB. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1978. Helpful on the relevance of non-canonical literature for understanding the book. [2]

Caird, G. B. *A Commentary on the Revelation of St. John the Divine*. HNTC. New York: Harper & Row, 1966. Sagacious and insightful. [2]

Friskney, Tom. *Strength for Victory: A Drama in Four Acts. A Commentary on the Book of Revelation*. Published by the Author, 1986. Expresses the author's insightful and stimulating approach. [2]

Hendricksen, William. *More Than Conquerors: An Interpretation of the Book of Revelation*. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1939. Advocates the notion that the visions of Revelation are cyclical, expressing the same themes repeatedly. [2]

Ladd, George E. *A Commentary on the Revelation of John*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1972. Classic evangelical commentary, trying to bridge critical scholarship with premillennial theology. [2]

Lindsay, Hal. *Apocalypse Code*. Palos Verdes, CA: Western Front Ltd., 1997. Fine example of how to get rich and how not to interpret Revelation. A book best left behind. [4]

Metzger, Bruce M. *Breaking the Code: Understanding the Book of Revelation*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1993. A brief and stimulating though frustratingly incomplete discussion. [2]

Morris, Leon. *The Revelation of St. John*. TNTC; 2nd ed. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1987. Clear, concise, informed comments. [2]

Mounce, R. H. *The Book of Revelation*. NICNT. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1977. Thorough, informed comments. [2]

