

## *Essential New Testament Commentaries*

12/2016

Keener, Craig. *The IVP Bible Background Commentary: New Testament*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. InterVarsity Press, 2014.  
(Should be used with every NT text...must use 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.)

### Matthew

Davies, W.D.; Allison, Dale. *A Critical and Exegetical on the Gospel according to St. Matthew*. 3 vols. T & T Clark, 1988, 1991, 1998. [NE]

France, R. T. *The Gospel of Matthew*. NICNT. Eerdmans, 2007.

Hagner, D.A. *Matthew 1-13, Matthew 14-28*. WBC. Word. 1993, 1995.

Keener, Craig. *A Commentary on the Gospel of Matthew*. Eerdmans, 1999.

Nolland, John. *The Gospel of Matthew*. NIGTC. Eerdmans, 2005.

Osborne, Grant. *Matthew*. ZECNT. Zondervan, 2010.

**1<sup>st</sup>:** Hagner, France, Nolland (though everything listed here is excellent!)

### Mark

+Edwards, James. *The Gospel According to Mark*. Pillar. Eerdmans, 2002.

France, R.T. *The Gospel of Mark*. NICGT. Eerdmans, 2002.

\*Stein, Robert. *Mark*. BEC. Baker, 2008.

+Strauss, Mark. *Mark*. ZECNT. Zondervan, 2014.

**Others:** Guelich & Evans/WBC.

**1<sup>st</sup>:** Strauss, Stein, Edwards

### Luke

Edwards, James. *The Gospel According to Luke*. Pillar. Eerdmans, 2015.

Fitzmyer, *The Gospel According to Luke*. 2 vols. AB. Doubleday. 1981, 1985. [NE]

Marshall, I.H. *The Gospel of Luke*. NIGTC. Eerdmans, 1978.

Nolland, John. *Luke 1-9:20. Luke 9:21-18:34. Luke 18.35-24.53*. WBC. Word, 1989, 1993, 1993.

+Stein, Robert. *Luke*. NAC. Broadman, 1993.

**Others:** Garland, ZECNT, 2012; Bovon, Hermenia, Vol. 2. 2013, Bock, 2 vols, 1994, 1996.

**1<sup>st</sup>:** Stein, Nolland, Fitzmyer (While GosMatt and GosMark are well served by recent commentaries, GosLuke is not)

### John

\*Keener, Craig. *Gospel of John: A Commentary*. 2 vols. Hendrickson, 2003.

Kruse, Colin. *Gospel According to John*. TNTC. Eerdmans, 2004.

\*Michaels, J. Ramsay. *The Gospel of John*. NICNT. Eerdmans, 2010.

\*+Thompson, Marianne. *John*. WJK, 2015. (Clear first choice)

**1<sup>st</sup>:** Thompson, Michaels, Keener

### Acts

\*Keener, Craig. *Acts*. 4 vols Baker, 2012 – 2015 [Utterly extraordinary!!!]

+Marshall, I.H. *The Acts of the Apostles*. TNTC. Eerdmans, 1980.

Peterson, David. *The Acts of the Apostles*. Pillar. Eerdmans, 2009.

## **Romans**

\*Longenecker, Richard. *The Epistle to the Romans*. NIGTC. Eerdmans, 2016.

Moo, Douglas. *Encountering the Book of Romans*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Baker, 2014. [Summary of larger commentary]

+Osborne, Grant. *Romans*. Intervarsity Press, 2004. [Exceptional non-technical commentary]

\*Schreiner, Thomas. *Romans*. BECNT. Baker, 1998.

**Other:** Cranfield, '75/'79; Kruse, '12; Hultgren, '11, Moo, 1996.

**1<sup>st</sup>:** Osborne, Longenecker, Schreiner, Moo

## **I Corinthians**

\*Fee, Gordon. *I Corinthians*. NICNT. Eerdmans, 1987. Absolutely essential!!!

Garland, David. *I Corinthians*. BEC. Baker, 2003.

Keener, Craig. *1 and 2 Corinthians*. NCBC. Cambridge University Press, 2005. (Brief but has some excellent comments)

**1<sup>st</sup>:** Fee (by far the best); Garland

## **II Corinthians**

Barnett, Paul. *The Second Epistle to the Corinthians*. NICNT. Eerdmans, 1997.

Garland, David. *2 Corinthians*. NAC. Broadman, 1999.

Harris, Murray. *The Second Epistle to the Corinthians*. NIGTC. Eerdmans, 2004.

+Kruse, Colin. *2 Corinthians*. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. TNTC. Eerdmans, 2015.

**Other:** Thrall, '94/'01; Belleville, 96; Keener, 2005.

**1<sup>st</sup>:** Kruse [All the technical commentaries have both good and weak points]

## **Galatians**

Longenecker, R. *Galatians*. WBC. Word, 1990.

\*Moo, Douglas. *Galatians*. BECNT. Baker, 2013. (A clear first choice)

\*Schreiner, Thomas. *Galatians*. ZECNT. Zondervan, 2010. (Runner up first choice...read with Moo)

**Other:** Bruce, 1982; A consistently satisfactory commentary on Galatians has yet to be written.

Barclay, John. *Paul and the Gift*. Eerdmans, 2015. (Extraordinary new proposal for understanding Paul's theology of grace. I suspect that in time this will be seen to have dramatically renounced our understanding of Pauline theology...and commentaries on Romans and Galatians)

## **COLOSSIANS/PHILEMON**

+Moo, Douglas. *Colossians and Philemon*. Pillar. Eerdmans, 2008.

Pao, David. *Colossians & Philemon*. ZECNT. Zondervan, 2012.

Wilson, R. McL. *Colossians, Philemon*. ICC. T & T Clark, 2006. NE

Wright, N.T. *The Epistles of Paul to Colossians and to Philemon*. TNTC. Eerdmans, 1986.

**Other:** Talbert, '98; Thompson, 05.

## **EPHESIANS**

Arnold, Clinton. *Ephesians*. ZECNT. Zondervan, 2010.

Best, Ernest. *A Critical and Exegetical Commentary on the Epistle to the Ephesians*. ICC.

T&T Clark. 1998. [NE] (Excellent insights not found elsewhere).

Fowl, Stephen. *Ephesians*. NTL. Westminster/John Knox, 2012

O'Brien, Peter. *The Letter to the Ephesians*. Pillar. Eerdmans, 1999.

+Snodgrass, Klyne. *Ephesians*. NIVAC. Zondervan. 1996. (Exceptional non-technical commentary)

## **PHILIPPIANS**

Bockmuehl, Markus. *Philippians*. BNTC. Hendrickson, 1998.

+Fee, Gordon. *Paul's Letter to the Philippians*. NICNT. Eerdmans, 1995. (By far the best)

Marshall, I.H. *Epistle to the Philippians*. Epworth Commentaries, 1991.

**Other:** Hawthorne/2<sup>nd</sup> ed, '05.

## **I AND II THESSALONIANS**

Bruce, F.F. *1 & 2 Thessalonians*. WBC. Word, 1982.

Fee, Gordon. *The First and Second Letter to the Thessalonians*. NICNT. Eerdmans, 2009.

+Marshall, I.H. *1 and 2 Thessalonians*. NCB. Eerdmans, 1983.

## **I and II TIMOTHY and TITUS**

Fee, Gordon. *The Pastoral Epistles*. 2nd ed. NIBC. Hendrickson, 1988.

\*Marshall, I.H. *The Pastoral Epistles*. ICC. T&T Clark, 1999. [1<sup>st</sup>]

+Smith, Craig A. *2 Timothy*. Sheffield Phoenix Press, 2016.

\*Towner, Philip. *The Letters to Timothy and Titus*. NICNT. Eerdmans, 2006.

\*Winter, Bruce. *Roman Wives, Roman Widows: The Appearance of New Women and the Pauline Communities*. Eerdmans, 2003. (Essential for interpreting Paul's statements about women)

## **HEBREWS**

\*Attridge, Harold W. *Epistle to the Hebrews*. Hermeneia. Fortress, 1989.

Hagner, D. *Hebrews*. NIBC. Hendrickson. 1990.

+Hagner, D. *Encountering the Book of Hebrews*. Baker, 2002.

\*Koester, Craig R. *Hebrews*. AB. Yale University Press, 2001.

Others: Lane, 2 vols (1991), Ellingworth (1993), Cockerill (2012)

## **JAMES**

\*Allison, Dale. *James*. ICC. T & T Clark, 2013.

Dauids, Peter. *Commentary on James*. NIGTC. Eerdmans, 1982.

Martin, Ralph. *James*. WBC. Word, 1988

\*McKnight, Scott. *The Letter of James*. NICNT. Eerdmans, 2011.

+Moo, Douglas *The Letter of James*. Pillar. Eerdmans, 2000.

+Dauids, Peter. *A Theology of James, Peter and Jude*. Zondervan, 2014.

## **1 Peter**

+Achtmeier, Paul. *1 Peter*. Hermenia. Fortress Press, 1996. (1<sup>st</sup> choice)

+Jobes, Karen. *1 Peter*. BECNT. Baker, 2005. (runner up `1st choice)

Marshall, I. H. *1 Peter*. IVPNTC. InterVarsity, 1991.

+Dauids, Peter. *A Theology of James, Peter and Jude*. Zondervan, 2014.

**Other:** Kelly, 1969, Dauids, 1990.

## **2 PETER; JUDE**

Bauchham, Richard. *2 Peter and Jude*. WBC. Word, 1983.

+Dauids, Peter. *The Letters of Second Peter and Jude*. Pillar Commentary. Eerdmans, 2006

\*Green, Gene. *Jude and 2 Peter*. BEC. Baker, 2008.

## **1, 2, 3 JOHN**

- +Kruse, Colin. *The Letters of John*. Pillar. Eerdmans, 2000.
- +Marshall, I.H. *The Epistles of John*. NICNT. Eerdmans, 1978.
- Smalley, Stephen S. *1, 2, 3 John*. WBC. Word, 1984.
- Thompson, M.M. *1-3 John*. IVPNTC. Intervarsity Press, 1992.

## **REVELATION**

- +Beasley-Murray, G.R. *The Book of Revelation*. NCB. Eerdmans, 1981.
- +Keener, Craig. *Revelation*. NIV Application Commentary. Zondervan, 2000.
- \*Koester, Craig R. *Hebrews*. AB. Yale University Press, 2015.
- +Reddish, Mitchell. *Revelation*. Smyth & Helwys, 2001. (NE)
- Other: Osborne, 2002.

## **Commentary Surveys**

- Carson, D.A. *New Testament Commentary Survey*. 7<sup>th</sup> ed. Baker, 2013. (Excellent...though at times his preference for very conservative positions and Calvinist theology clouds his judgment.)
- Evans, John F. *A Guide to Biblical Commentaries and Reference Works*. 10<sup>th</sup> ed. Zondervan, 2016. (Excellent...though at times his preference for very conservative positions and Calvinist theology clouds his judgment. Covers both testaments)
- Longman, Tremper. *Old Testament Commentary Survey*. 5<sup>th</sup> ed. Baker, 2013. (Essential and regularly updated survey of OT commentary literature. Organization better than Carson).

## **ABBREVIATIONS FOR COMMENTARY SERIES**

AB	Anchor Bible
BECNT	Baker Exegetical Commentary on the New Testament
BNTC	Black's New Testament Commentaries
ECS	Exegetical Commentary Series
GNC	Good News Commentary
ICC	International Critical Commentary
NCB	New Century Bible
NCCS	New Covenant Commentary Series
NIBC	New International Biblical Commentary
NICNT	New International Commentary on the New Testament
NIGTC	New International Greek Testament Commentary
Pillar	Pillar New Testament Commentary
TNTC	Tyndale New Testament Commentaries
WBC	Word Biblical Commentary
ZECNT	Zondervan Exegetical Commentaries on the New Testament

- \* Technical commentaries which are among my favorites
- + Less technical commentaries which are among my favorites
- NE: Non-evangelical authors. Exceptional commentaries.