

Recommended Resources for Interpreting the New Testament

Keith R. Krell

1. New Testament Introductions & Backgrounds

Works that cover historical setting, authorship, literary features, and background context for the New Testament books.

D. A. Carson & Douglas J. Moo, *An Introduction to the New Testament*, 2nd ed. (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2005).

The premier evangelical introduction to the New Testament, combining historical background, authorship, theology, and critical scholarship for every book.

Andreas J. Köstenberger, L. Scott Kellum, & Charles L. Quarles, *The Cradle, the Cross, and the Crown: An Introduction to the New Testament*, 2nd ed. (Nashville: B&H Academic, 2016).

A comprehensive evangelical introduction that emphasizes the historical setting, literary features, and theological message of each New Testament book.

Richard Bauckham, *Jesus and the Eyewitnesses: The Gospels as Historical Testimony*, 2nd ed. (Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2017).

A landmark study demonstrating that the Gospels are grounded in direct eyewitness testimony, offering a compelling framework for historical Gospel interpretation.

Eckhard J. Schnabel, *Jesus in Jerusalem: The Last Days* (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2018).

A meticulous historical study of Jesus' final week that integrates the Gospels with first-century Jewish, Roman, and archaeological evidence to illuminate the events leading to the crucifixion.

Eckhard J. Schnabel, *Early Christian Mission*, 2 vols. (Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2004).

The definitive evangelical study of the expansion of early Christianity, combining careful exegesis with exhaustive historical research to reconstruct the missionary work of the early church.

Craig L. Blomberg, *The Historical Reliability of the Gospels*, 2nd ed. (Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2007).

A calm, thorough response to critical objections to the Gospels' historicity, complementing Bauckham's case for their eyewitness foundation.

2. New Testament Theology & Specialized Theological Studies

Comprehensive surveys of New Testament theology as well as focused studies on specific authors or themes.

G. K. Beale, *A New Testament Biblical Theology: The Unfolding of the Old Testament in the New* (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2011).

Arguably the most significant evangelical New Testament theology of the past twenty-five years.

I. Howard Marshall, *New Testament Theology: Many Witnesses, One Gospel* (Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2004).

A masterful evangelical theology demonstrating the unity of the New Testament while respecting the distinctive voices of its individual authors.

Thomas R. Schreiner, *New Testament Theology: Magnifying God in Christ* (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2008).

One of the finest evangelical New Testament theologies, tracing the unfolding message of Scripture through the themes of the kingdom of God and the fulfillment of God's promises in Christ.

Thomas R. Schreiner, *Paul, Apostle of God's Glory in Christ: A Pauline Theology*, 2nd ed. (Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2025).

A comprehensive Pauline theology working through all thirteen letters, complementing Fee's narrower focus on Christology with the full scope of Paul's thought.

Frank Thielman, *Theology of the New Testament: A Canonical and Synthetic Approach*, 2nd ed. (Grand Rapids: Zondervan Academic, 2019).

A clear and comprehensive evangelical theology emphasizing the unity of the New Testament canon and its central message in Christ.

Gordon D. Fee, *Pauline Christology: An Exegetical and Dogmatic Study* (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2007).

A masterclass in biblical exegesis that meticulously examines every Christological passage in the Pauline corpus to trace Paul's understanding of Christ.

3. The New Testament Use of the Old Testament

Resources specifically dedicated to the hermeneutics, exegesis, and verse-by-verse analysis of Old Testament quotations and allusions in the New Testament.

G. K. Beale, *Handbook on the New Testament Use of the Old Testament: Exegesis and Interpretation* (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2012).

The standard evangelical guide to interpreting Old Testament quotations and allusions in the New Testament, offering a practical methodology grounded in careful exegesis.

G. K. Beale & D. A. Carson, eds., *Commentary on the New Testament Use of the Old Testament* (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2007).

An indispensable reference providing verse-by-verse analysis of every significant Old Testament citation and allusion in the New Testament.

Michael J. Vlach, *How Does the New Testament Use the Old Testament?: A Survey of the Major Views* (Cary, NC: Theological Studies Press, 2017).

A clear and balanced overview of the major evangelical approaches to the New Testament's use of the Old Testament, helping readers evaluate key interpretive issues.

4. Hermeneutics, Exegesis Methods & Genres

Guides and handbooks outlining practical step-by-step methodologies for interpreting New Testament literature and specific genres like parables.

Grant R. Osborne, *The Hermeneutical Spiral: A Comprehensive Introduction to Biblical Interpretation*, 2nd ed. (Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2006).

A widely respected evangelical guide that integrates hermeneutical theory with practical exegesis, helping readers move faithfully from the biblical text to contemporary application.

Craig L. Blomberg, *A Handbook of New Testament Exegesis*, 2nd ed. (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2023).

A practical guide to interpreting the New Testament that introduces sound exegetical methods for students, pastors, and teachers.

Gordon D. Fee, *New Testament Exegesis: A Handbook for Students and Pastors*, 3rd ed. (Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2002).

A respected guide to the practical steps of New Testament exegesis, especially valuable for those working with the Greek text.

Craig L. Blomberg, *Interpreting the Parables*, 2nd ed. (Downers Grove, IL: IVP Academic, 2012).

The standard evangelical guide to understanding Jesus' parables through sound historical and literary interpretation.

5. Greek Language, Linguistics & Word Studies

Tools focused on applying Greek grammar, lexical semantics, and modern linguistics to biblical interpretation and ministry.

Moisés Silva, *Biblical Words and Their Meaning: An Introduction to Lexical Semantics*, rev. ed. (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1994).

The classic evangelical treatment of word studies, helping readers avoid common lexical errors while interpreting the New Testament.

David Alan Black & Benjamin L. Merkle, eds., *Linguistics and New Testament Interpretation* (Nashville: B&H Academic, 2020).

Introduces modern linguistic approaches and demonstrates their practical value for careful New Testament exegesis.

Daniel B. Wallace, *Greek Grammar Beyond the Basics: An Exegetical Syntax of the New Testament* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1996).

The standard intermediate Greek syntax reference for moving from foundational grammar to detailed, verse-by-verse exegesis.

Bruce M. Metzger, *A Textual Commentary on the Greek New Testament*, 2nd ed. (Stuttgart: German Bible Society, 1994).

The indispensable reference work explaining the rationale behind the textual decisions in the United Bible Societies' Greek New Testament.

Walter Bauer and Frederick W. Danker, eds., *A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament and Other Early Christian Literature*, 3rd ed. (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2000).

The standard scholarly lexicon for New Testament Greek, providing full definitions and extensive documentation for every word in the corpus.