

The Home Bible Study Library

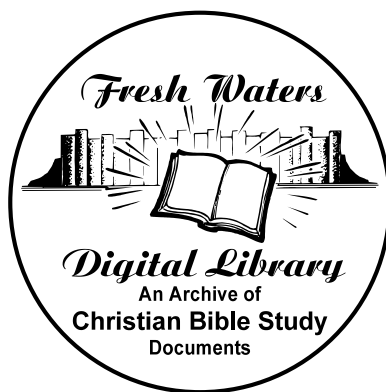
The Bible Student's Practical Library

(Where to find good Books for Bible Study)



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**“...when thou comest, bring with thee...the books,
but especially the parchments. (2 Tim. 4:13)**

Psalms 107:2 – ☪ – Romans 12:1-2
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There is a need that the student have resources to learn the elements needed. To provide this need I offer this article to described material that will supplement the Study Notes. It is expected that the student will have personal study material that could including following recommended books are. This is not an extensive list of available books. These volumes are just some good books found on my personal library shelves. A small library for Bible study will net big gains in the work of the Gospel.

The use of books is a constant occupation for “most” pastors and preachers and Bible students. The man who thinks he can get by without doing this type of work is bound to exhaust his personal resources in short order and, with no way to replenish his reserves becomes, the proverbial “broken record” of repetitive sermons and illustrations. This lesson unit addresses the library problem and the solution. I have been buying books in this field for (soon will be thirty-five years) many years and have made a few mistakes but with the LORD’S help I have kept this to a minimum. I hope to offer this advice in order that my readers may start a library right and set a pattern that can last for many years and produce a long and fruitful ministry for the cause of CHRIST.

An interesting limited edition water color print hangs in my study that tells the basic story for a pastor’s study needs. Painted by Evangelist Ron Cockerham; it shows a pair of black “wing-tip” shoes, an opened package of “Halls cough drops”, an opened package of “Certs”, three books and a “*GOD’S Simple Plan Of Salvation Tract.*” The Three books are a basic Bible students library.

First in the order of “must’s” is a well bound, with readable text, Bible to use in study and preaching (in the picture it appears to be a black #179X, Oxford, “*Old Scofield Reference Bible*”). This Bible must be printed on paper that can be marked to keep notes that need to be taken as you read. I see no need to use any other version than the KJV and the use of other versions in your private study is not a good idea either (I don’t care how wise you are, the Bible needs NO correction and you nor I are in any position to correct it at any rate -to attempt to correct the word of GOD can only make us all look like a bunch of jerks, we are called to preach not correct the WORD).

Secondly, the basic Bible students library must include a good dictionary of the English language. One of the new ones that list all the new words will not do at all -we are going to study words from 1611 and the words encountered in these pages are not new; so this piece needs not be a modern word list. I use “*Webster’s Seventh New Collegiate Dictionary*” from the second hand store (good hardback \$1.00). The 1828 Noah Webster’s “*American Dictionary of the English Language*” is back in print and can be ordered which would be excellent for this place in the library of the KJV student.

The last volume in the basic Bible students library is the concordance. The water color print painted by Bro. Ron shows a “*Strong’s*” (the old green Abingdon edition). I bought my “*Strong’s*” about 1970 or so (the blue Abingdon edition) for \$15.75 and I thought it was the best buy I had ever made at the time. Today you can get reprints for below \$10.00 and therefore are a “must” for the basic Bible students library. Bro. Ron’s painting could have been inspired by Lester Roloff’s statement that “...all you needed to study the Bible was your 1611, a good dictionary and Strong’s concordance.” These classically true words can be extended to cover the broad needs of Bible research when used with a little wisdom and thoughtful reflection upon the subject. The print would be a great gift for some preacher.

As the LORD allows in the next few pages I will address these areas of the basic library with a list of off the shelf selections for the reader’s use. Follow me through each of these investigations and have a book list for the Basic Bible students Reference Library.

Some Direction Needed

As I mentioned above, we are addressing the subject of the “Basic Bible Students Reference Library” and hopefully learn from this, the ways of Bible research. To gather the facts of Bible Truth and offer them in the pulpit is a blessed task – I have never studied for a sermon that did not bless me more than I could ever impart to the hearer in the pew. Sad but true (sad only in that I cannot get out all that HE gives me in my study), this is GOD way of rewarding me as a student of HIS Word.

There is a need that the student have resources to learn the elements needed. To provide this need I offer this paper to described material. It is expected that the student will have personal study material that could include the following recommended books. This is not an extensive list of available books. These volumes are just some good books, most of which are found on my personal library shelves. A small library for Bible study will net big gains in the work of the Gospel.

The Bible Student’s Core Reference Library

The “*Core Reference Library*” for Bible Study is the first thing, outside your personal Bible, needed to be effective in this great work. A “*Study Bible*” is helpful; but, the more you use your study Bible, the more you’ll feel the limitations of its built-in helps. That’s when you know you need to begin building your “*Core Reference Library*,” a set of five reference books that will give you an OVERVIEW of the Bible (Bible Handbook), help you FIND verses and passages in the Bible (Concordance and Topical Bible), help you UNDERSTAND things in the Bible (Bible Dictionary). This “basic” library will soon grow into as many as 10 sections and we are off to the development of a Reference Library.

1. A *Bible Handbook* is a companion to Bible reading. These books are really great. They contain background, archaeology studies, histories, explanations, mini-commentaries, notes, outlines, maps and all kinds of information you would otherwise have to pour through volumes and volumes of books to get. This is the basic reference book. There are two pretty much standard works used by almost everyone. Halley’s Bible Handbook, and Unger’s Survey of the Bible. There are many others that are quite good, but these two seem to me to be the most useful.

It’s arranged in the order of the books of the Bible, and provides background before you read through a Bible book, commentary and illustrations as you read, and topical and historical notes to expand your understanding.

The first Bible Handbook ever published was Halley’s Bible Handbook. It was a revolutionary concept that came out of Dr. Halley’s desire to get people to read the Bible with more understanding. It remains a perennial bestseller to this day.

How to Choose – A Bible handbook is arranged in the order of the books of the Bible, and typically contains maps, charts, indexes, essays on special topics, outlines of Bible books, brief commentary on the Bible text, and cross-references to other parts of the Handbook. Ask Yourself: “Is it more devotional or informational?” “Which am I looking for?” “How much more content does it have than my Study Bible?” “Is it too basic for my needs?” “Do I plan to use it permanently or temporarily?” (If you will be using it permanently, get the best you can afford.) “Is it well indexed? Are the illustrations and charts helpful and easy to use?” “Is it readable and usable?”

Using the Bible Handbook – The Handbook is a primary reference book (after the Study Bible) because it is comprehensive and easy to use. To use a handbook, you simply open the Handbook to the book of the Bible you’re reading. All of the relevant information is right there. You don’t need any advanced knowledge to use the Handbook. It’s an ideal basic companion to Bible reading, especially for people who are less familiar with the Bible.

If you have a Study Bible and would like a reference that deals more with the meaning of the text, the Bible Handbook includes a basic Bible commentary. Such a book is the Halley's Bible Handbook.

2. A Concordance – Now we get into reference books where you do the work instead of benefiting from work already done. It is important to get an exhaustive concordance. An exhaustive concordance will list EVERY word in the Bible alphabetically. There are many uses for this. When you can't find a certain passage, but you know a couple of the words, look it up in the concordance. When you do a word study of, say the word gold, you can find all the places where gold is mentioned. A Strong's concordance will also give you the Greek, Hebrew, and Aramaic definitions of all the words in the Bible.

There are three notable concordances for the KJV. The *Strong's Exhaustive Concordance* (for the strong) edited by James Strong, the *Young's Analytical Concordance* (for the young) arranged by Robert Young and the *Cruden's Exhaustive Concordance* (my favorite) by Alexander Cruden.

A Concordance lists common words found in the Bible and shows the places where they occur. For example, under the entry faith you would find the locations in the Bible where the word "faith" is used. A concordance enables you to do word studies as well as locate verses you vaguely remember.

How to Choose – Concordances come in different sizes, ranging from brief, abridged concordances in the back of most Study Bibles to Exhaustive Concordances of almost 2,000 pages. There are four basic types:

Handy, concise, or compact concordances are in some way abridged. Only the most important words found in the Bible are included, and only the most important references for those words are listed. This type of concordance may be adequate if you only use this tool occasionally to find a Bible verse. (These are found in the appendix of many editions of the Bible).

A complete concordance is still abridged, but in a different way. Not all words found in the Bible are included, but the list of references for each of the words that is included is complete. If you want to do English word studies, a complete concordance is a must, though an exhaustive concordance is even better. (These are found in the appendix of better editions of Study Bibles).

An unabridged concordance indexes every word and lists every reference. (Cruden's). In the case of Cruden's, it also offers, almost preachable, definitions for many of the important words.

An exhaustive concordance indexes every word and lists every reference. It also shows which Hebrew or Greek word is translated for every occurrence of every English word in the Bible version. If you want to do in-depth word studies based on the occurrences of Greek and Hebrew words, an Exhaustive Concordance is indispensable. The best-known Exhaustive Concordance is Strong's, which is based on the King James Version. The Young's Concordance is an exhaustive concordance that uses a different method to present the information (Analytical).

A very useful feature of exhaustive concordances is a numbering system which assigns a specific number to each of the Greek and Hebrew words found in the Bible. The Strong's Exhaustive Concordance uses a powerful numbering system, which reflects the Hebrew or Greek usage of the words in an easy to use way. The Strong's numbering system is widely used by many other reference works. There are also concordances that are based directly on the Greek and Hebrew text. (The Englishman's Hebrew and Greek Concordances are fine examples of these)

Ask Yourself: "Do I want to use it to find a verse or to do word studies?" "Is there a numbering system?" "Do I own a computer?" (Software can perform the same functions as

a Concordance with greater speed and flexibility.)

Using a Concordance – Read the introduction to your concordance so you know its features and limitations. If you can't locate a word, look for its dictionary form (for example, if you can't find went, look for go). Look up other inflected forms or roots of words. Many concordances direct you to the various inflected forms of words (e.g., come, comes, coming, came) or even to words of the same "root" (e.g., heart, faint-hearted, half-hearted). By looking up the other forms or spellings, you can do a more thorough word or concept study.

When doing a word study, use an English thesaurus to find synonyms and related words. For example, under faith a thesaurus will list words such as belief, hope, confidence, assurance, dependence, trust, etc. Don't study in the Concordance alone use your Bible. Always read the context in which a verse is found, not just the verse or piece of a verse. For example, Psalm 14:1 says, "There is no God" but the context tells you what the fool says.

When you do a word study, read the verses you find, in their context, in several translations. Very few words especially abstract words have only one, clear-cut meaning. An analytical concordance is somewhat similar to an exhaustive concordance but is arranged differently. The only analytical concordance available is Young's Analytical Concordance (to the KJV).

Also we must not forget the concordances for the original languages – Greek, Hebrew and Aramaic. In these books instead of looking up a word in English and finding all the occurrences of a word, we can look up the original Hebrew or Greek word and find all the occurrences! So what if you don't read Greek or Hebrew? No problem if you bought Strong's Exhaustive Concordance! You look up a word in Strong's and get Strong's word number (there is a number for every word in Strong's) then, you take that number, and if you buy Baker's Hebrew and Greek Concordances, look it up. The book will list all the places that exact word is used. There are two Concordances that are more useful than others: *The Englishman's Hebrew and Chaldee Concordance of the Old Testament* numerically coded to Strong's Exhaustive Concordance by George V. Wigram, and; *The Englishman's Greek Concordance of the New Testament* numerically coded to Strong's Exhaustive Concordance by George V. Wigram. Both are published by Baker Book House and are in print. Also many books of this kind are available in E-Book Format (PDF files are very useful – See the section "E-Books").

3. A Topical Bible includes a guide to different subjects addressed in the Bible. Under faith, it will list not only the most important verses where the word "faith" is found, but also verses that talk about faith without using the word, for example Genesis 15:6, "Abram believed the LORD ..."

How to Choose – You can use a topical Bible with any translation of the Bible, even if it quotes from a particular translation. Some topical Bibles list only biblical and theological topics, while others focus more on practical topics. Make sure you choose the kind you want. The size of a topical Bible doesn't necessarily reflect the number of topics or references it contains. A small one that gives only verse references may actually be more complete than a big one that prints out the full text of many verses.

Since a concordance and a topical Bible complement each other, I recommend that you use them together, rather than choosing one over the other.

Ask Yourself: "Which one best addresses the subjects I want to study?" "How much information does each topical Bible contain?" "Does the editor's choice of topics and their relative length seem balanced?" "Are the topics well subdivided and indexed?" "Are the Bible verses printed out in full?" "How important is this feature to me?" "When was it originally published and last revised?" "Which one seems most user-friendly to me?"

Using a Topical Bible – If you want to study a topic such as baptism, a concordance will only give you a list of all the verses in which the word baptism occurs. A topical Bible, on the other hand, will help you also find verses and passages in the Bible that talk about the subject of baptism without using the word baptism as such.

4. ***A Bible Dictionary (or Encyclopedia)*** gives more detailed information about people, places, words, and events in the Bible. You could use it to learn more about what the Bible says about children, or about Peter, or Egypt, or miracles.

A Bible Dictionary or Encyclopedia lists just about any concept or topic in the Bible and seeks to explain it, or give background on it. You might look up chariots and find out all kinds of things about a chariot. You might look up Paul and get a brief biography of him. These books are not just parallel passage works (although they contain that as well), but also contain archaeological and historic information not found in the Bible.

A Bible Dictionary is more like an encyclopedia than like a regular English dictionary. It gives definitions and pronunciations, but it also provides biblical, historical, and theological information on people, places, words, and events in the Bible, all in alphabetical order. (A Bible encyclopedia is simply a multi-volume Bible dictionary.)

Bible dictionaries and encyclopedias, such as “Easton’s Illustrated Bible Dictionary” or “Smith’s Bible Dictionary,” don’t define every word of the Bible. They focus mostly on nouns people, places, and things although some also have articles on theological terms that are not in the Bible, such as Trinity. (Some Bible Dictionaries are more specialized, such as Hichcock’s Dictionary of Bible Proper Names or “Wilson’s Dictionary of Bible Types”.)

You could spend many a fulfilling evening browsing through one of these books. Some names to look into are *Unger’s Bible Dictionary*, *Smith’s Bible Dictionary*, *New Bible Dictionary*, *Davis Bible Dictionary*, *Harper’s Bible Dictionary*, *Easton’s Bibl Dictionary*, *The International Bible Encyclopedia* and many others. Unger’s Bible Dictionary is also available in a generic soft-cover when you can find it. Also many books of this kind are available in E-Book Format (PDF files are very useful – See ***E-Books***).

Another dictionary that is very useful is the Expository Dictionary. An expository dictionary differs from a Bible Dictionary in that we actually look up a word used in the Bible and get a complete definition of that word as used in the text, as opposed to a general definition as you find in a concordance. Here, the standard work is *Vine’s Expository Dictionary*. Available in a single volume, the price is quite modest. Also, there is *Wilson’s Dictionary of Old Testament Words*, and others. Often, these works are not exhaustive, but will contain just about any word you’d like to look up.

How to Choose – It can be helpful to have more than one Bible dictionary, especially if they’re somewhat different in focus or orientation. Look for thorough cross-referencing. If you don’t know the exact word to look up, a good cross-reference system will anticipate many of your guesses and help direct you to the topic you’re looking for.

Ask Yourself: “What kind of information will I most likely want to look up?” “How many articles does the dictionary have?” “Do I prefer many shorter articles, or fewer but longer ones?” “Does it have good cross-references?” “What size dictionary is best for me?” “What type size and page layout do I like?” “Do I want a dictionary that uses more every day English or a more scholarly one?” “When was this dictionary originally published and last revised?” (Historical, archaeological, and linguistic knowledge has grown dramatically over the past decades.)

Using a Bible Dictionary – Cross-references or cross-indexing can help you find articles of related interest. An article about Jesus might end with “See also ATONEMENT, MESSIAH, MIRACLES, PARABLES, SECOND COMING,” to name just a few.

A good English dictionary is an indispensable tool for use with your Bible dictionary. There may be unfamiliar words in the Bible that you won’t find in a Bible dictionary. Your Bible dictionary probably won’t help you here, but your English dictionary will. The Webster’s 1828 is said to be the dictionary that addresses the words used in the KJV. Webster’s 1828 Dictionary is still in print and there is also a computer edition of this very fine reference work.

An English thesaurus is another valuable tool. For example, if you can’t find an article on

“Gentiles” in your Bible dictionary, a thesaurus may suggest “heathen” as a synonym, and that may be the right heading in the Bible dictionary.

5. **A Bible Commentary** is a single or multi-volume work that explains the meaning of Bible passages. Commentaries give the commentator’s perspective on passages in the Bible. They should never be the first books you check when doing a Bible study if you do, you start with somebody else’s conclusions rather than finding your own. There is no substitute for first-hand study, using the tools of the Core Reference Library and relying on the illuminating presence of the Holy Spirit. On the other hand, commentaries can be helpful in supplementing your own study by giving you other perspectives and additional insights.

A Commentary seeks to explain the scriptures to us. The focus each commentary ranges from devotional to expository, from practical to prophetic, from surface level to in-depth, from complete sets to individual books, from one-volume commentaries to 20, 30 and 40 volume sets. Everyone should probably have a one-volume commentary, at least most people think so! The classical, standard one to have is Matthew Henry’s one-volume commentary, but deserving of mention is the Wycliffe One Volume Commentary. These are pretty much basic, devotional commentaries that will help with insights that you can use every day.

But you don’t just buy a one-volume commentary thinking that you’ll never buy another one! A one-volume commentary is of very limited use. More useful is to buy a commentary on a book you are studying. For this, you’ll have to become familiar with authors until you find your favorites. I probably have five or six commentaries on the book of Revelation alone, not to mention at least that many sets of commentary tapes on the book of Revelation! The best I can do to stretch your commentary dollar is to list a few authors I like. To name just a few out of literally hundreds, I’d say Ray Stedman, Arthur W. Pink, Donald Barnhouse, G. Campbell Morgan, M.R. DeHaan, and John Walvoord. But don’t go out and buy a million commentaries right away. Just pick up a one-volume commentary, and gradually acquire a collection as need arises. (I buy commentaries now if I find them).

How to Choose – Choosing a Commentary, perhaps more than choosing other Bible reference books, is a personal matter. The key issue is which commentary answers the kinds of questions you are likely to ask. As usual, you should take time to look at what’s available. Compare before you buy. One consideration for comparison is what theological perspective the author is writing from. Another consideration is the date of publication—some historical and cultural information in older Commentaries might be outdated or incorrect, but the devotional material in them would be timeless. Commentaries come in many different sizes. You can get a Commentary or set on the whole Bible or for individual books of the Bible.

Using a Commentary – Devotional Commentaries, such as Matthew Henry’s Commentary, focus on the spiritual significance of the text for our lives. Expository Commentaries focus on explaining the text.

- Most expository Commentaries, such as the Expositor’s Bible Commentary, use historical, geographical, and cultural information as well as discussions of the original languages to explain the text.
- Others, (example) concentrate on bridging the cultural gap between Bible times and today.
- Exegetical or Critical Commentaries focus primarily on technical issues related to the Greek or Hebrew text and its interpretation and are written primarily for specialists. (Example: The International Critical Commentary)

Ask Yourself: “Is the Bible text included?” “Is there an explanation of the text?” “Is historical, geographical, and cultural information included?” “Are there word studies and grammatical explanations?” “Are there critical notes dealing with historical and contextual interpretations?” “Are footnotes, bibliography, and indexes included?”

6- Manners and Customs Books – These books give insight into the backgrounds of the culture and practices of Bible times. There is no real set standard here, but a valuable feature in one of these books is that it is keyed to the Bible reference rather than by topic. (“*Manners and Customs of the Bible*” by James M. Freeman).

7- Lexicons – Now that we can look up all the occurrences of the original words, we can get even more complete definitions of words from a Lexicon! Again, coded to Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance, there are “*Gesenius’ Hebrew-Chaldee Lexicon to The Old Testament*” - a dictionary numerically coded to Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance with an exhaustive English index, and “*Thayer’s Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament*” - a dictionary numerically coded to *Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance*. Again, these two books are inexpensive (in soft-back from Baker), and match the two concordances previously mentioned (“*Englishman’s Hebrew/Chaldee and Greek Concordances*”). There are lots of others, but the advantage to these is that, because of the Strong’s Numbring, you don’t need to read Greek or Hebrew.

8- Atlas of the Bible – There are a number of books in this category. “*Baker’s Bible Atlas*,” “*Nelson’s Bible Atlas*,” “*Hammond’s Atlas of the Bible Lands*.” (Inexpensive atlas with splendid maps). Even *The Gazetteer* in the back of a good study Bible.

9- E-Books and Computer Programs – E-Books, or electronic books are exactly the same as a traditional books, except there is no paper, thus saving production costs and offering wide distribution over the World Wide Web. The production cost savings are passed on to the customer, meaning that the price of an e-book is very low as compared to a traditional printed book and can be distributed on a Web Site for download. Many the books distributed through this technology are in the Public Domain, used by the permission of the copyright.

How Do I Read an E-Book? – E-Books can be read on your computer or laptop and certain types of electronic organizers (Palm and Pocket PC both have Acrobat Reader software for free download). To read E-Books, you simply use the web browser in your PC, Laptop or Mac by using the windows help file reader that comes with windows, the freeware “Adobe Acrobat Reader” or in the case of “HTML” files (The Internet’s native format) your Browser can read many of them. You do not have to be on line to read your E-Books. This (HTML) is the universal format supported by all web browsers. If you have an organizer or reader with the Windows Mobil (or CE) operating system, you can load HTML formatted books for reading. With this kind of book, you can use a laptop or notebook computer, then you can curl up on your favorite chair or relax in bed, whilst studying and reading your favorite Bible Study Commentary or Christian Classic. Alternatively, you can print out the book for reading on paper. Using your normal Windows PC or Laptop it is easy through the “Windows Help” format if it has a web browser installed, simply follow the instructions which come with our books. Venders supply titles in “HTML”, “Windows Help” and “PDF” formats. Many Special Edition books are in Adobe Acrobat Format (PDF).

It resent times many of these files are published as Adobe Acrobat (.PDF) files and can be viewed with the free Acrobat Reader that can be downloaded free from that web site, installed and used freely. (<http://www.adobe.com/prodindex/acrobat/readstep.html>)

10- Authors of Bible Study Works – Now, I’d like to take some time to list a few of the authors that whenever I see their books, I buy them on sight because their insights into the Scripture are just that valuable.

Donald Gray Barnhouse – Dr. Barnhouse has written commentaries on Romans, Genesis, and Revelation. He is quite readable and probably one of the best devotional authors.

Arthur W. Pink – My favorite author, this guy gets more out of a single verse in the Bible, than most people get out of the whole chapter. He isn’t as readable as a lot of other writers, but he packs more information into a book than anyone else.

- M.R. DeHaan** – Another one like Pink, but DeHaan also keeps the big picture in view. He’s more apt to look at things chapter by chapter. A bit easier to read than Pink, DeHaan was also a doctor.
- G. Campbell Morgan** – His books are transcribed from his sermons (like many other authors). He, like Pink and DeHaan examines things using typology when applicable. He has a great set of commentaries out on the gospels, and another great book on the “*Parables and Metaphors of Our Lord.*”
- John R. Rice** – Called “The 20th Century’s Mightiest Pen,” Dr. Rice authored more than 200 books and booklets circulating in excess of 60 million copies before his death, about a dozen of which were translated into at least 35 foreign languages.
- Herbert Lockyer** – This remarkable writer has contributed a body of work that is very useful. His “All...” Series is worth collecting. His “*Last Word of Saints and Sinners*” gives many illustrations and most of his will be worth having.
- Oliver B. Greene** – Dr. Greene was called Home to be with the Lord on July 26, 1976, but he “being dead, yet speaketh,” not only by radio but by his writings. His books, pamphlets, tracts, totaling above 100 titles, are still mailed out by the thousands.
- Harry Ironside** – Authored more than 60 volumes as well as many pamphlets and articles on Bible subjects. For all his critics (many say his writing is simple), most preachers end up with many of his books on their shelves.
- Ray Stedman** – Ray Stedman is a teacher in central California who is always writing new books. He is quite readable and the first choice when it comes to the New Testament in particular. He also has one of the best commentaries on the Book of Esther, which is a book still debated about today as to whether it belongs in the Bible at all. Reading this book will confirm beyond a shadow of a doubt that Esther very much belongs in the Bible. (All of his studies can be taken, free, from his website in MP3 audio format and PDF documents – a great treasure of bible study).
- John F. Walvoord** – This man is one of the editors of the “*Scofield Reference Bible*”, is president of Dallas Theological Seminary, and has written a couple of really good commentaries. The value to his commentaries are that they are contemporary. His commentary on Daniel deserves to be in everyone’s library, as is his book ‘*The Rapture Question*’.
- 11- Books About Preaching** – The young preacher would be well served to read several books on the topic of preaching. One of the best is “*The Preacher and His Preaching*” by Alfred P. Gibbs. Warren and David Wiersbe have published a short book called “*The Elements of Preaching*” (Tyndale House). Another short booklet entitled “*If Any Man Speak*” was written by James Gunn and is available from Everyday Publications. Another excellent idea is to tape or videotape some of your messages and critique them at a later date. The young preacher should also listen to a number of good preachers to see what he can learn from their style and delivery. Of course the young preacher will eventually develop his own technique.

The Basic Bible Student’s Reference Library

There are hundreds of Bible reference books to choose from. Here is a simple way to select the books and computer software that will best support your personal study. Your library should be comprised of five types of books that meet your three basic needs: 1) For an **Overview** of the Bible, get a Bible Handbook or Bible Companion. 2) To **Find** something in the Bible, get a Bible Concordance and a Topical Bible. 3) To **Understand** something in the Bible, get a Bible Dictionary and a Bible Commentary.

The more you use your study Bible, the more you’ll feel the limitations of its built-in helps. That’s when you know you need to begin building your “Core Library,” a set of five reference books that will give you an OVERVIEW of the Bible (Bible Handbook), help you FIND verses and passages in the Bible

(Concordance and Topical Bible), help you UNDERSTAND things in the Bible (Bible Dictionary).

Reference books are the tools of the trade for people who study the Bible, that is, you and I. As with any trade, there is a large investment in tools. Bible Study is no exception. This is the one place I can think of where you really can throw moderation out the door. Here, you can completely indulge yourself. Buy all the books you can afford, get into them, and learn of God! (“Buy the truth, and sell it not; also wisdom, and instruction, and understanding.” Prov. 23:23)

Some of us don’t have that kind of budget though! So where do we start? Hopefully, we will answer that question, or at least address it so that we don’t wander aimlessly through the local bookstore spending lots of unnecessary money on something we don’t yet need. These ideas are mostly my own, so remember Acts 17:11 (“These were more noble than those in Thessalonica, in that **they received the word with all readiness of mind, and searched the scriptures daily**, whether those things were so.”)!

The Preacher’s Bible

Let us take a look at the Bible used by the Preacher. These come in many variations and editions. Sometimes we call the simple un-referenced edition a “Pilgrim Bible.” (There is now a “study-Bible” that has adopted the name “*Pilgrim Study Bible*” edited by Skylar English. – this is not to be confused with these un-noted copies.) These “can” be the very best because often I need to read only as God leads me and not be influenced by any notes placed in the margin by otherwise well-intending editors of study-Bibles.

I think it is clear to my readers that I hold to the position that the AV 1611 is the only reliable version, therefore all Bibles mentioned in this book will be of that version. I have a collection of other versions as large as most you could see in many college libraries (about 50 different versions including an English version of the *Quran*, an interesting copy of Johannes Greber’s translation New Testament, used by the JW’S in their New World translation – I have never seen another copy of this one, an 1881 copy of the RV New Testament and many other in Greek, Hebrew, German, Burmese, Spanish, and Modern English) but these are used as tools of the trade and not as reliable reference material. (see the RSV’S treatment of the virgin birth in Isa.7:14, New World’s denial of the Deity of Jesus Christ, the absence of more that 40 verses from the Wescott-Hort Greek (this was the text used by the RV translators) -also the Nestle text- (What about that BJU – you teach the Nestle Greek Text, TTU -you say that the 1901 ASV is the nearest to “The Originals” and late Jerry Falwell – has his name listed with the translators of the New King James Version.).

The Study Bible

Easily, and without debate, the most important book you will ever own is a Bible. What kind of bible do you buy? What translation? The King James is the classic translation used for years by almost all bible teachers. The good points in choosing King James is that most reference works key themselves to King James, almost all the commentators quote from King James, and it is a very well known translation – the Standard.

The overall reading level of the AV is within the reach of anyone with an average education. It is written on an 8th to 10th grade level. This has been proven from computer analysis made by Dr. Donald Waite. He ran several books of the KJV through the Right Writer program and found that Genesis 1, Exodus 1, and Rom. 8 are on the 8th grade level; Rom. 1 and Jude are on the 10th grade level; and Rom. 3:1-23 is on the 6th grade level.

Dr. Donald Waite says, “I know hundreds of people whose intelligence and educational levels have not reached as high as some of these [modern version proponents who claim the KJV is hopelessly antiquated]...people who say they can’t understand this King James Bible, yet these people do understand it. How do you figure that out? Remember 1 Cor. 2:14 which states, **‘But the natural man receiveth not**

the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned.' This verse is still true, regardless of which translation is used" (Waite, *Defending the King James Bible*, pp. 50, 51).

Your Study Bible must be a KJV, AV 1611 (*no other version is recommended*). The books that make up the Bible were written over a period of about 1500 years. The last book was completed about 1900+ years ago. The different parts of the Bible were originally written in one of three languages: Hebrew, Aramaic or Greek. Since then, it's been translated into many different languages. When I need a "study-Bible" I use several of the best in print and I hope you will look at these in the Bible store.

Even though there are many English translations; there remains a clear version in the list of translations. The KJV has been found to be the most accurate, the most usable, the most reliable and the most powerfully used of GOD. For over three hundred eighty nine years the AV 1611 (KJV) has been used as the standard of fundamental truth and evangelical teaching. The student needs a Study Bible. A Bible that contains the complete Scripture text, as well as a variety of the following elements: cross-references and abbreviated topical articles, index, concordance, dictionary, illustrations, charts, maps, outlines, introductions to each book, and commentary notes as required. Build your "Core Reference Library" around this. Generally, you need a King James Bible that has readable text (Large Print) and wide margins to allow notes. You will find many various publishers to meet this need. This calls for three types of Bibles. A "Text Bible" is for devotional reading, a "Wide-Margin" Bible for taking notes and pulpit use and a "Study Bible" for convenient study at your desk.

For the sake of interest a curiosity you might find a copy of *The AV 1611* (A word-for-word reprint of the First Edition of the Authorized Version) Thomas Nelson Publishers (1982). For its rich features a *Dugan's Topical Reference Bible*. Gordonsville, Tenn.: Dugan Publishers, 1985 will be a good choice. Without a doubt, *The KJV Study Bible* (From Both Nelson & Zondervan) is a great selection for a study Bible. The most popular choice has been the "Old" (1917) *Scofield Reference Bible*. Oxford Press and other publishers (The "New Scofield"-1969?- is not the KJV text -the editors say that all word changes are minor and noted in the references but that is not true and the notes are not as good with many that are misleading, many like this version because it is "NEW" and use it for the sake being up-to-date -I know I'll get letters on this article – just send money and I'll read them – Ha Ha!!).

My favorite may be the *Thompson Chain Reference Bible* (KJV) because of it many topical references – I cut my teeth on this wonderful Study Bible and it serves me well by my desk always. Many will find the *Ryrie Study Bible*. Moody, 1978, a great alternative. I also like to use the study-Bible that is edited by Finis J. Dake, *Dake's Study Bible* – the only Arminian scholar I know of- this Bible is used by most Charismatics and Pentecostal groups. I just overlook a lot of the Arminian, falling from grace and split rapture etc. and take this mans meat to feed the flock of GOD (Acts 20:28).

One last word on Bibles. The Interlinear Bibles is a very effective tool. An Interlinear Bible will have the actual original language of the Bible and a literal, word for word translation right below it, with a King James (or other) text on the facing page or in a margin. The word for word translation will be in all its glory of being in bad English grammar (obviously) and sometimes misleading, but nevertheless quite valuable when you need to know the exact word, or you'd like to see what the text says literally. (*Interlinear Greek-English New Testament* by George Ricker Berry is the Greek Text of the Textus Receptus (the text behind the KJV) and is the best example of this kind of Bible). Some software has this feature and I have it on my Pocket PC).

A Want List

(Must Have Books for the Bible Student)

Bibliographic Tools – There are hundreds of Bible reference books to choose from. Here is a simple way to select the books and computer software that will best support your personal study. Your library should be comprised of five types of books that meet your three basic needs:

1. For an OVERVIEW of the Bible, get a Bible Handbook or Bible Companion.
2. To FIND something in the Bible, get a Bible Concordance and a Topical Bible.
3. To UNDERSTAND something in the Bible, get a Bible Dictionary and a Bible Commentary.

The more you use your study Bible, the more you'll feel the limitations of its built-in helps. That's when you know you need to begin building your "Core Library," a set of five reference books that will give you an OVERVIEW of the Bible (Bible Handbook), help you FIND verses and passages in the Bible (Concordance and Topical Bible), help you UNDERSTAND things in the Bible (Bible Dictionary).

Badke, William B. *The Survivor's Guide to Library Research*. Zondervan, 1990.

Barber, Cyril J. *The Minister's Library*. Moody, 1985- . 2 vols. plus supplements.

*Barber, Cyril J. *The Minister's Library*. Moody, 1985- . 2 vols. plus supplements.

*Barker, Kenneth L., Bruce K. Waltke, Roy B. Zuck. *Bibliography for Old Testament Exegesis and Exposition*. Dallas Theological Seminary, 1979.

Bollier, John A. *The Literature of Theology: A Guide for Students and Pastors*. Westminster, 1979.

*Carson, D. A. *New Testament Commentary Survey*. Baker, 1986.

Childs, Brevard S. *Old Testament Books for Pastor and Teacher*. Westminster, 1977.

Johnston, William M. *Recent Reference Books in Religion*. IVP, 1996.

Kiehl, Erich H. *Building Your Biblical Studies Library*. Concordia, 1988.

Martin, Ralph P. *New Testament Books for Pastor and Teacher*. Westminster, 1984.

*Rosscup, James E. *Commentaries for Biblical Expositors*. Grace Books International, 1983.

Spurgeon, Charles H. *Commenting and Commentaries*. Banner of Truth, 1969.

*Wiersbe, Warren W. *A Basic Library for Bible Students*. Baker, 1981.

Study Bibles (AV 1611 - *no other version is recommended*) – The books that make up the Bible were written over a period of about 1500 years. The last book was completed about 1900+ years ago. The different parts of the Bible were originally written in one of three languages: Hebrew, Aramaic or Greek. Since then, it's been translated into many different languages.

Even though there are many English translations; there remains a clear version in the list of translations. The KJV has been found to be the most accurate, the most usable, the most reliable and the most powerfully used of GOD. For over three hundred eighty nine years the AV 1611 (KJV) has been used as the standard of fundamental truth and evangelical teaching. The student needs a Study Bible. A Bible that contains the complete Scripture text, as well as a variety of the following elements: cross-references and abbreviated topical articles, index, concordance, dictionary, illustrations, charts, maps, outlines, introductions to each book, and commentary notes as required. Build your "Core Reference Library" around this. Generally, you need an AV 1611 - (*no other version is recommended by this author*) that has readable text (Large Print) and wide margins to allow notes. You will find many various publishers. This calls for three types of Bibles. A "Text Bible" is for devotional reading, a "Wide-Margin" Bible for taking notes and pulpit use and a "Study Bible" for convenient study at your desk.

The AV 1611 (A word-for-word reprint of the First Edition of the Authorized Version) Thomas Nelson Publishers (1982)

Dugan's Topical Reference Bible. Gordonsville, Tenn.: Dugan Publishers, 1985.

The KJV Study Bible (From Both Nelson & Zondervan)

"Old" (1917) *Scofield Reference Bible*. Oxford.

Thompson Chain Reference Bible (KJV)

Dake's Annotated Reference Bible, J. F. Dake, Lawrenceville, Ga., Dake Bible Sales, Inc., 1963

Ryrie Study Bible. Moody, 1978.

Books About the Biblical Texts

*Aland, Kurt. *The Greek New Testament*. 4th ed.; UBS, 1993.

Aland, Kurt. *The Text of the New Testament*. Eerdmans, 1987.
 *Ellinger and Rudolph, *Biblia Hebraica Stuttgartensia*. Ed., Deutsche Biblestiftung, 1984.
 *Bruce, F. F. *The Books and the Parchments*. Revell, 1984.
 *Bruce, F. F. *The Canon of the Scripture*. InterVarsity, 1988.
 Bruce, F. F. *History of the English Bible in English*. 3rd ed.; Revell, 1978.
 Greenlee, J. Harold. *Introduction to New Testament Textual Criticism*. Eerdmans, 1964.
 *Harris, R. Laird. *Inspiration and Canonicity of the Bible*. Zondervan, 1969.
 Lewis, Jack P. *The English Bible From KJV to NIV, A History of Evaluation*. Baker, 1982.
 Metzger, Bruce M. *The Canon of the New Testament*. Oxford, 1987.
 Metzger, Bruce M. *The Text of the New Testament: Its Transmission, Corruption, and Restoration*.
 Oxford, 1968.
 *Metzger, Bruce M. *A Textual Commentary on the Greek New Testament*. UBS, 1971.
 *Nestle-Aland. *Novum Testamentum Graece*. 26th ed.; Deutsche Bibelstiftung, 1979.
 *Rahlfs, Alfred. *Septuaginta*. Wuertembergische, 1962.
 Roberts, B. J. *The Old Testament Text and Versions*. Wales, 1951.
 Swete, Henry B. *An Introduction to the Old Testament in Greek*. KTAV, 1968.
 Wurthwein, Ernst. *The Text of the Old Testament*. Eerdmans, 1979.

Concordances of the English Bible that are “exhaustive” (every word in the Bible is listed):

Strong, James, *Strong’s Exhaustive Concordance* (for the strong)
 Young, Robert, *Young’s Analytical Concordance* (for the young)
 Cruden, Alexander, *Cruden’s Exhaustive Concordance* (my favorite)
 Nave, Orville J., ed. *Nave’s Topical Bible*. Nelson, 1979.
 Torrey, R. A. *The Treasury of Scripture Knowledge*. Bagster.
 Torrey, R. A. *The New Topical Textbook*. Revell.
 The Phrase Concordance of the Bible. Nelson, 1986.

Bible Encyclopedias

Zondervan Pictorial Bible Encyclopedia
International Standard Bible Encyclopedia (In Several Computer Packages; E-Sword; SwordSearcher;
 Etc.)

Bible Dictionaries

Unger, Merrill F., *Unger’s Bible Dictionary* Moody Press
Nelson’s Bible Dictionary
Holman Bible Dictionary
Smith’s Bible Dictionary
Peloubet’s Bible Dictionary
 Douglas, J.D. and Tenney, Merrill C., *The New International Dictionary of the Bible*, Zondervan
 publishers.

Bible Handbook - A Bible handbook is a companion to Bible reading. It’s arranged in the order of the books of the Bible. It provides background before you read through a Bible book, commentary and illustrations as you read, and topical and historical notes to expand your understanding.

The first Bible Handbook ever published was *Halley’s Bible Handbook*. It was a revolutionary concept that came out of Dr. Halley’s desire to get people to read the Bible with more understanding. It remains a perennial bestseller to this day. (*Halley’s Bible Handbook* is in print and is now available through many book sellers.)

A Bible handbook is arranged in the order of the books of the Bible, and typically contains maps, charts, indexes, essays on special topics, outlines of Bible books, brief commentary on the Bible text, and cross-references to other parts of the Handbook. Ask Yourself: “Is it more devotional or informational?” “Which am I looking for?” “How much more content does it have than my Study Bible?” “Is it too basic for my needs?” “Do I plan to use it permanently or temporarily?” (If you will be

using it permanently, get the best you can afford.) “Is it well indexed? Are the illustrations and charts helpful and easy to use?” “Is it readable and usable?”

The Handbook is a primary reference book (after the Study Bible) because it is comprehensive and easy to use. To use a handbook, you simply open the Handbook to the book of the Bible you’re reading. All of the relevant information is right there. You don’t need any advanced knowledge to use the Handbook. It’s an ideal basic companion to Bible reading, especially for people who are less familiar with the Bible.

If you have a Study Bible and would like a reference that deals more with the meaning of the text, the Bible Handbook includes a basic Bible commentary, such as the *Halley’s Bible Handbook*.

English Dictionaries – A Webster’s Dictionary (Webster’s 1828 is expensive and hard to find but it continues to be the only dictionary to reflect the words used in the 1611). (In Several Computer Packages; E-Sword; SwordSearcher; Etc.).

Random House Webster’s College Dictionary. New York: Random House, 1991.

Webster, Noah, ed. *Webster’s Deluxe Unabridged Dictionary*. New York: Simon and Schuster, 1983.

Webster, Noah, ed. *American Dictionary of the English Language*. 1828 Facsimile. San Francisco: Foundation for American Christian Education, 1983.

Survey and Introduction

Bruce, F. F. *Paul: Apostle of the Heart Set Free*. Eerdmans, 1977.

Conybeare, W. J., and Howson, J. S. *The Life and Epistles of Saint Paul*. Eerdmans, 1954.

Craigie, Peter C. *The Old Testament, Its Background, Growth, and Content*. Abingdon, 1986.

Culver, Robert D. *The Life of Christ*. Baker, 1976.

Farrar, Frederic W. *The Life of Christ*. Cassell, 1874. 2 vols.

Harrison, Everett F. *Introduction to the New Testament*. Eerdmans, 1964.

Harrison, Roland K. *Introduction to the Old Testament*. Eerdmans, 1969.

Morgan, G. Campell. *The Crises of the Christ*. Revell, n.d.

Morgan, G. Campell. *The Parables and Metaphors of Our Lord*. Revell, n.d.

Morgan, G. Campell. *The Teaching of Christ*. Revell, n.d.

Pentecost, J. Dwight. *The Words and Works of Jesus Christ*. Zondervan, 1981.

Ramsay, William. *The Church in the Roman Empire*. Baker, 1954.

Ramsay, William. *The Cities of Saint Paul*. Baker, 1960.

Ramsay, William. *Saint Paul the Traveler and Roman Citizen*. Baker, 1949.

Robertson, A. T. *A Harmony of the Gospels for Students of the Life of Christ*. Harper, 1950.

Scroggie, William Graham. *A Guide to the Gospels*. Revell, 1948.

Scroggie, William Graham. *Know Your Bible*. Pickering, 1940.

Scroggie, William Graham. *The Unfolding Drama of Redemption*. Zondervan, 1970.

Tenney, Merrill C., rev. by Walter M. Dunnnett. *New Testament Survey*. Eerdmans, 1985.

Thomas, Robert L., and Stanley N. Gundry. *A Harmony of the Gospels with Explanations and Essays*. Harper, 1978.

Trench, R. C. *Notes on the Miracles*. Pickering, 1953.

Trench, R. C. *Notes on the Parables*. Pickering, 1953.

Unger, Merrill F. *Introductory Guide to the Old Testament*. Zondervan, 1951.

Unger, Merrill F. *Unger’s Guide to the Bible*. Tyndale, 1974.

Young, Edward J. *An Introduction to the Old Testament*. Eerdmans, 1960.

Works on Archaeology, Geography, and History

Bruce, F. F. *Israel and the Nations*. Eerdmans, 1963.

Bruce, F. F. *New Testament History*. Doubleday, 1971.

Edersheim, Alfred. *Bible History*. Eerdmans, 1954. 2 vols.

Edersheim, Alfred. *The Life and Times of Jesus the Messiah*. Eerdmans, 1954. 2 vols.

Josephus, Flavius. *Complete Works*. Kregel, 1960.

Metzger, Bruce Manning. *The New Testament, Its Background, Growth, and Content*. Abingdon, 1965.
Tenney, Merrill C. *New Testament Times*. Eerdmans, 1965.
Thompson, J. A. *The Bible and Archaeology*. Eerdmans, 1972.
Thompson, J. A. *Handbook of Life in Bible Times*. InterVarsity, 1986.
Vos, Howard F. *Archaeology in Biblical Lands*. Moody, 1987.

Commentaries – Commentaries are optional but helpful and represent the opinions of their authors. Care must be taken to check more than one text in an effort to be sure that best results are found. We are to come to the commentaries with questions, rather than using them immediately. I use a number of commentaries in this way.

Bible Commentaries- Old Testament

Keil and Delitzsch *Commentary on the Old Testament* (In Several Computer Packages; E-Sword; Etc.)

Walvoord and Zuck, *The Bible Knowledge Commentary*, Victor Books publisher.

Wiersbe's *Expository Notes On The Old Testament*

Bible Commentaries- New Testament

Barnes, Albert, *Notes on the New Testament* (In Several Computer Packages; E-Sword; SwordSearcher; Etc.)

Walvoord and Zuck, *Bible Knowledge Commentary* – Comments by the Dallas Seminary Faculty. (Excellent)

Wiersbe, Warren, *The Bible Exposition Commentary* (Excellent)

Wiersbe, Warren, *Expository Notes On The New Testament*

Entire Commentaries on the Whole Bible

Clark, Adam,

Matthew Henry Commentary (In Several Computer Packages; E-Sword; SwordSearcher; Etc.)

Clark, Adam, *Adam Clarke Commentary* (In Several Computer Packages; E-Sword; SwordSearcher; Etc.)

Carroll, B.H., *An Interpretation of the English Bible* (Available from Ages)

The Pulpit Commentary (Available from Ages)

Pool, Matthew, *Commentary on the Holy Bible* (Good)

Gabelein, Arno, *The Annotated Bible* (Great)

Harrison, E. F., and Charles F. Pfeiffer. *The Wycliffe Bible Commentary*. Moody, 1962.

Jamieson, Fausset, Brown *A Commentary* (In Several Computer Packages; E-Sword; SwordSearcher; Etc.)

McGee, J. Vernon, *Thru the Bible* (Preachable – See also the PDF “Notes and Outlines” files from their website - www.thruthebible.org).

Individual Books of the Bible

The Book of Genesis

Barnhouse, Donald Grey. *Genesis: A Devotional Exposition*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan, 1973.

Davis, John J. *Paradise to Prison: Studies in Genesis*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Book House, 1975.

De Haan, M. R. *The Days of Noah* (Genesis 4-6). Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan, 1964.

De Haan, M. R. *Genesis and Evolution* (Genesis 1-3). Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan, 1962.

Jensen, Irving L. *Genesis – A Self-Study Guide*. Chicago, Illinois: Moody Press, 1967.

Mackintosh, C. H. *Genesis to Deuteronomy*. Neptune, New Jersey: Loizeaux Brothers, 1972. (Devotional.)

McGee, J. Vernon. *Genesis*, 3 volumes. Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, 1975.

Meyer, F. B. *Abraham: The Obedience of Faith*. Fort Washington, Pennsylvania: Christian

- Literature Crusade.
- Meyer, F. B. *Israel: A Prince With God (Jacob)*. Fort Washington, Pennsylvania: Christian Literature Crusade.
- Meyer, F. B. *Joseph: Beloved-Hated-Exalted*. Fort Washington, Pennsylvania: Christian Literature Crusade.
- Morris, Henry M. *The Genesis Record: A Scientific and Devotional Commentary*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Book House, 1976.
- Pink, Arthur W. *Gleanings in Genesis*. Chicago, Illinois: Moody Press, 1922. (A study of types.)
- Thomas, W. H. Griffith. *Genesis: A Devotional Commentary*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Eerdmans, 1946.
- Unger, Merrill F. *Unger's Commentary on the Old Testament*. Chicago, Illinois: Moody Press, 1981.
- Wiersbe, Warren W., *Expository Outlines on the O.T.*, published by Calvary Book Room, Covington Kentucky, 1968. (very good, useful on many subjects, O.T. & N.T. are now printed).
- Wood, Leon J. *Genesis: A Study Guide Commentary*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan, 1975.

The Book of Exodus

- Davis, John J. *Moses and the Gods of Egypt*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Book House, 1971.
- Epp, Theodore H. *Moses, Vols. 1 and 2*. Lincoln, Nebraska: Back to the Bible Broadcast, 1975.
- Gaebelein, Arno C. *Gaebelein's Concise Commentary On the Whole Bible*. Neptune, New Jersey: Loizeaux Brothers, 1970.
- Grant, F. W. *Numerical Bible*. Neptune, New Jersey: Loizeaux Brothers, 1891.
- Jensen, Irving L. *Exodus*. Chicago, Illinois: Moody Press, 1967.
- Mackintosh, C. H. *Notes on the Pentateuch*. Neptune, New Jersey: Loizeaux Brothers, 1880.
- McGee, J. Vernon. *Exodus, Vols. 1 and 2*. Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson, Inc., 1975.
- McGee, J. Vernon. *The Tabernacle – God's Portrait of Christ*. Pasadena, California: Thru the Bible Radio Network, 1986.
- Meyer, F. B. *Exodus*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Kregel Publications, 1952.
- Meyer, F. B. *Moses: The Servant of God*. Fort Washington, Pennsylvania: Christian Literature Crusade.
- Pink, Arthur W. *Gleanings in Exodus*. Chicago, Illinois: Moody Press, 1922.
- Ridout, Samuel. *Lectures on the Tabernacle*. Neptune, New Jersey: Loizeaux Brothers, 1914.
- Thomas, W. H. Griffith. *Through the Pentateuch Chapter by Chapter*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Eerdmans, 1957.
- Unger, Merrill F. *Unger's Bible Handbook*. Chicago, Illinois: Moody Press, 1966.
- Wiersbe, Warren W., *Expository Outlines on the O.T.*, published by Calvary Book Room, Covington Kentucky, 1968. (very good, useful on many subjects, O.T. & N.T. are now printed).

The Book of Numbers:

- Epp, Theodore H. *Moses*. Lincoln, Nebraska: Back to the Bible Broadcast, 1975.
- Gaebelein, Arno C. *Annotated Bible, vol. 1*. Neptune, New Jersey: Loizeaux Brothers,
- Grant, F. W. *Numerical Bible*. Neptune, New Jersey: Loizeaux Brothers, 1891.
- Gray, James M. *Synthetic Bible Studies*. Westwood, New Jersey: Fleming H. Revell Co., 1906.
- Heslop, W. G. *Nuggets from Numbers*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Kregel Publications, 1958.
- Hvey, F. B., Jr. *Numbers*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan, Publishing House, 1981.
- Jensen, Irving L. *Numbers: Journey to God's Rest-Land*. Chicago, Illinois: Moody Press,
- Jensen, Irving L. *Numbers & Deuteronomy – Self Study Guide*. Chicago, Illinois: Moody Press,
- Kelly, William. *Lectures Introductory to the Pentateuch*. Oak Park, Illinois: Bible Truth

- Publishers, 1870.
- Mackintosh, C. H. (C.H.M.). *Notes on the Pentateuch*. Neptune, New Jersey: Loizeaux Brothers, 1880. (Excellent devotional study.)
- Meyer, F. B. *Moses: The Servant of God*. Fort Washington, Pennsylvania: Christian Literature Crusade.
- Noordtzi, A. *Numbers*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan, Publishing House, 1983.
- Thomas, W. H. Griffith. *Through the Pentateuch Chapter by Chapter*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1957. (Excellent summary.)
- Unger, Merrill F. *Unger's Bible Handbook*. Chicago, Illinois: Moody Press, 1966.
- Unger, Merrill F. *Unger's Commentary on the Old Testament, Vol. 1*. Chicago, Illinois: Moody Press, 1981.
- Wiersbe, Warren W., *Expository Outlines on the O.T.*, published by Calvary Book Room, Covington Kentucky, 1968. (very good, useful on many subjects, O.T. & N.T. are now printed).

The Book of Leviticus:

- Gaebelein, Arno C. *Annotated Bible, vol. 1*. Neptune, New Jersey: Loizeaux Brothers, 1917.
- Goldberg, Louis. *Leviticus*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan Publishing House, 1980.
- Grant, F. W. *Numerical Bible*. Neptune, New Jersey: Loizeaux Brothers, 1891.
- Gray, James M. *Synthetic Bible Studies*. Westwood, New Jersey: Fleming H. Revell Co., 1906.
- Heslop, W. G. *Lessons from Leviticus*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Book House, 1945.
- Ironside, H. A. *Lectures on the Levitical Offerings*. Neptune, New Jersey: Loizeaux Brothers, 1929.
- Jamieson, Robert; Faucett, H. R.; and Brown, D. *Commentary of the Bible, 3 vols*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1945.
- Jensen, Irving L. *Leviticus*. Chicago, Illinois: Moody Press, 1967.
- Jukes, Andrew. *The Law of the Offerings*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Kregel Publications, 1870.
- Kellogg, S. H. *The Book of Leviticus*. New York, New York: George H. Doran Co., 1908.
- Kelly, William. *Lectures Introductory to the Pentateuch*. Oak Park, Illinois: Bible Truth Publishers, 1870.
- Mackintosh, C. H. (C.H.M.). *Notes on the Pentateuch*. Neptune, New Jersey: Loizeaux Brothers, 1880.
- McGee, J. Vernon. *Learning Through Leviticus, 2 vols*. Pasadena, California: Thru the Bible Books, 1964.
- Noordtzi, A. *Leviticus*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan Publishing House, 1982.
- Schultz, Samuel J. *Leviticus*. Chicago, Illinois: Moody Press, 1983.
- Seiss, Joseph A. *Holy Types - The Gospel In Leviticus*, The United Lutheran Publication House, Philadelphia; 1859.
- Slemming, C. W. *These Are The Garments*. London, England: Marshall Morgan & Scott, 1955.
- Slemming, C. W. *Thus Shalt Thou Serve*. Ft. Washington, Pennsylvania: Christian Literature Crusade, 1955.
- Thomas, W. H. Griffith. *Through the Pentateuch Chapter by Chapter*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1957.
- Unger, Merrill F. *Unger's Bible Handbook*. Chicago, Illinois: Moody Press, 1966.
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- Wiersbe, Warren W., *Expository Outlines on the O.T.*, published by Calvary Book Room, Covington Kentucky, 1968. (very good, useful on many subjects, O.T. & N.T. are now printed).

The Book of Deuteronomy

Epp, Theodore H. *Moses*. Lincoln, Nebraska: Back to the Bible Broadcast, 1975.

Gaebelein, Arno C. *Annotated Bible, Vol. 1*. Neptune, New Jersey: Loizeaux Brothers.

Grant, F. W. *Numerical Bible*. Neptune, New Jersey: Loizeaux Brothers, 1891.

Gray, James M. *Synthetic Bible Studies*. Old Tappan, New Jersey: Fleming H. Revell Co., 1906.

Jensen, Irving L. *Numbers & Deuteronomy — Self-Study Guide*. Chicago, Illinois: Moody Press, 1967.

Kelly, William. *Lectures Introductory to the Pentateuch*. Oak Park, Illinois: Bible Truth Publishers, 1870.

Mackintosh, C. H. (C.H.M.). *Notes on the Pentateuch*. Neptune, New Jersey: Loizeaux Brothers, 1880. (Excellent devotional study.)

Meyer, F. B. *Moses: The Servant of God*. Fort Washington, Pennsylvania: Christian Literature Crusade.

Ridderbos, J. *Deuteronomy*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan Publishing House, 1984.

Schneider, Bernard N. *Deuteronomy*. Winona Lake, Indiana: Brethren Missionary Herald Co..

Schultz, Samuel J. *Deuteronomy: The Gospel of Love*. Chicago, Illinois: Moody Press, 1971.

Thomas, W. H. Griffith. *Through the Pentateuch Chapter by Chapter*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1957. (Excellent summary.)

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- Darby, J. N. Synopsis of the Books of the Bible. Oak Park, Illinois: Bible Truth Publishers, n.d.
- Davis, John J. and Witcomb, John C., Jr. A History of Israel. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Baker Book House, 1970. (Excellent.)
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- Campbell, Donald K. *Nehemiah: Man in Charge*. Wheaton, Illinois: Victor Books, 1979.
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- Gaebelein, Arno C. *The Annotated Bible*. Neptune, New Jersey: Loizeaux Brothers, 1917.
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- Wiersbe, Warren W., *Expository Outlines on the O.T.*, published by Calvary Book Room, Covington Kentucky, 1968. (very good, useful on many subjects, O.T. & N.T. are now printed).

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- Blair, J. Allen. *Job: Living Patiently*. Neptune, New Jersey: Loizeaux Brothers, n.d.
- Darby, J. N. *Synopsis of the Books of the Bible*. Addison, Illinois: Bible Truth Publishers, n.d.
- Ellison, H. L. *A Study of Job: From Tragedy to Triumph*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan Publishing House, n.d.
- Epp, Theodore H. *Job — A Man Tried as Gold*. Lincoln, Nebraska: Back to the Bible Broadcast, n.d.
- Gaebelein, Arno C. *The Annotated Bible*. Neptune, New Jersey: Loizeaux Brothers, 1917.
- Garland, D. David. *Job — A Study Guide Commentary*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan Publishing House, n.d.
- Gray, James M. *Synthetic Bible Studies*. Westwood, New Jersey: Fleming H. Revell Co., 1906.
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- Mackintosh, C. H. *Miscellaneous Writings*. Neptune, New Jersey: Loizeaux Brothers, n.d.
- Ridout, Samuel. *The Book of Job*. Neptune, New Jersey: Loizeaux Brothers, 1919. (Very fine.)
- Sauer, Erich. *The Dawn of World Redemption*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1951. (An excellent Old Testament survey.)
- Scroggie, W. Graham. *The Unfolding Drama of Redemption*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan Publishing House, 1970. (An excellent survey and outline of the Old Testament.)
- Thomas, W. Ian, *If I Prish, I Prish*, Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan, 1967. (The Christian life as seen in Esther Very good)
- Unger, Merrill F. *Unger's Bible Handbook*. Chicago, Illinois: Moody Press, 1966. (A concise commentary on the entire Bible.)
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- Alexander, J. A. *The Psalms*. 1864. Reprint. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan Publishing House, 1964.
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- Grant, F. W. *The Psalms*. Neptune, New Jersey: Loizeaux Brothers, 1895. (Numerical Bible.)
- Gray, James M. *Synthetic Bible Studies*. Old Tappan, New Jersey: Fleming H. Revell Co., 1906.
- Ironside, H. A. *The Psalms*. Neptune, New Jersey: Loizeaux Brothers, n.d.
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- Jensen, Irving L. *The Psalms*. Chicago, Illinois: Moody Press, 1970. (A self-study guide.)
- Morgan, G. Campbell. *Notes on the Psalms*. Old Tappan, New Jersey: Fleming H. Revell Co., 1947.
- Olson, Erling C. *Meditations in the Psalms*. Neptune, New Jersey: Loizeaux Brothers, 1939. (Devotional.)
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- Scroggie, W. Graham. *The Psalms*. Old Tappan, New Jersey: Fleming H. Revell Co., 1948. (Excellent.)
- Scroggie, W. Graham. *The Unfolding Drama of Redemption*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan Publishing House, 1970. (An excellent survey and outline of the Old Testament.)
- Spurgeon, Charles Haddon. *The Treasury of David*. 3 vols. Reprint. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan Publishing House, 1974. (A classic work and very comprehensive.)
- Unger, Merrill F. *Unger's Bible Handbook*. Chicago, Illinois: Moody Press, 1966. (A basic tool for every Christian's library.)
- Unger, Merrill F. *Unger's Commentary on the Old Testament*. Chicago, Illinois: Moody Press, 1981. (Volume 1 covers Genesis through Song of Solomon with a fine summary of each paragraph.)
- Wiersbe, Warren W., *Expository Outlines on the O.T.*, published by Calvary Book Room, Covington Kentucky, 1968. (very good, useful on many subjects, O.T. & N.T. are now printed).

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- Ironside, H. A. *Notes on the Book of Proverbs*. Neptune, New Jersey: Loizeaux Brothers, 1907. (Very good.)
- Kelly, William. *The Proverbs*. Oak Park, Illinois: Bible Truth Publishers, n.d.
- Kidner, D. *The Proverbs*. Chicago, Illinois: Inter-Varsity Christian Fellowship, 1964.
- Mackintosh, C. H. *Miscellaneous Writings*. Neptune, New Jersey: Loizeaux Brothers, n.d.
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- Unger, Merrill F. *Unger's Bible Handbook*. Chicago, Illinois: Moody Press, 1966. (Very valuable.)
- Unger, Merrill F. *Unger's Commentary on the Old Testament, Vol. 1*. Chicago, Illinois: Moody Press, 1981. (Very helpful.)
- Wiersbe, Warren W., *Expository Outlines on the O.T.*, published by Calvary Book Room, Covington Kentucky, 1968. (very good, useful on many subjects, O.T. & N.T. are now printed).

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- Darby, J. N. *Synopses of the Books of the Bible*. Addison, Illinois: Bible Truth Publishers, n.d.
- DeHaan, Richard W. *The Art of Staying Off Dead-End Streets*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Radio Bible Class, 1974. (A study in Ecclesiastes.)
- Gaebelein, Arno C. *The Annotated Bible*. 1917. Reprint. Neptune, New Jersey: Loizeaux Brothers, 1971.
- Glickman, S. Craig. *A Song for Lovers*. Downers Grove, Illinois: Inter-Varsity Press, 1976. (A fine treatment of Song of Solomon.)
- Gray, James M. *Commentary on the Whole Bible*. Old Tappan, New Jersey: Fleming H. Revell Co., 1906.
- Hadley, E. C. *The Song of Solomon*. Sunbury, Pennsylvania: Believer's Bookshelf, n.d.
- Ironside, H. A. *Addresses on the Song of Solomon*. Neptune, New Jersey: Loizeaux Brothers, 1933. (An excellent treatment.)
- Jennings, F. C. *Meditations on Ecclesiastes*. Sunbury, Pennsylvania: Believer's Bookshelf, 1920.
- Jensen, Irving L. *Ecclesiastes and the Song of Solomon*. Chicago, Illinois: Moody Press, 1974. (A self-study guide.)
- Kaiser, Walter C., Jr. *Ecclesiastes: Total Life*. Chicago, Illinois: Moody Press, 1979.
- Kelly, William. *Lectures on the Song of Solomon*. Addison, Illinois: Bible Truth Publishers, n.d.
- Miller, Andrew. *The Song of Solomon*. Addison, Illinois: Bible Truth Publishers, n.d.
- Unger, Merrill F. *Unger's Bible Handbook*. Chicago, Illinois: Moody Press, 1966.
- Unger, Merrill F. *Unger's Commentary on the Old Testament*. Vol. I. Chicago, Illinois: Moody Press, 1981. (The Old Testament is covered in two volumes by this eminent Hebrew scholar. Highly recommended.)
- Wiersbe, Warren W., *Expository Outlines on the O.T.*, published by Calvary Book Room, Covington Kentucky, 1968. (very good, useful on many subjects, O.T. & N.T. are now printed).

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- Hoyt, Herman A. *The End Times*. Chicago, Illinois: Moody Press, 1969.
- Pentecost, J. Dwight. *Prophecy for Today*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan Publishing House, 1961.
- Pentecost, J. Dwight. *Things to Come*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan Publishing House, 1958.
- Ryrie, Charles C. *The Basis of the Premillennial Faith*. Neptune, New Jersey: Loizeaux Brothers, 1953.
- Sauer, Erich. *From Eternity to Eternity*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1954.
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- Jennings, F. C. *Studies in Isaiah*. Neptune, New Jersey: Loizeaux Brothers, n.d.
- Jensen, Irving L. *Isaiah and Jeremiah*. Chicago, Illinois: Moody Press, n.d. (A self-study guide.)
- Kelly, William. *An Exposition of Isaiah*. Addison, Illinois: Bible Truth Publishers, 1896.
- Martin, Alfred. *Isaiah: The Salvation of Jehovah*. Chicago, Illinois: Moody Press, 1956. (A fine, inexpensive survey.)
- Unger, Merrill F. *Unger's Bible Handbook*. Chicago, Illinois: Moody Press, 1966.
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- Wiersbe, Warren W., *Expository Outlines on the O.T.*, published by Calvary Book Room, Covington Kentucky, 1968. (very good, useful on many subjects, O.T. & N.T. are now printed).

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- Gray, James M. *Synthetic Bible Studies*. Old Tappan, New Jersey: Fleming H. Revell Co., 1906.
- Ironside, H. A. *Notes on Jeremiah*. Neptune, New Jersey: Loizeaux Brothers, 1946.
- Jensen, Irving L. *Isaiah and Jeremiah*. Chicago, Illinois: Moody Press, n.d. (A self-study guide.)
- Jensen, Irving L. *Jeremiah: Prophet of Judgment*. Chicago, Illinois: Moody Press, 1966.
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- Meyer, F. B. *Jeremiah: Priest and Prophet*. Fort Washington, Pennsylvania: Christian Literature Crusade, 1894. (A rich devotional study.)
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- Wiersbe, Warren W., *Expository Outlines on the O.T.*, published by Calvary Book Room, Covington Kentucky, 1968. (very good, useful on many subjects, O.T. & N.T. are now printed).

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- Alexander, Ralph. *Ezekiel*. Chicago, Illinois: Moody Press, 1976. (Fine, inexpensive survey.)
- Feinberg, Charles L. *The Prophecy of Ezekiel*. Chicago, Illinois: Moody Press, 1969. (Excellent.)
- Gaebelein, Arno C. *The Prophet Ezekiel*. Neptune, New Jersey: Loizeaux Brothers, 1918.
- Grant, F. W. *The Numerical Bible, Ezekiel*. Neptune, New Jersey: Loizeaux Brothers, n.d.
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- Kelly, William. *Notes on Ezekiel*. Addison, Illinois: Bible Truth Publishers, 1876.
- McGee, J. Vernon. *Ezekiel*. Nashville, Tennessee: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1991.

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- Wiersbe, Warren W., *Expository Outlines on the O.T.*, published by Calvary Book Room, Covington Kentucky, 1968. (very good, useful on many subjects, O.T. & N.T. are now printed).

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- Anderson, Sir Robert. *The Coming Prince: The Last Great Monarch of Christendom*. London, England: Hodder and Stoughton, 1881.
- Campbell, Donald K. *Daniel: Decoder of Dreams*. Wheaton, Illinois: Victor Books, 1977.
- Criswell, W. A. *Expository Sermons on the Book of Daniel*. Grand Rapids, Michigan: Zondervan Publishing House, 1968.
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Bible Dictionaries Encyclopedias (General Reference Works) – Generally, Bible dictionaries and encyclopedias do not follow the same trend of liberal thinking as what is found in modern commentaries. This is due to defining terms rather than giving a theological discourse. There are, though, some biblical dictionaries or encyclopedias that overstep their duty and speculate beyond mere definitions. In brief, the way to discover the bias of a Bible dictionary is to look up certain key areas of contention between liberal and conservative Christians. If one examines the topics of Creation, Inspiration, the writings of Moses, the Gospel authorship, or the like, and finds slants. A few good conservative Bible dictionaries are:

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Vine, W.E., et al. *An Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words*. Nashville: Thomas Nelson Publishers, 1985.

Wright, William Aldis, *The Bible Word-Book*. London: Macmillan, 1884.

Theology Books – For help with doctrinal messages, I find a number of men particularly helpful. I do have a number of theological works, but the ones that I tend to reach for first are (*In alphabetical order*):

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Chafer, Lewis Sperry. *Systematic Theology*. Dallas Seminary, 1947. 8 vols.

Elwell, Walter. *Handbook of Evangelical Theologians*. Baker, 1993.

Evans, *The Great Doctrines of the Bible* (Good)

Gill, John. *Body of Divinity*. Lassetter, 1965.

Hodge, Charles. *Systematic Theology*. Clarke, 1960. 3 vols.

Hodge, A.A., *Outlines of Theology* (Excellent)

Lockyer *All the Doctrines of the Bible* (Basic)

Packer, J. I., ed. *The Best in Theology*. Christianity Today, 1987.

Ryrie, Charles C. *Biblical Theology of the New Testament*. Moody, 1959.

Shedd, William G.T., *Dogmatic Theology*, P & R Publishers.

Theissen, Henry, *Lectures in Systematic Theology* (Good).

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Walvoord, John F. & Chafer, Lewis Sperry, *Systematic Theology*. Victor, 1988 2 vols.

Warfield, Benjamin B. *Biblical and Theological Studies*. Presbyterian and Reformed, 1968.

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Green, Michael, *Illustrations For Biblical Preaching*.

Little, Charles E., *10,000 Biblical Illustrations*, Baker Book House.

Rice, John R., *50 Years of Soul Stirring Illustrations*, Murfreesboro, Tenn.: Sword of the Lord, 1978.

Wallis, Charles Langworthy, *1010 Sermon Illustrations from the Bible*, New York, Harper & Row 1963.

Naismith, Archibald, *1200 Notes, Quotes and Anecdotes*, (Reprinted). London, Pickering & Inglis, 1965.

Cross Reference Scripture Comparison

Torrey, R. A. & John Canne (Editor), *The Treasury of Scripture Knowledge* (Barbour) (In Several Computer Packages; E-Sword; SwordSearcher; Etc.)

Topical Studies or references in the center column of the Bible to look up topics and subjects. The best commentary on the Bible is the Bible itself (“Comparing Spiritual with Spiritual...” 1 Cor.2:13) and it is thought that a topical index is best. Topical helps cut the time needed to run references (sometimes with many fruitless results).

Torrey, R. A., *The Torrey’s Topical Textbook* (In Several Computer Packages; E-Sword; SwordSearcher; Etc.)

Nave, Orville J., *Naves Topical Bible* (In Several Computer Packages; E-Sword; SwordSearcher; Etc.)
Nelson’s Topical Index, Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson, 1995.

The Chain reference Section from the *Thompson Chain Reference Bible*

The index in the back of the *Scofield Reference Bible*

Bible Survey Books or Handbooks (Sometimes the helps in the back of a good study Bible) – The biblical background gives us insight into the history, archaeology, geography, topography, culture, mannerisms, and customs. Most of books on these subjects make good references for consulting various biblical passages. These help us to understand things like how Joseph was called the “husband” of Mary during their betrothal. The Jewish custom of betrothal was as solid as a marriage and could only be broken by a decree of divorce. Background books help us immensely in this area

Halley, Henry H., *Hailey’s Bible Handbook*.

Dockery, David S., *Holman’s Bible Handbook*,

Baxter, J. Sidlow, *Explore the Book*.

Gaebelein. Arno, *The Annotated Bible*.

Darby, J.N., *Synopsis of the Books of the Bible*.

Wilmington’s Bible Handbook (Wilmington)

The New Unger’s Bible Handbook (Unger)

Bible Atlas

Baker’s Bible Atlas

Nelson’s Bible Atlas

The Gazetteer in the back of a good study Bible

Cult Studies

Adam, Ben *The Origin of Heathendom*. Bethany Fellowship Inc., Minneapolis, Minnesota, 1963.

Berry, W.J. *Cults*, Primitive Publications, Elon College, N.C. 1981.

Bettenson, Henry, Editor, *Documents of the Christian Church*, Oxford University Press, London, England, 1956.

Boettner, Loraine, *Roman Catholicism*, Presbyterian and Reformed Pub. Co., Phillipsburg, N.J. 1962.

Cetnar, William and Joan, *The 12- Questions For Jehovah’s Witnesses* Kunkletown, Pa. 1983.

Gerstner, John *The Theology Of The Major Sects*, Baker Book House, Grand Rapids, Mich. 1982.

Hislop, Alexander, *The Two Babylons*, Loizeaux Bros. Inc., Neptune, N.J. 1959. (Excellent on Roman Catholicism)

Hunt, David and McMahon, T.A. *The Seduction of Christianity*, Harvest House Pub., Eugene, Oregon, 1986.

Irvine, William C. *Heresies Exposed*. Neptune, N.J.: Loizeaux Brothers Inc. Bible Truth Depot, Neptune, N.J., 1976.

Kofahl, Robert E. *Handy Dandy Evolution Refuter*, Beta Books, San Diego, California, 1980.

Martin, Walter R. *The Kingdom of the Cults*. Minneapolis: Bethany Fellowship, revised edition, 15th printing, 1974.

McAbee, Edward, *Stay On The Firing Line*, Gaffney, S.C. 1978.

Shelton, L.R. *Divine Healing - True Or False*, Old Puritan Press, New Orleans, La. 1957.

Van Baalen, J. K. *The Chaos of Cults*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1962.

Voorhis, G.D. (compiled by) *Creeds Of Christendom*

Jewish History Studies

Josephus, Flavious, *The Works of Josephus*.

Edersheim, Alfred, *The Temple*.

Sermons of Great Men

Morgan, G. Campbell, *The Westminster Pulpit*.

Tozer, A.W., *The Tozer Pulpit*.

Spurgeon, Charles Haddon, *The Metropolitan Tabernacle Pulpit*.

The Sword of the Lord's ongoing series on Great Preaching:

Great Preaching on the Resurrection Volume I (compiled by Dr. Curtis Hutson)

Great Preaching on the Deity of Christ Volume II (compiled by Dr. Curtis Hutson)

Great Preaching on Heaven Volume III (compiled by Dr. Curtis Hutson)

Great Preaching on Thanksgiving Volume IV (compiled by Dr. Curtis Hutson)

Great Preaching on the New Year Volume V (compiled by Dr. Curtis Hutson)

Great Preaching on Mothers Volume VI (compiled by Dr. Curtis Hutson)

Great Preaching on Patriotism Volume VII (compiled by Dr. Curtis Hutson)

Great Preaching on Prayer Volume VIII (compiled by Dr. Curtis Hutson)

Great Preaching on the Holy Spirit Volume IX (compiled by Dr. Curtis Hutson)

Great Preaching on Christmas Volume X (compiled by Dr. Curtis Hutson)

Great Preaching on the Second Coming Volume XI (compiled by Dr. Curtis Hutson)

Great Preaching on Fathers Volume XII (compiled by Dr. Curtis Hutson)

Great Preaching on Soul-Winning Volume XIII (compiled by Dr. Curtis Hutson)

Great Preaching on Hell Volume XIV (compiled by Dr. Curtis Hutson)

Great Preaching on Judgment Volume XV (compiled by Dr. Curtis Hutson)

Great Preaching on Comfort Volume XVI (compiled by Dr. Curtis Hutson)

Great Preaching on Salvation Volume XVII (compiled by Dr. Curtis Hutson)

Great Preaching on Revival Volume XVIII (compiled by Dr. Shelton L. Smith)

Great Preaching on Christ Volume XIX (compiled by Dr. Shelton Smith)

Great Preaching on the Bible Volume XX (compiled by Dr. Shelton Smith)

Topics of Note

Church History and Polity

Orchard, G.H., *A Concise History of Baptist*, Bogard Press, 1977

D'Aubigne, J.H. Merle. *History of the Reformation of the Sixteenth Century*. New York: Hurst & Company Publishers, 1835.

Hiscox, Edward T. *Principles and Practices for Baptist Churches*. Grand Rapids: Kregel Publications, 1980 reprint of the 1894 work. (This book has been revised and updated by Judson Press – You need the older Judson edition or the reprint)

Mead, Frank S. *Handbook of Denominations in the United States. 9th ed.* Nashville: Abingdon Press, 1990.

Harvey, Hazekiah. *The Pastor: His Qualifications and Duties.* Rochester, NY: Backus Book Publishers, 1982 reprint of the 1879 work.

Evangelism

Evans, William, *Personal Soul Winning*, Moody Press, Chicago, Illinois, 1910; 1964.

Scarborough, L.R. *With Christ after the Lost*, Broadman Press 1952.

Borroughs, P.E., *How to Win to Christ*, The Sunday School Board, SBC 1934 (you will need to find this one used)

Stewart, James A. *The Lordship of Christ*, Asheville, NC: Gospel Projects, Revival Literature 1955. (get from Relph Sexton Jr.)

Thompson, Dr. Frank C., *The Chain Reference Bible*, B.B.Kirkbride Bible Co. Inc. 1964. (See articles # 1077; 3908; & 4206)

The King James Bible

Grady, William, *The Final Authority*

Scott, Walter, *The Story of Our English Bible*, A Beka Book (1995) (A reprinted classic from around 1900)

Paine, Gustavus S., *The Men Behind the King James Version*

McClure, Alexander, *Translators Revived*, (From the 1858 Edition with Forward and Update by R.E. Rhoades), Maranatha Bible Society

Burton, Barry, *Let's Weigh the Evidence*, Chick Publications, 1983.

Carson, D.A., *The King James Version Debate*, Baker Book House 1979.

Riplinger, Gal. A., *New Age Bible Versions*, AV Publications, 1993.

Fuller, David Otis *Counterfeit or Genuine*; Grand Rapids International Publications; 1975.

Fuller, David Otis *Which Bible?*; Grand Rapids International Publications; 1970, 1971, 1972, 1975.

Fuller, David Otis *True or False*; Grand Rapids International Publications; 1973.

Kubo, Sakae & Specht, Walter *So Many Versions*; Zondervan; 1975

Pink, Authur W. *The Divine Inspiration of the Bible*; Reiner Publications

Cimino, Rev. Dick *Which Bible Does GOD Use?*; Wonderful Word Publishers, Inc.; 1975.

Hills, Edward F. *The KJV Defended*; The Christian Research Press; 1956, 1973.

Hills, Edward F. *Believing Bible Study*; The Christian Research Press; 1967, 1977.

Ruckman, Peter S. *The Christian's Handbook of Manuscript Evidence*; Pensacola Bible Press 1970.

Ray, J.J. *GOD Wrote Only One Bible*; The Eye Opener Publications

Smith, Dr. Miles *The Translators To the Readers (Preface to the 1611)*

Gipp, Samuel C. *The Answer Book*; Bible & Literature Missionary Foundation; 1989.

Lindsell, Harold. *The Battle for the Bible*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1976.

Burgon, John William. *Revision Revised*. Fort Worth: A.G. Hobbs Publications, reprint, 1883.

McClure, Alexander. *Translators Revived: Biographical Notes of the KJV Bible Translators*. Worthington, Pa.: Maranatha Publications reprint of the 1850 edition.

Prayer

Lee, Robert G. *The Bible and Prayer*; Broadman Press, 1950.

Eschatology

Pentecost, J. Dwight. *Things to Come: A Study in Biblical Eschatology*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1958.

Talbot, Louis T. *God's Plan of the Ages*. Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 1936.

Tan, Paul Lee. *The Interpretation of Prophecy*. Winona Lake, In.: Assurance Publishers, 1974.

Willmington, H.L. *The King Is Coming*. Wheaton: Tyndale House Publishers, 1983.

Payne, J. Barton. *Encyclopedia of Biblical Prophecy*. Harper, 1973.

Apologetics

Morris, Henry M. *The Twilight of Evolution*. Grand Rapids: Baker Book House, 1963.

Electronic Texts (Public Domain)

Easton's Bible Dictionary: M.G. Easton M.A., D.D., Illustrated Bible Dictionary, Third Edition, published by Thomas Nelson, 1897. (without the illustrated portions) Public Domain.

Strong's Greek and Hebrew Lexicon: Taken from Strong's Exhaustive Concordance, by James Strong, S.T.D., LL.D., 1890. Public Domain.

Albert Barnes' *Commentary on the New Testament*. Public Domain.

Nine Bible version texts sometimes consulted for comparison purposes. These texts are in the Public Domain.

King James Bible, 1769

Webster's Revised KJV, 1833

American Standard Version, 1901

Darby's Translation, 1890/1884

Young's Literal Translation, J.N. Young, 1862, 1898.

Bible in Basic English, 1949/1964

Reina-Valera (Spanish), 1909

Luther Bible (German), 1912

Louis Segond Version (French), 1910

Greek Texts:

Textus Receptus, Stephens 1550 edition with Scrivener 1894 variants as footnotes.

Westcott & Hort Critical Text, 1881 for comparison purposes.

Family Bible Notes: 1861. Public Domain

The Fourfold Gospel: A Harmony of the Four Gospels, by J. W. McGarvey and Philip Y. Pendleton, 1914. Public Domain.

Geneva Bible Notes: 1599. Public Domain.

Matthew Henry's *Concise Commentary on the Bible*: Matthew Henry's popular devotional commentary. Public Domain.

Matthew Henry's *Commentary on the Whole Bible*: Matthew Henry's exhaustive commentary. Public Domain.

The King James Translators' Footnotes: Original marginal readings from the Authorized Version. Public Domain.

The Morning and Evening Daily Devotional: Twice-daily devotional by C.H. Spurgeon. Public Domain.

The People's New Testament Commentary: Public Domain.

Old Scofield Reference Bible Notes: 1917, Public Domain.

The Treasury of Scripture Knowledge: over 500,000 cross-references, Public Domain.

1894 Scrivener Greek New Testament, Transliterated: 1894, Public Domain.

1550 Stephanus Greek New Testament, Transliterated: 1550, Public Domain.

The Treasury of David: C.H. Spurgeon's exhaustive commentary on the Psalms. Public Domain.

William Burkitt's *Notes on the New Testament: 40th edition*, 1807. Public Domain.

Jamieson-Fausset-Brown *Commentary Critical and Explanatory on the Whole Bible*, Robert Jamieson, A. R. Fausset and David Brown, 1871.

American Tract Society Dictionary 1859

International Standard Bible Encyclopedia

Smith's Bible Dictionary

Strong's Hebrew Lexicon James Strong, 1880. The same as found in Strong's Concordance.

Strong's Greek Lexicon James Strong, 1880. The same as found in Strong's Concordance.

Spurgeon's Morning and Evening Devotional, C.H. Spurgeon.

Bible Computer Programs – I use computers for a large amount of my research and have gathered a large collection of E-Books and software in my electronic library. Some of my favorite packages are:

E-Sword (Free download – Pocket-PC also)

SwordSearcher (Great program – very reasonably priced commercial, now in ver. 4.7)

PC Study Bible (Many Resources)

The On-Line Bible (Free Download - Ver. 2.00 is nearly as good as E-Sword)

Ages (was known as Sage's) *Digital Library* – Many books in PDF format (for the free Adobe Acrobat Reader)

– *Ages Ultimate Christian Library* – All on DVD or separately on CD-ROM:

– *The Master Christian Library* Version 8 – This Inexpensive easy to use electronic library contains over 500 Resources

– *The Reformation History Library* Version 2 – Rare, valuable and important annals of the Protestant Reformation. Some titles out of print for over 200 years.

– *The C.H. Spurgeon Collection* – Metropolitan Tabernacle Pulpit, Park Street Pulpit and etc.

– *The Complete John Calvin Collection* – The most definitive Calvin collection ever!

– *The Arthur Pink Collection* – Over 41 books on 1 CD. Writings from Pinks Studies in Scripture.

– *The John Owen Collection* – Includes his Works in 16 vol. and his 7 vol. Exposition on Hebrews.

– *The John Gill Collection* – The most complete collection by John Gill ever assembled.

– *Classic Sermon Collection* – MacLaren, Augustine, Chrysostom, Edwards, Moody, Whitefield

– *The Pulpit Commentary* – Verse by Verse Exposition, Homiletic, Biblical Customs, Historical and Geographic.

– *The Biblical Illustrator* – Anecdotes, Similies, Emblems, Illustrations, Expository, Geography, History, originally published in 1887 by Joseph Exell.

– *The Expositors Bible* – This set of books is the recognized standard of expository commentaries Edited and Compiled by Sir William Robertson Nicoll.

– *Cyclopedia of Biblical, Theological, and Ecclesiastical Literature* – by Rev. John McClintock and James Strong. This valuable resource which cannot be purchased new, is rarely found is complete on this CD-ROM.

Quick Verse (Version 8 has all the books unlocked)

Bible Illustrator by Parsons Tech. (A database of clips for the preacher keyed to the Thompson Chain system numbers - Version 3 with many add-on modules – You can add your own).

The Shiloh Christian Library Vol. 1, 2 and 3 – One of the best sources to grow your library (Plymouth Brethren Oriented Books in PDF). Access and view 200 books by 75 authors on each CD! Wonderful...!!!

Background Works – A useful book I picked up brand new at about one third of the asking price was *Manners and Customs of the Bible* by James M. Freeman. This is like a Bible Dictionary, although it is set forth chronologically rather than by subject. Often you wouldn't even think of looking up a subject in the other Bible dictionaries but Mr. Freeman has anticipated that and this book is invaluable. If I do use a conventional Bible Dictionary, I have the Easton's Dictionary on my computer's Bible study software and also a number of hard copy Bible Dictionary on the shelf. However, often the relevant background details are supplied by the commentators.

A Note Pad - maybe of a size that can be kept inside your Bible cover.

Several small point colored pens or pencils for making organized markings in the text of your Bible.

High Liter pens to mark notable texts in the Bible. These pastel markers will allow marking text and notes to allow quick notice as we re-read.

A Reading List

There are 66 books in the Bible. Each one has a specific purpose which relates to the revelation of Jesus Christ. Leviticus has an entirely different purpose from Romans. When you read something in Leviticus, you would not apply it in the same way as you would Romans. Understanding the purpose of the Thessalonian letters greatly helps in trying to understand some of Paul's comments there. Each of the four Gospels has a different purpose, which explains why they are not identical biographical sketches. To aid us in understanding the purpose of a book of the Bible, we use a Bible Handbook, or a Survey of the Bible. Commentaries will also contain information on the purpose of the book. Some Study Bibles also contain this information.

There many areas of the Preachers Reference Library that we can not consider here, but that about sums up a Basic Bible Students Reference Library, although I'd be quick to add that there are a few books worth getting that don't really fit into a reference classification per se, but nevertheless are great references. A partial list is below:

Harmony of the Gospels – A. T. Robertson's *Harmony of the Gospel* is a major work needed.

History of Christianity – These three ought to be found: *A Manual of Church History* (2 vol. set) by Albert Henry Newman, *The Trail of Blood* by J. M. Corroll and *A Short History of Baptist* by H. C. Vedder

Foxe's Book of Martyrs – By Bishop Foxe is a history of the persecution of Christians through the ages until the Reformation. You need the "Old" edition not the edited edition of recent publication.

The Works of Josephus – The standard work of Old Testament history.

Number in Scripture – This book by E.W. Bullinger is invaluable for the typology study of Scripture.

The Life and Times of Jesus The Messiah – By Alferd Edersheim. In the unabridged edition, the definitive life of Christ

Systematic Theology – You need several. In no particular order: *Abstract of Systematic Theology* by Rev. James Petigru Boyce, *Institutes of the Christian Religion* (Vol. 1-4) by John Calvin, *Manual of Theology* by J. L. Dagg, *Systematic Theology* by Charles Hodge and *Elemental Theology* by Emery Bancroft.

The Invisible War by Dr. Donald Gray Barnhouse – This should have a subtitle, "Required Reading for all Christians intending to be Serious at all." Aside from the Bible itself, I find this to be the single most important book I've ever read. Dr. Barnhouse explores the situation man is in since the Garden of Eden affair. Barnhouse was one of those people who were unsurpassed in gleaning insights from the Bible. Absolutely profound.

Evidence That Demands a Verdict by Josh McDowell – This is the definitive apologetic work on Christianity. An apologetic is a defense of the faith. In this book, Josh McDowell, probably one of the greatest Christian minds living today, gives irrefutable evidence for the Christian faith. The book was not written for casual reading. Rather, it was written with documentation to be used in debates, college papers, witnessing and basically anywhere Christianity might be challenged. Josh McDowell's tape series that goes along with this book (or used separately) is available free on Manna BBS.

Kingdom of the Cults by Walter Martin – If you don't already know Dr. Walter Martin, you will find him to be probably the best authority on Comparative Religion in Christianity today. This, his best selling book is a survey of the most popular cults around today. He doesn't go into A LOT of detail, but there is enough here to gain an understanding of the many false teachings in the world today that claim to be Christian. The book was written in the 60s, and has been revised at least once since then, in order to keep current with our changing world. Dr. Martin has also written other books about specific cults (Mormons, Jehovah's Witnesses, etc.) which are also available at your local Christian

bookstore.

Essential Christianity by Walter Martin – Again, Walter Martin has written what I think to be the perfect balance between a statement of faith, and a Systematic Theology. A Systematic Theology can weigh you down with thousands of pages of doctrine, and defense of that doctrine. They are generally hard to read, harder to understand, and even harder to stay awake through, not to mention a few of the weird ideas of the day! This book solves that problem quite nicely. This is a little paperback which discusses the ‘essential’ doctrines of the Christian faith. Dr. Martin shows from the Bible why these are doctrines, and how we defend these doctrines without getting completely boring! This is a fantastic book for a new Christian since it explains all the basic Christian doctrines we hold.

The Two Babylons by Alexander Hisslop – I hesitate to mention this one since it definitely upsets our Catholic “brothers and sisters.” This book goes into many of the old pagan rituals and shows the similarities to current Roman Catholicism. He gets a bit radical at some points, but there is a lot of interesting reading here.

Made According to Pattern - These Are the Garments - Thus Shalt Thou Serve by C.W. Slemming – This set of three books is very inexpensive but worth their weight in gold! They are hard to find, but again, worth the effort. In “*Made According to Pattern*,” Slemming looks at the Tabernacle and its spiritual significance. In “*These are the Garments*,” he studies the High Priest’s robes. He considers the colors, textures, and all the accessories, and shows the significance of each one. In “*Thus Shalt Thou Serve*,” the topic is a study of the offerings and feasts of early Jewish worshipers, and how this applies to us. Together, these three books will help you come to appreciate the Torah more than you ever did before. This is a wonderful demonstration of just what you can get out of using typology as a way of understanding all the more tedious parts of the Bible.

The Temple by Alfred Edersheim – Primarily focused on the Temple at the time of Christ, this is a fabulous study on the Christian significance of the Levitical observances by a noted Rabbi who became a famous Episcopal Bishop. All the books by this author are great.

The Screwtape Letters by C.S. Lewis – These books discuss how Satan works in the world today, and the games he loves to play with us Christians when we are basically too stupid to recognize these games. Hal Lindsey’s book (“*Satan Is Alive and Well*”) is more on the factual, scriptural side, while C.S. Lewis’ book is more of an imaginative scenario of a demon assigned to hassle a believer.

The Light and the Glory by Peter Marshall and David Manuel – Don’t ever let anyone tell you that God does not have a plan for this country! This book examines the lives of the founding fathers of our country from Columbus to Washington. This is not a fictional book, but rather, is written from actual diaries and documents written at the time. This is a highly exciting and readable history of the United States where you can re-learn our heritage from a Christian perspective.

The Seduction of Christianity by Dave Hunt & T.A. McMahon – This controversial book is extremely good to have just to wake us up to the times we live in. It is a quite controversial book in that many people object to it. You can cut the air with a knife whenever Dave Hunt lectures on his book in some places. Nevertheless, we should be aware of the issues discussed in this book since the subjects of this book are discussed so often today. Dave Hunt is a powerful apologist.

Prophecy in Stone by David Webber and Noah Hutchings – If you ever wondered about the Great Pyramid in Egypt, this is an inexpensive and easily read little book that discusses it. To get it, you need to write to: The Southwest Radio Church, P.O. Box 1144, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73101.

The Conclusion

“And further, by these, my son, be admonished: of making many books there is no end; and much study is a weariness of the flesh.” (*Eccl.12:12*)

Appendix A

Bible Reference Tools Glossary

The Editor's Preface

The terms encountered in Bible study poses a very specialized field. The problem is that the student may not be able to find definitions in conventional sources. This concise glossary is offered as a help to the seeking reader.

The Editor disclaims originality. Other men have labored, I have but entered into their labors. The results of the study of God's Word by learned and spiritual servants, in every division of the church and in many lands, has netted a bounty of wonder in the matter of Bible study. The Editor has only proposed to himself the modest task of summarizing, arranging and condensing this mass of material into a convenient form.

Here we have a short glossary of the terms you will find used in connection with the Basic Preacher's Reference Library. This is not a complete list but will grow over time and through your progress.

TWP

Alexandrian Text – The family of Greek manuscripts upon which most modern version are based. The three main manuscripts of the Alexandrian line are Alexandrinus (except in the Gospels), Sinaiticus, and Vaticanus. The name is derived from Alexandria, Egypt. (See Greek Manuscripts)

Allegoricalism – To interpret Scripture spiritually and not literally. Even though employed in the Bible, “Allegorical” interpretation has giving superstition, mystical and false teaching to the Scripture when used to extreme.

Ancient Versions – Used as a source for establishing a Greek text or to support a reading in a Greek manuscript. Such versions include Jerome's Latin Vulgate, the Old Latin, Old Syrian, Coptic, Gothic and other versions.

Apocrypha Books – Religious books of the Old Testament written between the Testaments which are not considered, by some to be canonical. Most commonly refers to books or parts of books that are accepted by Roman Catholics as properly belonging to the Old Testament, but that most Protestants do not accept as inspired. There is also a group of books called the New Testament Apocrypha, but neither Catholics nor Protestants believe they should be included in the New Testament canon. (See Pseudepigraphal Books)

Apostolic Constitutions – The largest liturgical collection of writings from Antioch, Syria dating to around 380 AD.

Archaeology – The scientific study and presentation of material remains of biblical life and activities.

Atlas – The collection of maps, illustrations, tables, charts, historical data, climatology, and other information pertaining to biblical geography and cities.

Analytical Lexicon – A dictionary that identifies the form of each original language word of either the Old Testament (Hebrew/Aramaic) or the New Testament (Greek) and shows the lexical form (the form one finds in a lexicon or dictionary) under which a word can be found in a standard Hebrew or Greek lexicon.

Autographs – The written manuscripts of the Old and New Testaments. The term “original autographs” would refer to the manuscript in its original form written by the inspired writer.

AV 1611, The – At the Hampton Court Conference in 1604 the Puritan leader Reynolds made the suggestion - which was first opposed and then adopted by the Conference with enthusiastic approval of King James I - that there should be a new translation of the Holy Scriptures in English, to replace the different versions then in common use. Fifty-four men, including High Churchmen and Puritans, the greatest Hebrew and Greek scholars of the age, formed six companies to undertake the task. Using their Greek sources and the best commentaries of European scholars, and referring to Bibles in Spanish,

Italian, French and German, they expressed the sense of the Greek in clear, vigorous and idiomatic English. This Bible won its battles against the prejudices and criticism which greeted its first appearance and became the Bible of the English-speaking world.

The KJV was published in 1611 after almost four years of intensive revision. We must also understand that the King James Bible is not the product merely of that learned company of men in the early 1600s, but is the fruit of roughly 100 years of translation and revision hammered out by godly men in the fires of persecution, beginning with the labors of William Tyndale. This process is unique in the history of Bible translation.

In giving a biography of the King James translators in 1860, Alexander McClure makes this observation: "...that all the colleges of Great Britain and America, even in this proud day of boastings, could not bring together the same number of divines equally qualified by learning and piety for the great undertaking [of Bible translation]...this blessed book [the KJV] is so far complete and exact, that the unlearned reader, being of ordinary intelligence, may enjoy the delightful assurance, that, if he study it in faith and prayer, and give himself up to its teachings, he shall not be confounded or misled as to any matter essential to his salvation and his spiritual good. It will as safely guide him into all the things needful for faith and practice, as would the original Scriptures, if he could read them, or if they could speak to him as well as they spake to the Hebrew in Jerusalem, or to the Greek in Corinth"

Bible – The Christian Scriptures. The word "Bible" is from the Greek word *biblios*, which means a book. The Bible is divided into two major sections – the Old and the New Testaments. "Testament" means covenant or agreement. The O.T. describes man's creation and fall and contains the record of God's preparations for and prophecies of the coming of the Savior, Jesus Christ. The N.T. contains the accounts of Christ's birth, life, death, resurrection, return to Heaven, and the teachings of Christ's followers, as well as prophecies of the future. But to those who are faithful, the Bible is bread to the hungry, water to the thirsty, life to the dying and hope to the hopeless. Its pages are filled with the answer to all questions imagined, all problems encountered, all battles fought and every gainsayer's doubts.

Bible Believer – A Christian who accepts the final authority of and the absolute accuracy of the KJB. Bible Believers are sure to be a minority in the church family. This position is one that causes some very different convictions within the life of such an one. Bible based convictions are the only convictions that will stand that test and these convictions will never be dissolved. A true Bible Believer is in a position that can not be swayed for he stands firm on a foundation of an unmoveable Bible.

Bible Corruptor – Any and all of a large and growing number of translators, scholars, preachers, and mostly poor, deluded, lost sinners with no true Bible and therefore are duty bound to correct mine and yours. We should not be too hard on these in that they enjoy not the confidence of Scripture, Experience not the cannon of Sure Truth and Enter not into the Fullness of Free Salvation. The fault of such is that they think themselves so far superior to the simple Bible Believer. These can be recognized saying things like: "A better translation says..." "The original Greek says..." "The archaic wording of the KJV..." or "The best manuscripts render this..."

Brevior Lectio Potior – The maxim of modern textual critics which means, "the shorter reading is preferred." Many redactions in the modern translations are justified only by this rule. (See Grandville Sharp Rule)

Byzantine Text – Also called the Traditional Text, the Syrian Text, and sometimes the Majority Text. The largest family of Greek manuscripts draws its name from the Byzantine monks who copied the text. The Greek Textus Receptus, the text on which the Authorized Version is based, is from the Byzantine line of manuscripts. (See Greek Manuscripts)

Caesarean Text – A mixture of the Western and Alexandrian line of Greek manuscripts. It is thought to have originated in Egypt and was transported to Caesarea by Origen. Later, it was taken to Jerusalem. While at Caesarea it is thought developed. (See Greek Manuscripts)

Canon – to have been further The list of books that belong in the bible because. Christians regard them to

be divinely inspired. (See Canonicity).

- Canonicity** – The character that allows certain Old Testament and New Testament books to be part of the Biblical canon. This characteristic is divine inspiration. (See Canon)
- Cappadocian Fathers** – Early church fathers consisting of Basil of Caesarea, Gregory of Nazianzus, and Gregory of Nyssa. The Cappadocian fathers were strong theologians who supported the doctrine of the Trinity and whose manuscripts reflect the Traditional Text line.
- Codex** – A written manuscript with sheets bound together to form a book, as opposed to a scroll that might be loose-leaf. (See Scroll)
- Commentary** – Single or multi-volume works that systematically explain the meaning of biblical passages, arranged in biblical order (book, chapter, verse). Application Commentaries not only explain the original meaning of biblical passages, they also discuss the contemporary significance of those passages and how it is derived from the text. Devotional Commentaries focus on the spiritual significance of the text for our lives. Expository Commentaries focus on explaining the biblical text. Exegetical or Critical Commentaries focus primarily on technical issues related to the Hebrew/Aramaic or Greek texts and their interpretation; written primarily for specialists.
- Companion** – See Handbook.
- Concordance** – An alphabetical index of biblical words with a short context, listed in book, chapter, verse order. Concordances may be abridged or exhaustive. They may be all English, or Hebrew-English and Greek-English, indexing biblical words in their original languages with textual references in an English Bible translation. Still other concordances may be all Hebrew or all Greek.
- Conflation** – The mixing of two textual lines to form one reading. No other literary study would allow this method. Its use is pure supposition and is a scandal for Bible translation.
- Conjectural Emendation** – The classical method of textual criticism in which the editor of a Greek text attempts to restore what is considered the original reading based on the information at hand. This is applied when a reading in the Greek text is either missing or limited and the editor feels the need to supply what is lacking based on other information.
- Core Reference Library** – The essential reference books and software you need to effectively study the Bible (and from which you can further build your library). They can be grouped into three categories: books that give you an overview of the Bible (Bible Handbook), help you find verses and passages in the Bible (Concordance and Topical Bible), and help you understand things in the Bible (Bible Dictionary and Bible Commentary).
- Critical Apparatus** – A device found in many modern Greek texts explaining the reason for various readings as well as supplying textual information for or against a certain reading. It usually lists what Greek manuscripts were consulted, what early translations were used, and which of the Church Fathers quoted the questioned reading in its various form.
- Critical Text** – One of several Greek texts based on the Alexandrian textual line, usually containing a critical apparatus within its contents. (See Greek Manuscripts)
- Dead Sea Scrolls** – Manuscripts found in the caves at Qumran near the Dead Sea that contain Biblical and non-Biblical writings. (See Essenes).
- Diatessaron** – A harmony of the Gospels compiled by Tatian in the second century.
- Dictionary** – An alphabetical listing of theological terms and biblical topics, words, names, and places, together with their pronunciations and definitions. See Encyclopedia.
- Didache** – Known as the Teaching of the Twelve Apostles, this ancient catechism dating to the early second century contains a form of the Lord's Prayer that supports the reading found in the Textus Receptus.
- Dittography** – A scribal error involving the repetition of a letter, syllable, word, or phrase. (See Haplography, Homoeoteleuton)
- Docetism** – A form of Gnosticism which taught that Christ's body was a phantom and not physical.
- Doctrine** – The major teachings of the Bible. See Theology.

Dynamic Equivalent – A thought for thought translation to provide overall meaning. The New International Version, New Revised Standard Version, and Today’s English Version are all examples of dynamic equivalent translations. (See Formal Equivalent).

Encyclopedia – An expanded dictionary, this is typically a multi-volume work providing detailed contextual information of biblical topics, words, names, places, events, theology, and teachings, arranged alphabetically.

Eisegesis – Literally means reading a meaning into a text. An explanation or interpretation of a biblical text, based on conjecture or opinion. The style of teaching and preaching which deals with the dogmatic explanation of a text. (See Exegesis).

Erasmus – *Edited the Greek text which was later to be known as the Textus Receptus.* Desiderius Erasmus was born in 1466 and died in 1536 at the age of seventy. This was no mean feat during the days when the plagues, coupled with primeval medical practices, worked together to limit the average age of a man’s life to approximately 35-40 years. Both of his parents fell victim to that same plague while Erasmus was just a lad. He and his brother were then placed in the care of an uncle who promptly sent them off to a monastery just to be rid of them. Thus Erasmus’s destiny was sealed long before he could ever have a say in the matter.

Young Erasmus became well known for his charm, urbanity and wit, and was in possession of an obviously above average intellect. He was later to choose to be an Augustinian on the sole attribute that they were known to have the finest of libraries.

His behavior was somewhat bizarre by Augustinian standards. He refused to keep vigils, never hesitated to eat meat on Fridays, and though ordained, chose never to function as a priest. The Roman Church had captured his body, but quite apparently his mind and heart were still unfettered. He is known to history as one of the most prolific writers of all times.

Erasmus was a constant and verbal opponent of the many excesses of his church. He berated the papacy, the priesthood and the over indulgences of the monks. He stated that the monks would not touch money, but that they were not so scrupulous concerning wine and women. He constantly attacked clerical concubinage and the cruelty with which the Roman Catholic Church dealt with so-called “heretics.” He is even credited with saving a man from the Inquisition.

One of his many writings consisted of a tract entitled “Against the Barbarians” which was directed against the overt wickedness of the Roman Catholic Church. He was a constant critic of Pope Julius and the papal monarchy. He often compared the crusade-leading Pope Julius to Julius Caesar. He is quoted as saying, “How truly is Julius playing the part of Julius!” He also stated, “This monarchy of the Roman pontiff is the pest of Christendom.” He advised the church to “get rid of the Roman See.” When a scathing satire, in which Pope Julius was portrayed as going to Hell, written in anonymity, was circulated, it was fairly common knowledge that its author was Erasmus. He was offered a bishopric in hopes that it would silence his criticism. He rejected the bribe flat.

Erasmus published five editions of the New Testament in Greek. They were brought out successively in 1516, 1519, 1522, 1527 and 1535. His first two editions did not contain 1 John 5:7 although the reading had been found in many non-Greek texts dating back as early as 150 A.D. Erasmus desired to include the verse but knew the conflict that would rage if he did so without at least one Greek manuscript for authority. Following the publication of his second edition, which like his first consisted of both the Greek New Testament and his own Latin translation, he said that he would include 1 John 5:7 in his next edition if just one Greek manuscript could be found which contained it. Opponents of the reading today errantly charge that the two manuscripts found had been specially produced just to oblige Erasmus’s request, but this charge has never been validated and was not held at the time of Erasmus’s work.

The Roman Catholic Church criticized his works for his refusal to use Jerome’s Latin translation, a translation that he said was inaccurate. He opposed Jerome’s translation in two vital areas. He detected that the Greek text had been corrupted as early as the fourth century. He knew that Jerome’s translation

had been based solely on the Alexandrian manuscript, Vaticanus, written itself early in the fourth century.

He also differed with Jerome on the translation of certain passages which were vital to the claimed authority of the Roman Catholic Church. Jerome rendered Matthew 4:17 thus: "Do penance, for the kingdom of Heaven is at hand." Erasmus differed with: "Be penitent for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." Erasmus was also a staunch defender of both Mark 16:9-21 and John 8:1-12 which our modern-day scholars cannot seem to find.

Possibly Erasmus's greatest gift to mankind was his attitude toward the common man. In the rigidly "classed" society in which he lived, he was an indefatigable advocate of putting the Scripture in the hands of the common man. While Jerome's Latin had been translated at the bidding of the Roman hierarchy, Erasmus translated his Latin with the express purpose of putting it into the hands of the common people of his day, a practice that the Roman Catholic Church knew could be dangerous to its plan to control the masses.

Erasmus is quoted as saying, "Do you think that the Scriptures are fit only for the perfumed?" "I venture to think that anyone who reads my translation at home will profit thereby." He boldly stated that he longed to see the Bible in the hands of "the farmer, the tailor, the traveler and the Turk." Later, to the astonishment of his upper classed colleagues, he added, "the masons, the prostitutes and the pimps" to that declaration.

Knowing his desire to see the Bible in the hands of God's common people, it seems not so surprising that God was to use his Greek text for the basis of the English Bible that was translated with the common man in mind, the King James Bible.

It has been said that "Erasmus laid the egg that Luther hatched." There is probably far more truth to this statement than can be casually discerned. For the reformers were armed with Erasmus's Bible, his writings and his attitude of resistance to Roman Catholic intimidation. Of Luther he said, "I favor Luther as much as I can, even if my cause is everywhere linked with his." He wrote several letters on Luther's behalf, and wholeheartedly agreed with him that salvation was entirely by grace, not works. He refused pressure by his Roman Catholic superiors to denounce Luther as a heretic. If Erasmus had turned the power of his pen on Luther, it would undoubtedly have caused far more damage than the powerless threats of the pope and his imps were able to do. As it is, only his disagreement with Luther's doctrine of predestination ever prompted him to criticize the Reformer with pen and ink.

Erasmus's greatest point of dissension with the Roman Church was over its doctrine of salvation through works and the tenets of the church. He taught that salvation was a personal matter between the individual and God and was by faith alone. Of the Roman system of salvation he complained, "Aristotle is so in vogue that there is scarcely time in the churches to interpret the gospel." And what was "the gospel" to which Erasmus referred? We will let him speak for himself.

"Our hope is in the mercy of God and the merits of Christ." Of Jesus Christ he stated, "He...nailed our sins to the cross, sealed our redemption with his blood." He boldly stated that no rites of the Church were necessary for an individual's salvation. "The way to enter Paradise," he said, "is the way of the penitent thief, say simply, Thy will be done. The world to me is crucified and I to the world."

Concerning the most biblical sect of his time, the Anabaptists, he reserved a great deal of respect. He mentioned them as early as 1523 even though he himself was often called the "only Anabaptist of the 16th century." He stated that the Anabaptists that he was familiar with called themselves "Baptists." (Ironically, Erasmus was also the FIRST person to use the term "fundamental.")

So we see that when Erasmus died on July 11, 1536, he had led a life that could hardly be construed to be an example of what could be considered a "good Catholic."

But perhaps the greatest compliment, though veiled, that Erasmus's independent nature ever received came in 1559, twenty-three years after his death. That is when Pope Paul IV put Erasmus's writings on the "Index" of books, forbidden to be read by Roman Catholics. (See Westcott and Hort)

Essenes – A strict Jewish sect, which lived in piety and isolation, and is considered by many scholars to have been responsible for the Dead Sea Scrolls. (See Dead Sea Scrolls).

Exegesis – Literally means “to read a meaning out of.” An explanation or interpretation of a biblical text, based on a study of the Hebrew/Aramaic and Greek texts. The style of teaching and preaching which deals with the verse-by-verse explanation of a text. (See Eisegesis).

Exhaustive Concordance – The most complete version of a concordance. An index of all occurrences of all the words in the English Bible, showing the original Hebrew/Aramaic and Greek words behind the English words.

Exposition / Expository – A setting forth of the meaning or purpose of a biblical passage, including a straightforward explanation of what is difficult to understand.

Expository Dictionary – A dictionary that contains word studies of the most important words and concepts in the Bible, based on Hebrew/Aramaic and Greek. (Vines Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words)

External Evidence – The approach to textual criticism that considers the age of a manuscript, its geographical distribution, and its relationship with other textual families.

Formal Equivalent – A direct, word for word translation, also known as a literal translation. The King James Version, New American Standard Version, and Revised Standard Version are all examples of formal equivalent translations. (See Dynamic Equivalent)

Geniza – A type of storage room for worn or faulty manuscripts. Constantine Tischendorf found the Codex Sinaiticus (written in the fourth century AD) in such a place.

Gnosticism – A heretical teaching that everything physical was evil and everything spiritual was good. The Gnostics taught that God, who was spiritual, could not have created the physical world, which was evil. Therefore, the Gnostic god created other beings known as “aeons” that in turn created the physical world. Some Christian Gnostics taught that Christ was one of these created aeons.

Grandville Sharp Rule – A Greek grammatical rule stating that two nouns of the same case that are personal descriptions which are separated by the Greek word kai (and) refer to the same person if the first noun has a definite article preceding it and the second noun does not have the definite article before it. (See Brevior Lectio Potior).

Greek-English Concordance – An index of all the words in the Greek New Testament, with the context line of each occurrence given in English. Requires some knowledge of Greek.

Greek Manuscripts – Manuscripts existing in the form of papyrus, vellum, or paper written in Greek. They are classified into one of four textual types: Byzantine, Alexandrian, Western, and Caesarean. (See Alexandrian Text, Byzantine Text, Caesarean Text, Greek Texts, Majority Text, Minority Text, Textus Receptus, Western Text).

Greek Texts – Books that are formed from various Greek manuscripts that mostly represent a certain textual line. The Textus Receptus and Majority Text are Greek texts that represent the Byzantine line of manuscripts. The United Bible Societies’ Greek Text and the Nestle-Aland Greek Text are Greek texts that represent the Alexandrian line of manuscripts. These two families of texts have become the issue in Bible translation.

Handbook – A conveniently portable, ready reference comprised of concise information, including Bible book introductions, outlines, commentary, archaeological discoveries, historical data, church history, maps, and more, arranged in biblical order. (Example: “Haley’s Bible Handbook”)

Haplography – A scribal error consisting of the omission of a pair of letters or group of letters. (See Dittography, Homoeoteleuton).

Hebrew-English Concordance – An index of all the words in the Hebrew Old Testament, with the context line of each occurrence given in English. Requires some knowledge of Hebrew.

Hebraism – Jewish expressions or phrases translated into English that retain their original Jewish character.

Hermeneutics – The science of the study of the principles of Bible interpretation.

Hexapla – A version of the Old Testament containing six translations in parallel form, including the Greek Septuagint.

Higher Textual Criticism – The process of establishing or denying the authenticity of a certain book based on its authorship, date of writing, and general information. Higher Criticism is an application of evolutionary science to the work of Bible textual examination. As it relates to Biblical studies, Higher Criticism often denies the inspiration, historical statements, or doctrinal teaching of various canonical books. Indeed, it is a poorly veiled attempt to corrupt the pure text of the Scripture. Psalms 12:6-7 promised preservation of the words of the text and there could be no other reason for Higher Criticism than to change these unchanging words. Higher Criticism has been adopted by most published scholars in this day. A doubting mind set is all that is needed to be a “*Higher Textual Critic.*” (See Textual Criticism)

Homoeoteleuton – A scribal error resulting when two phrases in a given text are alike and the scribe skips over the portion between the two phrases, omitting what is between two like phrases. (See Dittography, Haplography).

Inspiration – “Inspiration” means to inhale air, and the Bible claims that its words were breathed in by Almighty God through chosen men of old. The term “inspiration” is used twice in Scripture (Job 32:8; 2 Tim. 3:16). In the N.T. it is the key term selected by God to describe the nature of the Bible. There are basically three views regarding inspiration: (1) The humanistic view of inspiration: The Bible is inspired only in the sense that great human writings, such as those of Shakespeare, are inspired. (2) The partial view of inspiration. Some believe the Bible is inspired in those matters not affecting science, but that there are historical and scientific errors in the Bible. (3) The perfect view of inspiration: The Bible is perfectly inspired and contains no error. It is this latter view that is supported by the Bible itself. The Bible claims to be the perfect, inspired Word of God.

Inerrancy – Without error. This term is used to describe the inspiration of Scripture. The Bible was given to man from God and has been preserved from error in recording and transmission. [See Bible, Inspiration, Preservation.] It can also be said that the Bible is INFALLIBLE. Not subject to error. This is often used to describe the Bible.

Interlinear – The Hebrew/Aramaic or Greek text of Scripture with a literal, word-for-word English translation printed between the lines with the standard English translation (KJV) in parallel columns. Requires little or no knowledge of Hebrew or Greek. (Berry’s Interlinear Greek New Testament).

Internal Evidence – The approach to textual criticism which considers a textual variant in light of the original writer’s style and vocabulary, the context, and how the variant harmonies with other passages by the same writer.

Johannine Comma – The passage from 1 John 5:7 that supports the Trinity. The verse reads: “For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.”

King James – *King James I of England*, who authorized the translation of the now famous King James Bible, was considered by many to be one of the greatest, if not the greatest, monarchs that England has ever seen. Through his wisdom and determination he united the warring tribes of Scotland into a unified nation, and then joined England and Scotland to form the foundation for what is now known as the British Empire.

At a time when only the churches of England possessed the Bible in English, King James’ desire was that the common people should have the Bible in their native tongue. Thus, in 1603, King James called 54 of history’s most learned men together to accomplish this great task. At a time when the leaders of the world wished to keep their subjects in spiritual ignorance, King James offered his subjects the greatest gift that he could give them. Their own copy of the word of God in English.

James, who was fluent in Latin, Greek, and French, and schooled in Italian and Spanish, even wrote a tract entitled “Counterblast to Tobacco,” which was written to help thwart the use of tobacco in England.

It might also be mentioned here that the Roman Catholic Church was so desperate to keep the true Bible out of the hands of the English people that it attempted to kill King James and all of Parliament in 1605. In that year a Roman Catholic by the name of Guy Fawkes, under the direction of a Jesuit priest by the name of Henry Garnet, was found in the basement of Parliament with thirty-six barrels of gunpowder which he was to use to blow up King James and the entire Parliament. After killing the king, they planned on imprisoning his children, reestablishing England as a state loyal to the Pope and kill all who resisted. Needless to say, the perfect English Bible would have been one of the plot's victims. Fawkes and Garnet and eight other conspirators were caught and hanged. It seems that those who work so hard to discredit the character of King James join an unholy lot.

Lectionaries – Books used by the early church that contained lessons, hymns, and citations from passages of Scripture.

Lexicon – A dictionary containing an alphabetical arrangement of Greek or Hebrew Bible words and their definitions. (Theyar's Greek Lexicon)

Lower Criticism – The same as textual criticism.

Lucian Recension – The theory that Lucian of Antioch, Syria, led a group of scholars to edit texts to produce what became the Byzantine text.

Marcionism – The teaching that proclaimed Jehovah as an evil god who created the world, and that all created flesh is therefore evil.

Majority Text – A consensus text reflecting a majority of the existing Greek manuscripts that have been cataloged and collated. (See Greek Manuscripts)

Middle English – Period of English language dating from 1100 to 1500 AD. (See Modern English, Old English)

Miniscules – Also known as “cursives.” A style of writing that consists of small letters with spacing between the words. (See Uncials)

Minority Text – A text from the Alexandrian line based on a few early manuscripts. (See Greek Manuscripts)

Modern English – Period of English language dating from 1500 to the present. The KJV is written in Modern English (not Old English as many, mistakenly, accuse – all of the “so-called” archaic word [only about 150 words] have only dropped from American usage). (See Middle English, Old English)

Old English – Period of English language dating from 700 to 1100 AD. (See Middle English, Modern English)

Paleography – The science of dating manuscripts by the shape and style of the letters used in writings.

Paper – The writing surface used since the fourteenth century. (See Papyrus, Vellum)

Papyrus – A plant from which the bark was cut into thin strips and dried to produce a writing surface. This form of paper was used for manuscripts until about the seventh century. (See Paper, Vellum)

Patristic Citations – Quotations of the early church fathers. Much of the preaching of early times is preserved through the “Lectionaries” – the hand written copies of the speakers' exact words. Many of these citations are found in these documents.

Pericope De Adultera – The passage from John 7:53-8:11 referring to the woman caught in the act of adultery.

Peshers – Commentaries or interpretations on Biblical writings, usually associated only with the Hebrew Old Testament.

Peshitta – The standard Syriac version. The word means “clear” or “simple.”

Preservation – The fact of the plenary, verbal, Divine inspiration of the sixty-six canonical books of the Old and the New Testaments (from Genesis to Revelation) in the original languages, and in their consequent infallibility and Inerrancy of all matters of which they speak (2 Tim. 3:16-17; 2 Peter 1:21; 1 Thes. 2:13).
... We believe that the Texts which are the closest to the original autographs of the Bible are the

Traditional Masoretic Hebrew Text for the O.T., and the Traditional Received Greek Text for the N.T. underlying the King James Version (as found in The Greek Text Underlying the English Authorized Version of 1611 as published by the Trinitarian Bible Society in 1976).

We believe that the King James Version (or Authorized Version) of the English Bible is a true, faithful, and accurate translation of these two providentially preserved Texts [the Traditional Masoretic Hebrew Text and the Received Greek Text], which in our time has no equal among all of the other English Translations. The translators did such a fine job in their translation task that we can without apology hold up the Authorized Version of 1611 and say, “This is the Word of God!” while at the same time realizing that, in some verses, we must go back to the underlying original language Texts for complete clarity, and also compare Scripture with Scripture. ...

Bible inspiration, Inerrancy and preservation are supremely important. The undermining or destroying of either doctrine renders the others meaningless. If the Bible is not verbally, plenary, and inerrantly inspired, and if inspiration does not extend to all matters of which the Bible speaks, it does not matter if the Bible has been preserved or how it has been preserved. It also follows that if the Bible has not been preserved it does not matter how it was inspired (“Position Statement on Bible Preservation,” Dean Burgon Society, approved July 29, 1982).

These three modern witnesses stand as never-dying monuments to the mighty Book of GOD. Under these three well supported works of GOD’S Sovereignty it is sure that we have a perfect Bible in the AV 1611. Read here the testimony to the Bible’s perfection. “This volume is the writing of the living God: Each letter was penned with an Almighty finger; each word in it dropped from the everlasting lips; each sentence was dictated by the Holy Spirit. Albeit, that Moses was employed to write his histories with his fiery pen, God guided that pen. It may be that David touched his harp and let sweet Psalms of melody drop from his fingers, but God moved his hands over the living strings of his golden harp. It may be that Solomon sang canticles of love, or gave forth words of consummate wisdom, but God directed his lips and made the preacher eloquent. If I follow the thundering Nahum, when his horses plough the waters, or Habakkuk, when he sees the tents of Cushan in affliction; if I read Malachi, when the earth is burning like an oven; if I turn to the smooth page of John, who tells of love, or the rugged, fiery chapters of Peter, who speaks of fire devouring God’s enemies; if I turn to Jude, who launches forth anathemas upon the foes of God – everywhere I find God speaking. It is God’s voice, not man’s; the words are God’s words, the words of the Eternal, the Invisible, the Almighty, the Jehovah of this earth” (Charles Haddon Spurgeon).

Proto-Masoretic Text – Manuscripts that agree with the Masoretic text, yet date before the Masoretic text became the official Hebrew Bible as recognized by scholarship.

Proto-Samaritan Text – Manuscripts of the Samaritan Pentateuch, the five books of Moses, where the Hebrew text is often the same as the Masoretic text with differences in spelling rather than textual variants.

Proto-Septuagint Text – Manuscripts written in Hebrew that reflect a reading more like the Greek Septuagint than the Masoretic or Traditional Text.

Pseudepigraphal Books – Religious books that are not considered canonical by Protestants, Catholics, or Jews. These documents are written under assumed names. This method of authorship was employed by the Gnostics. (See Apocrypha Books)

Qumran – Ruins located in the northwest corner of the Dead Sea. In 1947, the first of what became known as the Dead Sea Scrolls were discovered there.

Reader’s Lexicon – Arranged biblically by book, chapter, and verse (not alphabetically), this defines the less frequently used Hebrew or Greek words by going through the Old or New Testament book by book and verse by verse. Requires some knowledge of Hebrew or Greek.

Reference Software Cd-rom – programs that contain integrated reference tools for thorough Bible study using your computer. (The Fresh Waters Encyclopedia of Biblical Knowledge)

- Septuagint** – Most noted Old Testament translated into Greek. The name literally means seventy and is sometimes signified as LXX. It is thought to have been translated in Alexandria, Egypt, around 250 BC. Some, however, suggest that it was translated much later.
- Scroll** – A manuscript written on sheets bound side by side and then rolled together as opposed to a codex. (See Codex).
- Strong’s Numbers** – A system that assigns a specific number to each of the Hebrew/Aramaic and Greek words that are found in the Bible, reflecting the Hebrew/Aramaic or Greek linguistic analysis of the words. This allows the user to conduct word studies by tracing the translation of Hebrew/Aramaic and Greek words in the Bible.
- Study Bible** – A Bible that contains the complete Scripture text, as well as a variety of the following elements: cross-references and abbreviated topical articles, index, concordance, dictionary, illustrations, charts, maps, outlines, introductions, and commentary. Build your Core Reference Library around this.
- Talmud** – A body of Jewish civil and religious laws that also provided commentary on the Hebrew Old Testament.
- Tenacity** – The persistency of textual variants that appear in early manuscripts and reappear in later manuscripts.
- Textual Criticism** – Sometimes called “lower criticism.” The science that seeks to reconstruct the original text of Scripture based on the existing manuscripts and Biblical citations within the patriarchs of Church history. (See Higher Textual Criticism)
- Textus Receptus** – The Greek text used by Protestant translators during the Reformation. Desiderius Erasmus first produced this text in 1516 based on Greek manuscripts available to him. It was later revised by Robert Estienne (Stephanus), the royal printer of Paris, who issued various editions from 1546 to 1557. In his last edition, Stephanus proclaimed his conversion to Protestantism. Theodore de Beza, the successor of John Calvin, later revised the Textus Receptus based on additional manuscripts he possessed or to which he had access to. Beza also included his own Latin translation that was placed between the Greek text and Jerome’s Latin Vulgate. It also included various notes on every page, providing some additional textual information and insight. His last two editions, 1589 and 1598, were used by the translators of the King James Version as the basis for their translation. Finally, Bonaventure Elzevir and his nephew Abraham produced a very popular edition in 1624 that contained the following Latin phrase in its preface: “Textum ergo habes, nunc ab omnibus receptum; in quo nihil immutatum aut corruptum damus.” The name “Textus Receptus” comes from this phrase, “Textum ... receptum ...” (the text received by all). The Textus Receptus was the standard Greek text for almost 400 years. The “Textus Receptus” edition underlies the Authorized Version of the New Testament text. It is not the original Greek language – We have no “original autographs” and this edition of the Greek New Testament is compiled from the preserved manuscripts in the early 16th century by Erasimus and printed on the Gutenberg Press. (See Greek Manuscripts)
- Textual Variant** – A difference between two manuscripts. Many of these variants are referenced and attributed in a footnote system called the “Apparatus” at the bottom of the page.
- Theology** – The fundamental, orderly, systematic presentation of the church’s understanding of what the Bible teaches. (See Doctrine).
- Topical Bible** – A Bible index showing passages that address a given topic, even if the topical word doesn’t appear in the biblical text. (Torrey’s Topical Text Book)
- Uncials** – A style of writing which consists of all capital letters written without accent marks, punctuation, or separation of words or sentences. (See Miniscules)
- Vellum** – Dried animal skins used as a writing surface. This period lasted from the end of the third century to the fifteenth century. (See Paper, Papyrus)
- Versions, New** – Any version of the Bible translated after 1611. It can be seen that the KJB was the landmark translation of the Bible (The watershed, The dividing mark, the pivot of translation from the

“old” to the “new”). The word “definitive” is used of a thing that defines that genre. As this applies, the KJB is the fact that defines what Bible is and ALL that have come after that are “New Versions.” It is true that the “New Versions” all take the same attack against the text of the KJB. This attack is the basis of their feasibility. If there are no weaknesses in the KJB there would be no reason to translate “New Versions” year after year. The unsuccessful search for that “textual weakness” keeps the procession of “New Versions” going.

Westcott and Hort – *Two unsaved Bible critics.* Brook Foss Westcott (1825-1903) and Fenton John Anthony Hort (1828-1892) were two non-Christian Anglican ministers. Fully steeped in the Alexandrian philosophy that “there is no perfect Bible,” they had a vicious distaste for the King James Bible and its Antiochian Greek text, the Textus Receptus.

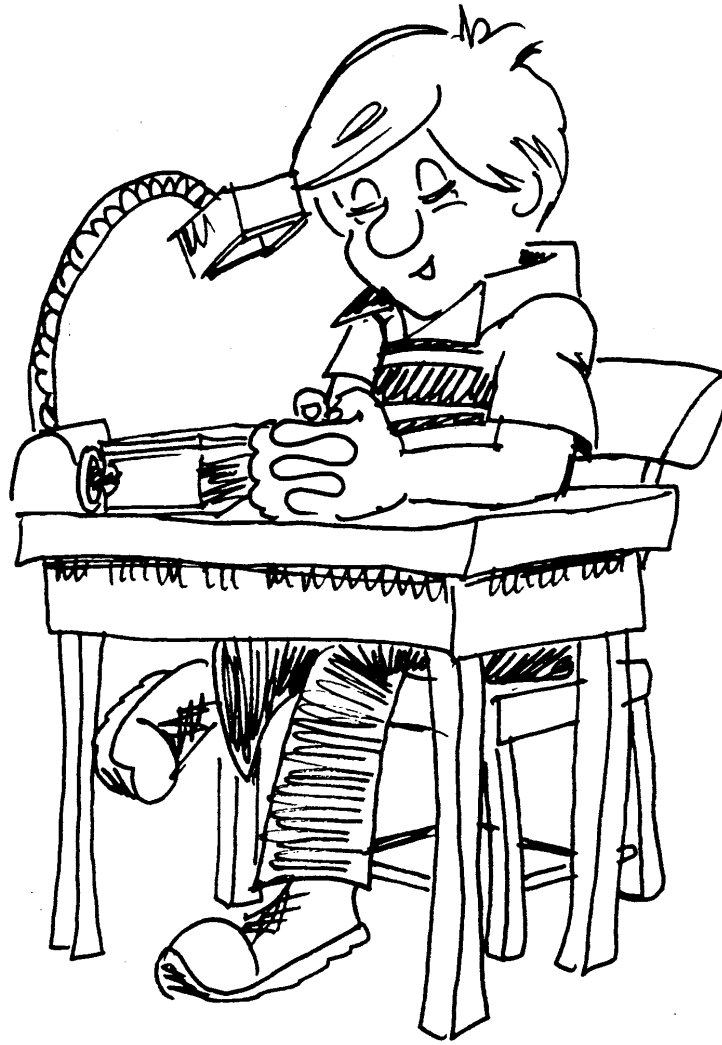
It cannot be said that they believed that one could attain Heaven by either works or faith, since both believed that Heaven existed only in the mind of man. Westcott believed in and attempted to practice a form of Communism whose ultimate goal was communal living on college campuses which he called a “coenobium.”

Both believed it possible to communicate with the dead and made many attempts to do just that through a society which they organized and entitled “The Ghostly Guild.” Westcott accepted and promoted prayers for the dead. Both were admirers of Mary (Westcott going so far as to call his wife Sarah, “Mary”), and Hort was an admirer and proponent of Darwin and his theory of evolution.

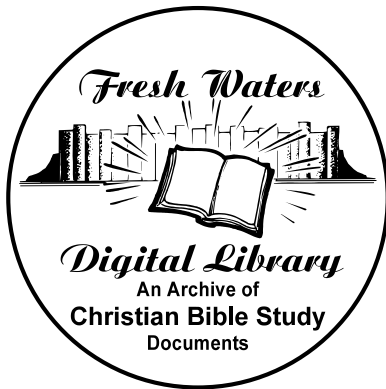
It is obvious to even a casual observer why they were well equipped to guide the Revision Committee of 1871-1881 away from God’s Antiochian text and into the spell of Alexandria. They had compiled their own Greek text from Alexandrian manuscripts, which, though unpublished and inferior to the Textus Receptus, they secreted little by little to the Revision Committee. The result being a totally new Alexandrian English bible instead of a “revision” of the Authorized Version as it was claimed to be. It has only been in recent years that scholars have examined their unbalanced theories concerning manuscript history and admitted that their arguments were weak to non-existent. Sadly, both men died having never known the joy and peace of claiming Jesus Christ as their Saviour. (See Erasmus).

Western Text – A text longer than the Alexandrian text and close to the Byzantine textual line. Codex Bezae in the Gospels and Acts, and Codex Claromontanus in the Epistles reflect the Western text, as do the Old Latin manuscripts. It derives its name from the western Church and is thought to have originated in Syria. (See Greek Manuscripts).

Word Studies – Dictionaries that discuss the meaning and significance of key biblical words, giving definitions, and linguistic, biblical, historical, and theological information about words. These words are arranged alphabetically, either by Hebrew/Aramaic and Greek words or by their English translations. When arranged by English translation, word study books trace original-language words from Old Testament through New Testament usage, contrasting and comparing them. Some knowledge of Greek or Hebrew is necessary in many though no knowledge of Hebrew and Greek is necessary in some.



“Pray without ceasing. In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.” (1 Thes. 5:17-18)



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Psalms 107:2 – ☪ – Romans 12:1-2

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