

PREACHING RESOURCES

Compiled by

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PLEASE NOTE

The primary purpose of this list is an attempt to provide information on biblical commentaries for each book of the Bible. It is intended in the main for trained pastors and students. Many of the commentaries are liberal, meaning they take critical (i.e., non-supernatural) approaches to the Scriptures. These items are marked as such. Readers uninitiated in liberal-critical methods should be **very cautious** in using these materials. Trained believers in the inspiration and inerrancy of the Word of God will know how to sort out the good from the bad. The Scriptures themselves, as God-breathed (2 Tim. 3:16) revelation, are the final rule of faith and life. Our Lord Jesus taught his disciples that all Scripture is Christ-centered (Luke 24:44-47). The use of commentaries and tools is to make Christ Jesus known as Savior and Lord. May the Eschatological Lamb be praised through the use of this list; and may his semi-eschatologically oriented lambs be fed with the Bread of Heaven.

Commentaries: Series and Individual Books

Key to Abbreviations

C = Conservative

L = Liberal (Critical)

AB =	Anchor Bible (L)
BO =	Berit Olam (L)
BTC =	Biblical-Theological Commentary (L)
DSBS =	Daily Study Bible Series (L)
H =	Hermenia (L) (now on CD-ROM)
ICC =	International Critical Commentary (L)
JPS =	Jewish Publication Society (L)
NAC =	New American Commentary (C)
NCaB =	New Cambridge Bible (L)
NCBC =	New Cambridge Bible Commentary (L)
NCeB =	New Century Bible (L, generally)
NIBC=	New International Biblical Commentary (L)
NIC =	New International Commentary (C)
NTC =	New Testament Commentary (C)
NTL=	New Testament Library (L)
OTL =	Old Testament Library (L)
OTL ² =	Old Testament Library (revised edition) (L)
SP=	Sacra Pagina (L)
T =	Torch (L)
Ty =	Tyndale (C)

OLD TESTAMENT

Genesis

Aalders (C); Baldwin (C); Bandstra (chaps. 1-11; details on Hebrew text; L); Brueggemann (L, disappointing); Candlish (C); Cassuto (C); Clines, *Themes of the Pentateuch* (superb); Coats, *Genesis with Introduction to Narrative Literature* (L); Cotter (BO); John Davis, *Paradise to Prison* (C); Davidson (NCaB); Delitzsch (C); J. T. Dennison, “The Eschatological Reversal of the Protological Reversal: Narrative Analysis and Chiasmic Paradigm in Genesis 2:18-3:24,” *Kerux: The Journal of Northwest Theological Seminary* 23/2 (Sept. 2008): 3-13 <http://www.kerux.com/doc/2302A1.asp>; J. T. Dennison, “The End in the Beginning: A Biblical-Theological Catechism for Young and Old: Genesis.” *Kerux: The Journal of Northwest Theological Seminary* 28/3 (Dec 2013): 18-25 <http://www.kerux.com/doc/2803A5.asp>; Dillmann (L); Fokkelman, *Narrative Art in Genesis* (L and sketchy, but good); Gage, *Gospel of Genesis* (interesting, C); Gibson (DSBS); Gunkel (L, classic form critical work); Hamilton (NICOT); Hartley (NIBC); Herbert (T); Janzen, *Abraham and All the Families of the Earth* (Gen. 12-50, helpful); Kidner (Ty); Kline, *Kingdom Prologue* (not on the whole book of Genesis; marred by the author’s affirmation of Noah’s “good works” [“righteous acts’] and Abraham’s “obedience” [“meritorious performance”] or their “meritorious works” constituting the “meritorious ground” of earthly or temporal rewards [see: <http://sites.google.com/site/themosaiccovenant/Home/meredith-kline-merit-and-moses>.]); thus, the book is neither confessionally Evangelical nor Reformed, let alone Vosian BT. For more on this aberrant covenant theology, see the review at <http://www.kerux.com/pdf/Kerux.24.03.pdf>); Leupold (C); Longacre, *Joseph a Story of Divine Providence* (L, narrative analysis); Maher (BTC); Mathews (NAC); McKeown (L, trendy stuff); North, *Dominion Covenant* (Theonomic); von Rad (OTL); Rendsburg, *Redaction of Genesis* (interesting narrative approach); Richardson (T); Ross, *Creation and Blessing* (dispensational, C); Ross (his contribution to the Cornerstone series, C); Sarna (*Understanding Genesis* L—but a must); Sarna (JPS); Schaeffer (C); Skinner (ICC); Speiser (AB); Stigers (C); Griffith Thomas (C); Tsumura (*Creation and Destruction*, important apologetic book!); Waltke and Fredricks (C); Wenham (W); Westermann (3 vols., L—disappointing, too form-critical, but massive); Young, *Genesis 1-3* (C); Youngblood (C).

Exodus

Bush (C); Cassuto (C); Childs (OTL—stimulating though critical); Clements (NCaB); Coats (Exodus 1-18, L); Cole (Ty); Davies (T); John Davis, *Moses and the Gods of Egypt* (C); J. T. Dennison, “The End in the Beginning: A Biblical-Theological Catechism for Young and Old: Exodus.” *Kerux: The Journal of Northwest Theological Seminary* 29/2 (Sept 2014): 19-30 here <http://kerux.com/doc/2902A4.asp>; J. T. Dennison, “The Exodus: Historical Narrative, Prophetic Hope, Gospel Fulfillment.” *Presbyterion* 8 (1982): 1-12; Dozeman (L; Documentary Hypothesis profusion equals theological confusion. The ghost of Wellhausen haunts these pages; as dull as it was in the 19th century when Green and Vos laid it in the dust; skip it); Durham (W); Ellison (DSBS); Fretheim (L); Garrett (C); Gispén (C); Gowan, *Theology in Exodus* (L, but helpful); Hamilton (C; review here: <http://www.kerux.com/doc/2802R3.asp>); Houtman (L, thorough critical work); Hyatt (NCeB); Janzen (L, but helpful); Jordan, *Law of the Covenants* (Theonomic); Knight, *Theology as Narration: Exodus*

(L); Langston (L); Meyer, *Message of Exodus* (L); Meyers (NCBC); Murphy (C); Noth (OTL); Oswalt (C); Plastaras, *The God of the Exodus* (L, but excellent for theology); Propp (AB, very radical); Sarna (JPS); Stuart (NAC).

Leviticus

Balentine (L); Bellinger (NIBC); Bonar (C); Budd (NCB); Bush (C); J. T. Dennison, “The End in the Beginning: A Biblical-Theological Catechism for Young and Old: Leviticus.” *Kerux: The Journal of Northwest Theological Seminary* 30/1 (May 2015): 3-12 here <http://kerux.com/pdf/kerux.30.01.pdf> ; Douglas, *Leviticus as Literature* (L, but will now be the place to start); Gerstenberger (OTL); Harrison (Ty); Hartley (W); Kiuchi (careful); Knight (DSBS); Levine (JPS); Milgrom (AB, 3 vols.); Milgrom (L, 1 vol. condensation of 3 vol. AB set); Noordtzij (C); Noth (OTL); Porter (NCaB); Rooker (NAC); Ross (*Holiness to the Lord*—C); Skylar (revised Ty; careful); Snaith (NCeB); Wenham (NIC, the best).

Numbers

Ashley (NIC); Bellinger (NIBC); Budd (W); Cole (NAC); Davies (NCeB); J. T. Dennison, “The End in the Beginning: A Biblical-Theological Catechism for Young and Old: Numbers.” *Kerux: The Journal of Northwest Theological Seminary* 30/3 (December 2015): 4-15 (<http://www.kerux.com/doc/3003A1.asp>); James T. Dennison, Jr. “The Aaronic Benediction.” *Kerux: The Journal of Northwest Theological Seminary* 25/2 (September 2010): 36-42 (<http://kerux.com/doc/2502A3.asp>); Gray (ICC); Harrison (C); Knierim/Coats (L, worthless higher critical pap); Levine (AB, 2 vols.); Maarsingh (L); Milgrom (JPS); Noordtzij (C); Noth (OTL); Olson, *Death of Old and Birth of New: Framework of Numbers* (good structural outline of the theology, but liberal-critical in details); also a full commentary by Olson; Riggans (DSBS); Snaith (NCeB); Stubbs (L); Sturdy (NCaB), Wenham (Ty).

Deuteronomy

Block (C); Brueggemann (L); Cairns, *Word and Presence* (L); Christensen (W); Clements, *God’s Chosen People* (L); Clifford (BTC); Craigie (NIC); Cunliffe-Jones (T); J. T. Dennison, “The End in the Beginning: A Biblical-Theological Catechism for Young and Old: Deuteronomy.” *Kerux: The Journal of Northwest Theological Seminary* 31/1 (May 2016): 3-13, <http://kerux.com/doc/3101A1.asp> ; Driver (ICC); Kline, *Treaty of the Great King* (flawed attempt to impose Ancient Near Eastern treaty patterns on Scripture); Knight, *Song of Moses* (L); Lundbom (L); Manley, *Book of the Law* (C); Mayes (NCeB); McConville (soft higher criticism); Merrill (NAC); Miller (L); Nelson (OTL²); Phillips (NCAB); Ridderbos (C); von Rad (OTL); Thompson (Ty); Tigay (JPS); Weinfeld (chaps. 1-11, AB); Woods (rev. Ty—watch it); Wright (NIBC)

Joshua

Auld (DSBS); Boling (AB); Blaikie (C); Boling (AB); Butler (W; and also a 2014 version from Zondervan; watch the ‘soft’ higher criticism); Creach (L); Davis, *No Falling Words* (C, disappointing); J. T. Dennison, “The End in the Beginning: A Biblical-Theological Catechism for Young and Old: Joshua.” *Kerux: The Journal of Northwest Theological Seminary* 31/2 (December 2016): 3-14 <http://kerux.com/doc/3102A1.asp> ; J. T. Dennison, Jr., “The Historical Books: A Review.” *Kerux: The Journal of Northwest Theological Seminary* 21/1 (May 2007): 38-46; Goslinga (C); Gray (NCeB); Garstang (C); Goslinga (C); Hamlin (L-good on structure); Harris/Brown/Moore (NIBC); Hawk (BO); Hess (Ty); Hoppe (BTC); Howard (NAC); Keil (old, C); Matties (substantial, but pacifist); Miller

(NCaB); Nelson (OTL); Pitkanen (allegedly conservative; needs checking); Schaeffer (C); Soggin (OTL); Woudstra (NIC, very good).

Judges

Auld (DSBS); Boling (AB); Block (NAC); Butler (W); Chisholm (C); Cundall (Ty); J. T. Dennison, “The End in the Beginning: A Biblical-Theological Catechism for Young and Old: Judges.” *Kerux: The Journal of Northwest Theological Seminary* 32/1 (May 2017): 3-22 (<http://kerux.com/doc/3201A1.asp>); Frolov (liberal-critical); Garstang (C); Goslinga (C); Gray (NCeB); Gunn (L); Hamlin, *At Risk in the Promised Land* (L); Harris/Brown/Moore (NIBC); ; Hoppe (BTC); Jordan, *God's War Against Humanism* (Theonomic); Lindars (chaps. 1-5, L); Martin (NCaB); Matthews (NCBC); Mayes (L); McCann (L); Moore (ICC); Niditch (OTL); Sasson (AB, chaps. 1-12; likely to become the standard critical work); Schneider (BO, feminist reading); Soggin (OTL); Webb (NICOT; useful, not penetrating; review <http://kerux.com/doc/3001R2.asp>); Wilcock, *Message of Judges* (C); Wood, *Distressing Days of the Judges* (C).

Ruth

Atkinson, *Wings of Refuge* (C); Auld (DSBS); Block (NAC); Block (C); Bush (W); Campbell (AB); Chisholm (C); James T. Dennison, Jr., “Ruth: The Story Begins.” *Kerux: The Journal of Northwest Theological Seminary* 25/1 (May 2010): 3-10 (<http://kerux.com/doc/2501A1.asp>); “Narrative Art and Biblical Theology in the Book of Ruth.” *Kerux: The Journal of Northwest Theological Seminary* 21/1 (May 2007): 3-16 (<http://kerux.com/doc/2201A1.asp>); “Ruth: Literary and Biblical-theological Analysis” (2005 Kerux Conference address available from Northwest Theological Seminary, 17711 Spruce Way, Lynnwood, WA 98037); also four sermons on the four chapters of Ruth (audio at nwts.edu, <http://nwts.edu/audio/JTD/Ruth.htm>); Eskenazi (JPS); Fuerst (NCaB); Goslinga (C); Gray (NCeB); Hals, *Theology of the Book of Ruth* (L); Hamlin, *Surely There is a Future* (fadish! Review here, <http://kerux.com/doc/1103R1.asp#review1>); Hubbard (NIC); LaCocque (L, UGH! Review here, <http://kerux.com/doc/2003R3.asp>); Leggett, *The Levirate and Goel Institutions in the OT* (C); Linafelt (BO); Matthews (NCBC); McKeown (L); Morris (Ty); Nielsen (OTL); Sasson (L); Schipper (AB); Waard, *Translator's Handbook*.

1 and 2 Samuel

Ackroyd (NCaB); Anderson (2 S—W); Alter (L); Auld (new OTL; watch out for the radical reconstruction using higher critical presuppositions); Baldwin (Ty); Barron (2 Samuel; RC superstar; watch it); Bergen (NAC); Birch (in *New Interpreter's Bible Commentary*; surprisingly helpful in structure and narrative, but oh so fadishly Left-wing in application); Bodner (1 Samuel; L, atheological attempt at a narrative commentary which disappoints—lacks penetration; fosters a “hermeneutics of suspicion” about the narrative and the narrator; Fokkelman is still the one!); Brueggemann (L); Campbell (L, higher critical wastelands; skip both of them); Chapman (1 Sam.; leftwing socio-political eisegesis and theological madness, i.e., King Saul is a “type” of Christ); Chisholm (unimpressive); Conroy, *Absalom! Absalom!* (L, but worth considering); Conroy (BTC); J. T. Dennison, “A King and A Cripple (Mephibosheth).” *Kerux* 1 (Sept. 1986): 18-26 (<http://kerux.com/doc/0102A2.asp>), “The Rape of Tamar.” *Kerux* 3 (Sept. 1988): 27-35 (<http://kerux.com/doc/0302A3.asp>); “Joab and Abner: Narrative Symmetries Sandwiching David.” *Kerux: The Journal of Northwest Theological Seminary* 25/3 (December 2010): 27-37 (<http://kerux.com/doc/2503A5.asp>). J.T. Dennison, “The Life of David: Structural and Narrative Analysis with Biblical-Theological Emphasis.” Covers 1 Samuel 16—1 Kings 2

chapter by chapter (2009-10 audio lectures and downloadable handouts here <http://nwts.edu/audio/JTD/LifeOfDavid.htm>); Eslinger, *Kingship of God in Crisis: 1 Sam. 1-12* (L); Evans (NIBC); Firth (C; useful, but often superficial—another evangelical who does not build on Fokkelman’s brilliant studies; Firth sees very little of the eschatological David in the protological David); Fokkelman, *Narrative Art and Poetry in the Book of Samuel: King David* (Pt.1), *The Crossing Fates* (Pt. II) *Throne and City* (Pt. III), *Vow & Desire* (Pt. IV) (L, but excellent literary analysis; more helpful than all other commentaries combined); Garsiel (1 Samuel, L); Gordon (L); Gunn, *Story of King David* (L, junk); Hertzberg (old OTL); Jobling (BO, not very successful narrative attempt, 1 Samuel); Klein (W); Mauchline (NCeB); McCarter (AB); McKane (T); Miscall (L, disappointing); Morrison (BO, 2nd Sam.); Murphy (worthless! Imagine a 2010 commentary on 1 Samuel with no reference to Fokkelman—not in the footnotes or the bibliography or the text. Irresponsible!!); Omanson/Ellington, *Handbook on 1 and 2 Samuel*; Payne (DSBS); Robinson, *Let Us Be Like the Nations* (L); Smith (ICC); Tsumura (NIC; OK, but not great, review here, <http://kerux.com/doc/2301R7.asp>); Youngblood (in Expositor’s Bible; C, decent; often helpful where others flounder in the higher critical morass).

1 and 2 Kings

Auld (DSBS); Beal (ostensibly C, really ‘soft’ evangelical higher criticism. Uses John Van Seters definition of historiography that in the OT, history is “not primarily the accurate reporting of past event[s]” (p. 38). Beal notes that each text of the Bible comes “with its own inherent ideology” p. 38, i.e., the text is fabricated by religious agenda); she routinely drops in the term “Deuteronomist” and maintains that the narrator of 1 and 2 Kings “shapes the narrative in many ways” (p. 40) and in some cases does so to smooth over redactional stages of the evolution of the final MT. She is ignorant of the work of J. P. Fokkelman on 1 Kings 1 and 2; nor does she acknowledge the commentary of D. J. Wiseman or the histories of Leon Wood—certainly germane to genuine evangelical and conservative treatment of the text of Kings. Treatment of pericopes is little more than the obvious); Cogan (AB); Cohen (2 Kings, BO); Conroy (BTC); Davis and Whitcomb (C); de Vries (1 Kings—W); James T. Dennison, Jr. on 1 Kings 1 #26 here (“Anti-Coronation vs. Coronation” <http://nwts.edu/audio/JTD/LifeOfDavid.htm>.; and 1 Kings 2 # 27 here (“David’s Death” <http://nwts.edu/audio/JTD/LifeOfDavid.htm>.; Fritz (L); Garsiel, *From Earth to Heaven* (Elijah narratives—worth checking out); Gray (Second ed. OTL); Hayes and Miller, *Israelite and Judaeon History* (L, but very helpful for historical background to individual kings; get 2nd ed. 2006); Hens-Piazza (L, radical); Hobbs (2 Kings—W); House (NAC); Jones (NCeB); Kaiser, *A History of Israel* (C); Leithart (the books of Kings provide the ostensible basis for “the possibility that the Father of Jesus has established a global American empire as a political means for advancing his purposes” (p. 244; Baker/Brazos ACTUALLY published this rot)—theonomy *uber alles!* Double UGH!!); Long (L, useful); McConville (DBSB); Montgomery (ICC); Mulder (1 Kings, L); Nelson (L); Omanson and Ellington (Translator’s Handbook); Provan (NIC, L); Robinson (NCaB); Sweeney (OTL²); Thiele, *Mysterious Numbers of the Hebrew Kings* (C); Throntviet (L); Volkmar (L); Walsh (1 Kings, BO); Wiseman (Ty); Wood, *A Survey of Israel’s History* (C); Wood, *Israel’s United Monarchy* (C).

1 and 2 Chronicles

Ackroyd (T); Boda (C); Braun (1 Chron—W); Coggins (NCaB); Curtis (ICC); De Vries (L); Dillard (2 Chron—W; the ‘Chronicler’ is “tendentious”, i.e., a political and theological propagandist; the beginning of the ‘soft’ higher criticism of the Westminster Philadelphia School, continued by Tremper Longman, Bruce Waltke and Peter Enns); Dirksen (1 Chron.; very L); Hayes and Miller, *Israelite and Judaeon History* (L, but very helpful for historical background to individual kings; get 2nd ed. 2006); Japhet

(OTL); Jarick (very L); Klein (H; Chronicler has a “distinctive theological agenda”, i.e., he invents the myths of his book for ulterior purposes); Knoppers (rev. AB); McKenzie (L); Merrill (C, the place to start for evangelicals); Myers (AB); Omanson (UBS Handbook Series; massive); Selman (Ty); Thompson (NAC); Tuell (L); Wilcock, *Message of Chronicles* (C); Williamson (NCeB).

Ezra and Nehemiah

Ackroyd (T); Allen/Laniak (NIBC); Batten (ICC); Blenkinsopp (OTL); Breneman (NAC); Brokington (NCeB); Clines (NCeB); Coggins (NCaB); Davies (BO); Eskenazi, *In an Age of Prose* (significant structural comments); Fensham (NIC); Holmgren, *Israel Alive Again*; Kidner (Ty); Levering; McConville (DBSB) Myers (AB); Steinmann (C); Throntveit (L); Williamson (W).

Esther

Allen/Laniak (NIBC); Baldwin (Ty); Beal (BO); Bechtel (L, review here, <http://kerux.com/doc/1902R4.asp>); Berg (L); Berlin (JPS); Breneman (NAC); Brockington (NCeB); Bush (W); Carson, *Confidence in God* (C); Clines; Firth (C); Coggins, *Israel Among the Nations*; Fox, *Character and Ideology*; Fuerst (NCaB); Lawlor (C); Levenson (OTL); Moore (AB); Paton (ICC); Reid (new Tyndale; replaces Baldwin; also more liberal).

Job

Alden (NAC); Andersen (Ty); Balentine (L); Bergant (BTC); Calvin, Sermons; Caryl (Puritan); Clines (W, careful; later Clines is VERY radical sometimes); Delitzsch (C); Dhorme (L, but classic); Driver (ICC); Ellison, *From Tragedy to Triumph*; Estes (C; ignores Fokkelman, Dhorme, Seow, William Henry Green); Fokkelman, *Major Poems of the Hebrew Bible*, Vols. 1, 2 and 4 cover the entire book (excellent poetic analysis of the Hebrew text); Fokkelman, *The Book of Job in Form*; Gibson (DBSB); Wm. H. Green, *Argument of the Book of Job Unfolded* (excellent); Gordis (L); Habel (NCaB; also OTL); Hanson (T); Hartley (NIOC, but soft higher criticism); Janzen (L); Kissane (Classic); M. G. Kline in Wycliff Bible Commentary; Longman (L); Pope (AB); Rowley (NCeB); Seow (chapters 1-21, massive [900 pp.], expensive [\$95], moderately critical; probably the new standard when finished); Snaith (Studies in Biblical Theology Series—L, but interesting); Simundson, *Message of Job* (L); Swinburnson (series of sermons from Lynnwood OPC website); Westermann (L, on structure); Wilson (L); Zuck, *Sitting with Job* (collection of essays—some helpful, some too liberal).

Psalms

Alexander (C); Allen (101-150—W); Alter, *Art of Biblical Poetry* (L, but good for structural analysis); Anderson (NCeB); Briggs (ICC); Broyles (NIBC); Brueggemann, *Message of Psalms* (L); Craigie (1-50—W); deClaisse-Walford, et al (NICOT); Dahood (AB, 3 vols.); Dickinson (Puritan); Eaton (T); Eaton (L, T&T Clark); Geller, *Parallelism in Early Biblical Poetry* (L); Fokkelman, *Major Poems of the Hebrew Bible* (Vols 2 and 3; THIS IS THE PLACE TO BEGIN—superb detail on the Hebrew text and its structure); also Fokkelman, *Reading Biblical Poetry* (brilliant introduction to Hebrew prosody, including the Psalms); also Fokkelman, *The Psalms in Form* (lays out the bi-cola and stanza structure of all 150 Psalms); Gersternberger (L); Girard (3 vols. on structure; in French, but the English-only reader can make out the patterns); Goldingay (2 of 3 vol. commentary; Junk, just measure him by Fokkelman); Goulder (several studies, decent); Hossfeld and Zenger (Ps. 51-100; H; same old same old form critical nonsense); Hunter (L); Kidner (Ty); Kirkpatrick (older, but still useful); Knight (DSBS); Kraus (L, but

thorough); Kraus, *Theology of Psalms* (crucial); Kugel, *Idea of Biblical Poetry* (L); Longman (Ty; Longman must always be watched for importing critical views into the text); Mays (L); Miller, *Interpretation of the Psalms* (L, but good overview); O'Connor, *Hebrew Verse Structure* (L); Oesterley (L); Perowne (good); Rogerson and McKay (NCaB); Ross (C); Sabourin (L, some BT); Schaefer (BO); Spurgeon, *Treasury of David* (prolific!); Stuhlmüller (BTC); Tate (51-100, W); Terrien (L, massive strophic and theological analysis); Vos, "The Eschatology of the Psalter," an appendix to *The Pauline Eschatology* (very important starting point for serious biblical theology of the Psalter); Weiser (OTL, fine insights, now dated).

Proverbs

Alden (C); Bridges (C); Clifford (OTL); Fox (AB); Garrett (NAC); Kidner (Ty, too brief); Kidner, *Wisdom of Proverbs, Job and Ecclesiastes* (C); Lucas (L); McKane (OTL); Mouser, *Walking in Wisdom* (C); Murphy (W); Murphy/Huwiler (NIBC); Scott (AB); Steinmann (C, Lutheran); Toy (ICC); Treier (L); Waltke (NIC, now the conservative standard); Whybray (NCaB and NCeB).

Ecclesiastes (Qoheleth/Koheleth)

Bartholomew (alleged to be conservative; careful); Barton (ICC); Bergant (BTC); Bollhagen (C, Solomonic era; Lutheran orientation, but Christ centered); Crenshaw (OTL); Curtis (C; inadequate bibliography and thus superficial penetration); Eaton (Ty); Enns (L); Fox (JPS); Fredericks (affirms Solomonic authorship); Fuerst (NCaB); Garrett (NAC); Gordis (Koheleth, L); James Hamilton, *The Royal Preacher* (published in 1852, but this is a GEM. If for no other reason, read the man's prose—what a wordsmith!!); Hengstenberg (C); Kaiser (C); Kidner, *Message of Ecclesiastes* (C); Kruger (H); Loader (L); Lohfink (L); Longman (L, review here, <http://kerux.com/doc/1303R1.asp>); Leupold (C); Murphy (W); Murphy/Huwiler (NIBC); Ogden (L); Schoors (L, not Solomon—"Hellenistic" era author [200 B.C.] who is a "skeptic or even an agnostic"; 920 pages of this tripe for a mere \$107); Scott (AB); Seow (AB); Swinburnson, Recommended series of Sermons on the entire book at lynnwoodopc.org (click on Audio Resources); Treier (L).

Song of Solomon

Assis, *Flashes of Fire: A Literary Analysis of the Song Songs* (L, pricey, watch the form criticism, but he unpacks a fivefold structure uniting the book and centered on the pivot at 5:1); Barbiero (very expensive, but thorough; review here, <http://kerux.com/doc/2703R2.asp>); Bergant (BO, feminist); Burrowes (Allegorical—C); Carr (Ty); Curtis (C; inadequate bibliography and thus superficial penetration); Dillow, *Solomon on Sex* (C); J. T. Dennison, Overview of the Song of Solomon—Audio Tape (Available from Trinity URC, 7350 Kalamazoo Ave., SE, Caledonia, MI 49316); J. T. Dennison, "What Should I Read on the Song of Solomon?" *Kerux* 8/2 (Sept. 1993): 35-41 (<http://kerux.com/doc/0802A3.asp>); J.T. Dennison, "Solomon's Sublime Song," *The Outlook* 53/7 [Sept. 2003]: 27-29 (<http://www.reformedfellowship.net/outlook/2003septemberoutlook.pdf>); J. T. Dennison, Audio tape series on entire book delivered March 2002 (<http://nwts.edu/audio/JTD/SongOfSolomon.htm>); Dorsey, "Literary Structuring in the Song of Songs." *JOT* 46 (1990): 81-96 (the place to begin!!); Duguid (rev Ty, careful); Elliott, *Literary Unity of the Canticle* (superb, but very expensive); Estes (neither affirms or denies Solomonic authorship; outline of the marital drama of the book is useful, if not Christological); Exum (OTL, good on poetic idiom); Falk, *Love Lyrics from the Bible* (L); Fishbane (JPS); Garrett (NAC); Garrett (W); Glickman, *Song for Lovers* (excellent, C); Glickman, *Solomon's Song of Love* (revised version of previous title; still very helpful);

Gordis (L); Goulder, *Song of 14 Songs* (L); Griffiths (L); Hess (C, very sane and helpful); Jenson (L); Keel (L); Landy, *Paradoxes of Paradise*, (L); Longman (troubling); Murphy (H); Murphy/Huwiler (NIBC); Paulsell (L); Pope (AB, perverse!); Snaith (NCeB); Stoop-van Paridon, *The Song of Songs: A Philological Analysis of the Hebrew Book* (thorough examination of the Hebrew text concluding that is a narrative unity; not as reliable as Elliott; expensive and revisionist).

Prophets in General

Chisholm, *Handbook to the Prophets* (C, not penetrating); Koch, *The Prophets* (fair); Miller, *Meet the Prophets* (L, adequate); Payne, *Encyclopedia of Biblical Prophets* (C, historic premillennial); Ward, *Prophets* (L, weak); Stephen Winward, *A Guide to the Prophets* (L, but excellent theological insights and homiletical suggestions); Leon Wood, *A History of Israel* (best conservative history of OT); Leon Wood, *Prophets of Israel* (watch the dispensationalism); E. J. Young, *My Servants the Prophets*.

Isaiah

Achtemeier, *Community and Message: Is. 56-66* (L); Alexander (conservative classic); Baltzer (H; chaps. 40-55); Beyer, *Encountering the Book of Isaiah* (C; defends unity of Isaiah; would be a good resource for lay Bible study on the book); Blenkinsopp (AB, 3 vols.); Brueggemann (L); Childs (OTL²); Clements (1-39), (NCeB); Clifford, *Fair Spoken and Persuading* (L, but good); Conrad (L); de Waard (Translator's Handbook); Delitzsch (C); See Charles G. Dennison series "Isaiah's Christmas Children" at Kerux.com; J. T. Dennison, *Kerux* 4 (May 1989, <http://kerux.com/doc/0401A2.asp>): 36-40 and (Sept 1989, <http://kerux.com/doc/0402A4.asp>): 33-41; Gileadi (unique approach to structure, but note he's a Mormon); Goldingay (NIBC, takes critical positions on authorship); Goldingay (40-66, ICC², 2 vols.); Goldingay, *Theology of the Book of Isaiah* (fluff); Gray (ICC); Hanson (40-66, L); Herbert (NCeB); Jensen (BTC); Jones (T); Kaiser (OTL); Knight, *Deutero-Isaiah* (L); Koole (28-66, so far; L); Lessing (C, chapters 40-55; also chapters 56-66; watch Lutheran sacramental theology); McKenzie (AB); Mauchline (T); Motyer (Ty); North (L); Oswalt (NIOC, conservative choice); Paul (chaps. 40-66, L); Ridderbos (C); Roberts, 1-39 (H); Sawyer (DSBS); Scullion (BTC); Seitz (L); Smith, *Expositor's Bible* (old liberal classic); Sweeney (L but useful); Watts (W); Westermann (OTL); Whybray (NCeB); Wildberger (3 vols., To date, chaps. 1-39, L); Young (NIC, still quite good); Youngblood (C).

Jeremiah

Allen (newer OTL, replaces Carroll. Weak, predictable, unremarkable); Blackwood; Boadt (BTC); Bright (AB); Brueggemann (L); Carroll (OTL; regards the book as a fiction, reconstructed from "communities" of the post-exilic era); Clements (L); Craigie (W); Cunliffe-Jones (T); Davidson (DSBS); de Waard, Translator's Handbook; James T. Dennison, Jr., "The Life of Jeremiah" (audio lecture series at nwts.edu; includes handouts; available on iPod or other digital device; <http://nwts.edu/audio/JTD/LifeOfJeremiah.htm>); James T. Dennison, Jr., "What Should I Read on Jeremiah?" *Kerux* 27/1 (May 2012): 3-7 (<http://kerux.com/doc/2701A1.asp>); James T. Dennison, Jr., "Deadly Fires versus Living Waters." *Kerux* 28/1 (May 2013): 11-15 (<http://kerux.com/doc/2801A2.asp>); James T. Dennison, Jr., "Jeremiah: Prophetic Narrative Biography and the Divine-Human Interface." *Kerux* 31/1 (May 2016): 27-30, <http://kerux.com/doc/3101A5.asp>; Elena Di Pede, *De Jerusalem a l'Egypte* (superb literary and narrative insights into the structure of this prophetic book; di Pede knows Fokkelman and has benefited from his approach for delving into the structure of the Hebrew text of the

OT. She has shifted the entire discussion of this prophetic figure and his book. All her work is currently in French, but the penetration is remarkable and the respect for the integrity of the received MT is profound. She needs an English translator, but until then grab your French dictionary and be refreshed by new insights into the weeping prophet—who is but an anticipation of the Eschatological One who Himself also weeps over Jerusalem!); Fretheim (L); Harrison (Ty); Holladay (H, 2 vols.; tedious, though endorses basic historicity of the book; but then reconstructs it via form critical rubbish. The way out of this absurd and asinine morass is to take the text seriously as the product of the pen of Jeremiah—an astounding yet obvious way out of the labyrinth manufactured by the clique/lobby of higher critics); Huey (NAC); Jones (NCeB); Keown (W); Kidner, *Message of Jeremiah* (C); Kinsler; Laetsch (C); Lalleman (Ty—replaces Harrison); Longman (NICOT; ‘soft’ critical method); Lundbom (AB, 3 vols.; massive, serious attempt at the historicity and poetic genius of the prophet. Careful, deliberate and thorough—worth the investment); Martens (C); McKane (ICC, 2 vols.; like Carroll, buried in form critical and redaction critical mythology. Hundreds of pages of wasted ink and paper—typical of the ICC); Nicholson (NCaB); O’Connor, *Confessions of Jeremiah* (L); Orelli (C); Stulman (L, but some excellent theological insights); Thompson (NIC; the conservative place to begin, but watch out for the ‘soft’ redaction criticism); Geerhardus Vos, “Jeremiah’s Plaint and its Answer” (in *Redemptive History and Biblical Interpretation*, 288-98)—this magnificent article drives the reader into the heart of God in the heart of the prophet. Vos’s consciousness of the reciprocal affection of God for the prophet and the prophet for God is uncanny, as well as proleptic, i.e., an eschatological Weeping Prophet beloved of his Father and loving his Father with all his heart—even to rejection, death, resurrection and face-to-face session in glorification. It is not for no reason that many thought Jesus of Nazareth was Jeremiah *redivivus* (Mt. 16:14); Wright, *Message of Jeremiah* (moderate criticism).

Lamentations

NB: only Dennison takes a Christocentric BT approach (cf. his audio series on the whole book “Lamentations: A Narrative Approach to the Dual Voices in the Poetic Drama” <http://nwts.edu/audio/jtd/lamentations.htm> ; Bergant (L, but interesting); Berlin (OTL); Cox (L); J. T. Dennison, “Lamentations: A Review,” *Kerux* 12:2 (Sep 1996): 32-37 (<http://kerux.com/doc/1102R1.asp>; “The Lament and the Lamentor,” *Kerux* 12:3 (Dec. 1997): 30-34 (<http://kerux.com/doc/1203A2.asp>; Dobbs-Allsopp (L, but has some literary flourish. Theologically perverse—God is the author of evil [not merely the allowor/permitter or ‘not-preventer’ of evil], which is a conclusion reached by many liberal-critical fundamentalists); Fuerst (NCaB); Gerstenberger (with Psalms, v. 2, L); Gottwald (L); Harrison (Ty); Hillers (AB); House (W, the most helpful to evangelicals, but little Christocentric analysis); Huey (NAC); Kaiser, *Biblical Approach to Personal Suffering* (C); Lalleman (Ty—replaces Harrison. She thinks it “unlikely” (322) Jeremiah wrote Lamentations; virtually useless); Longman (Jeremiah did NOT write Lamentations; more ‘soft’ critical method); Parry (again, Jeremiah NOT the author; so-so; dependent on Renkema; appendices contain feeble BT and Christocentric attempts); Provan (NCeB); Renkema (massive; structural suggestions [which should be modified and expanded]; can be tedious); Salters (ICC, helpful in places, but as with ICC lots of minutiae and higher critical rubbish); Schaeffer, *Death of a City* (not actually a commentary); Thomas, *Poetry and Theology in the Book of Lamentations* (thorough review of history of exegesis and all the literature to 2013; expensive; beware the comparative Near Eastern religious nonsense. He also does not believe that the justice of God extends to infants. Then, sir, why do they die at all—death the wages of sin?); Westermann (L, disappointing; review here, <http://kerux.com/doc/1102R1.asp>).

Ezekiel

Allen (20-48,W); Blenkinsopp (L); Block (NIOC); Brownlee (W); Calvin; Carley (NCaB); Cody (BTC); Cooke (ICC); Cooper (NAC); Craigie (DSBS); Eichrodt (OTL); Fairbairn (C); Greenberg (AB, 2 vols.); Hals (L); Hummel (C); Joyce (L); Linde (L); Stalker (T); Stuart (C); Taylor (Ty); Wevers (NCeB); Zimmerli (H, massive; the place to start).

Daniel

Anderson, *Signs and Wonders* (L); Archer (C, in Expositor's Bible Commentary, vol. 7); Baldwin (Ty, but weak on chap. 11); Collins (BTC); Collins (L); Collins (H); James T. Dennison, Jr. (C, audio lecture series at nwts.edu on the historical portions of the book. Includes a recapitulatory paradigm for the macrostructure of Daniel. Special detailed exposition of chapter 11 is provided. Includes downloadable handouts, <http://nwts.edu/audio/JTD/Daniel.htm>); James T. Dennison, Jr., "A Philosophy of Revelation: The People of God and the Nation-States—Interfacing Eschatology and Anti-Eschatology in Organic Continuum (Daniel 2-12) *Kerux: The Journal of Northwest Theological Seminary* 27/1 (May 2012): 41-45 (<http://kerux.com/doc/2701A5.asp>); Ferguson (C); Ford; Goldingay (W; evangelical higher criticism); Hammer (NCaB); Hartman and DiLella (AB); Heaton (T); Lacocque (L); Leupold (C); Lucas (more 'soft' higher critical evangelicalism from IVP); Miller (NAC); Montgomery (ICC); Newsome and Breed (OTL); Pace (L); Porteus (OTL); Russell (DSBS); Russell (L); Steinmann (C, impressive Lutheran work; now the place to begin for authentic evangelical conservatives [i.e., those who hold to the inerrancy of Scripture and reject 'evangelical' liberal higher critical imitators as, in truth, fundamentalists of the left]—even Reformed evangelical conservatives ☺); Towner (L); Wallace (C); Wood (dispensational, but essential for historical detail); Young (C).

Hosea

Anderson and Freeman (AB); Ben Zvi (L); Ben Zvi (again, more higher critical rubbish); Buss (L); Davies (NCeB, poor); Dearman (NICOT, contemporary evangelical revisionism; skip it); J.T. Dennison, "Prophetic Narrative Biography and Biblical Theology: The Prophet Hosea," *Kerux: The Journal of Northwest Theological Seminary* 22/2 (Sept. 2007): 3-14; J.T. Dennison, Audio Tapes covering chapters 1-13 available from New Life Mission Church, La Jolla, CA; J.T. Dennison, "What Should I Read on Hosea?" *Kerux* 12:1 (May 1997): 10-22 (<http://kerux.com/doc/1201A2.asp>); J.T. Dennison, "Enveloped by God (Hosea 14:4-8)," *Kerux* 13/1 (May 1998): 35-41 (<http://kerux.com/doc/1301A4.asp>); Garrett (NAC); Harper (ICC); Hubbard (Ty, very good); Kidner, *Love to the Loveless* (C); King (L); Knight (T); Landy (politically correct!); Limburg, Hosea-Micah (L); McKeating (NCaB); Mays (OTL); Stuart (W); Vawter (BTC); Wolff (H).

Joel

Allen (NIC); Assis (L, but has a literary flare); Barker, *From the Depths of Despair to the Promise of Presence* (rhetorical study; helpful); Barton (OTL); Crenshaw (AB); Finley (C); Garrett (NAC); Hubbard (C); Kapelrud (L); Lena Lee, "The Structure of the Book of Joel." *Kerux* 7:3 (Dec 1992): 4-24 (<http://kerux.com/doc/0703A1.asp>); Smith (ICC); Stuart (W); Watts (NCaB); Wolff (H)

Amos

Allen (NIC); Anderson and Freedman (AB); Auld (L); Beeley (C); Coote (L); Cripps (L); Finley (C); Hammershaimb (L, but very good); Hasel (C); Harper (ICC); Hayes (L); Hubbard (C); Jeremias (OTL²); King (L); Lessing (C, Lutheran); McKeating (NCaB); Marsh (T); Mays (OTL); Moller (*A Prophet in*

Debate—very important rhetorical treatment of Amos 1-4 with rhetorical outline of the entire book; excellent work with the Hebrew text; review here <http://kerux.com/doc/2001R1.asp>); Motyer, *Day of the Lion* (C); Paul (H, massive!); Smith (C); Smith and Page (NAC); Stuart (W); Vawter (BTC); Wolff (H); *Translator's Handbook*.

Obadiah

Allen (NIC, favors emendations and rearrangements of the MT); Baker (Ty, good though brief); Barton (OTL, nonsense theory of “Deutero-Obadiah” from v. 15a to end); Ben Zvi (thorough, but radical higher criticism); Block (C, very helpful, but watch his ‘soft’ premillennialism—a longtime Zondervan emphasis); James T. Dennison, Jr.—audio series on entire book with handouts, structural, narrative, BT and Christocentric focus; <http://nwts.edu/audio/jtd/obadiah.htm>.; James T. Dennison, Jr. “The Aperture and Closure of Obadiah: Patterned Symmetry of Visionary Imagery.” *Kerux: The Journal of Northwest Theological Seminary* 31/2 (December 2016): 16-19, here: <http://kerux.com/doc/3102A3.asp> ; Finley (C); Marbury (Puritan); Niehaus (in McComiskey, *Minor Prophets*, C; decent); Raabe (AB, probably the best [even conservative in views—amazing for the AB series], but you must wade through minutia); Renkema (L); Simundson (L, waste of money); Smith (ICC); Smith and Page (NAC); Stuart (W, too often brief); Sweeney (BO); Watts (NCaB); *Translator's Handbook*; Wendland (brief treatment in his book *Prophetic Rhetoric*); Wolff (L). [on Edom: Dicou, *Edom, Israel's Brother and Antagonist*; Anderson, *Brotherhood and Inheritance*; Assis, *Identity in Conflict*—all technical works, but useful, though use with care—higher critical assumptions mar the presuppositions.]

Jonah

Aalders, *The Problem of the Book of Jonah* (C); Allen (NIC); Baker (Ty); J. T. Dennison, “The Sign Of Jonah.” *Kerux* 8 (Dec. 1993): 31-35 (<http://kerux.com/doc/0803A3.asp>); Fairbairn (C); Fretheim (L); Limburg (OTL); Magonet (L); Martin (C); Mitchell (ICC); *Translator's Handbook*; Sasson (AB); Simon (JPS); Smith and Page (NAC); Stuart (W); Tribble (L); Tucker (grammatical details on Hebrew text; no theology; L); Watts (L); Wendland (in his book *Prophetic Rhetoric*; and JETS article on structure 1996—can be found online); Wolff (L); Youngblood (C, helpful).

Micah

Allen (NIC); Andersen and Freedman (AB); Baker (Ty); Barker and Bailey (NAC); J. T. Dennison, “Micah's Bethlehem and Matthew's,” *Kerux: The Journal of Northwest Theological Seminary* 22/3 (December 2007): 3-9 (<http://kerux.com/doc/2203A1.asp>); Hillers (H); Marsh (T); Mays (OTL); McKeating (MCab); Micah (L); Smith (ICC); Smith (W); Smith-Christopher (OTL); *Translator's Handbook*; Vawter (BTC); Waltke (new conservative standard; weak on eschatological intrusion); Wolff (L, but good), Zvi (Structure).

Nahum

Baker (Ty); Barker and Bailey (NAC); Christensen (AB, but idiosyncratic. Tries to take a “musical” approach to the book. Deals well with the history of the Assyrian empire only to conclude that it means little or nothing to the exegesis of the book. Sad); Eaton (T); Kidner (Ty); Maier (C); O'Brien (L, even radical); Patterson (C); Roberts (OTL); Robertson (NIC); Smith (ICC); Smith (W); Spronk (may be the most helpful); Watts (NCaB); Wendland (in his book *Prophetic Rhetoric*).

Habakkuk

Andersen (AB, massive); Baker (Ty); Barker and Bailey (NAC); Gowan (L); Haak (L, massive!); Kidner (Ty); Lloyd-Jones, *From Fear to Faith*; Marbury (Puritan); Smith (ICC); Patterson (C); Roberts (OTL); Robertson (NIC); Smith (W); Watts (NCaB); Wendland (in his book *Prophetic Rhetoric*).

Zephaniah

Baker (Ty); Ivan Ball (1972 Dissertation: superb rhetorical analysis); Barker and Bailey (NAC); Ben Zvi (liberal fundamentalist, higher critical nonsense); Bennett (in *New Interpreters Commentary*, turns every pericope into an application for the leftist socio-political agenda); Berlin (AB); Bruckner (C, but dull); J. T. Dennison, series on the whole book available here: <http://www.nwts.edu/audio/jtd/zephaniah.htm>; J. T. Dennison, “What Should I Read on Zephaniah?” *Kerux: The Journal of Northwest Theological Seminary* 29/2 (September 2014): 12-18 <http://kerux.com/doc/2902A3.asp>; House (C; an attempt at a dramatic reading—while unsuccessful, he is still stimulating and suggestive); Kapelrud (L); Kidner (Ty); Motyer (C, in McComiskey, *The Minor Prophets*, useful); O’Brien (L); Patterson (C); Roberts (OTL); Robertson (NICOT); Smith (ICC); Smith (W); Sweeney (H); Tidiman, *Nahoum, Habacuq, Sophonie* (very good, conservative French commentary); Vlaardingerbroek (L, critical); Watts (NCaB); Wendland, “The Drama of Zephaniah: A Literary-Structural Analysis of a Proclamatory Prophetic Text.” *Journal for Semitics* 16 (2007): 22-67 (A very good place to begin with this marvelous book; also available in his *Prophetic Rhetoric* [2009]).

Haggai

Baldwin (Ty); Hill (rev. Ty); Mason (NCaB); Meyers (AB); Mitchell (ICC); Moore (C, weak); Petersen (OTL, disappointing); Petterson (C); Redditt (NCeB); Smith (W); Benjamin Swinburnson, “The Rhetoric of Post-Exilic Prophetic Reversal: Chiasmus in Haggai 1:1-15, A Structural and Biblical-Theological Analysis.” *Kerux: The Journal of Northwest Theological Seminary* 23/3 (December 2008): 54-74 (<http://kerux.com/doc/2303A5.asp>); “The Glory of the Latter Temple: A Structural and Biblical-Theological Analysis on Haggai 2:1-9.” *Kerux: The Journal of Northwest Theological Seminary* 23/1 (May 2008): 28-46 (<http://kerux.com/doc/2301A3.asp>. This is now the place to begin; both articles are excellent!)—follow up with Benji’s sermons on the entire book at lynnwoodopc.org (click on Audio Resources); Taylor (NAC); Verhoef (NIOC); Wendland (in his book *Prophetic Rhetoric*); Wolff (L, good).

Zechariah

Baldwin (Ty); Boda (NICOT; the 14 chapters may be a “single book”, but that compilation is the result of heavy redaction [esp. chaps 9-14] from scribal traditions post-dating the historical Zechariah—even down to the 5th c. B.C., the era of Nehemiah. Ugh!); Conrad (L); Hill (rev. Ty); M. G. Kline, Series on Zechariah’s Night Visions (chapters 1-6) in *Kerux* beginning 1990; Now available in book form, *Glory in the Midst*; beware the occasional slip on merit based works-covenant theology in the era of redemptive grace); Leupold (C); Mason (NCaB); Meyers (AB); Mitchell (ICC); Moore (C, weak); Petersen (OTL, disappointing); Petterson (C); Redditt (NCeB); Redditt (chs. 9-14 [Deutero-Zechariah]—radical reconstruction of the text); Smith (W); Unger (C, dispensational); Wolters (C).

Malachi

Adam (C, but careful); Baldwin (Ty); Clendenen (NAC); Hill (AB; also rev. Ty); Kaiser (C); Mason (NCaB); Mitchell (ICC); Moore (C, weak); Petersen (OTL); Petterson (C); Pohlig, *Exegetical Summary* (helpful with the text); Redditt (NCeB); Smith (W); Snyman (useful; argues for chiasm with pivot at 2:10-3:7); Taylor (NAC); Verhoef (NIOC); Wendland (in his book *Prophetic Rhetoric*).

NEW TESTAMENT

Parables of Jesus

Bailey, *Poet and Peasant*; Blomberg (disappointing); Crossan (L, radical); Dodd; Hultgren (very L); Jeremias; Kissinger (Bibliography); Kistemaker (C, bland); Longenecker (helpful); Ridderbos, *Coming of the Kingdom* (excellent); Snodgrass (up-to-date survey and exposition; massive); Tolbert; Trench; Wenham (C).

Miracles of Jesus

J. T. Dennison, “Understanding the Miracles of Jesus.” *Banner of Truth* 135 (Dec. 1974): 16-19— Revised version available in “Epistle to the Hebrews” series, Lecture 7, Handout 7 <http://nwts.edu/media/pdf/jtd/Hebrews/Hebrews%2007.pdf> at nwts.edu; Hendrickx; Laidlaw (very good); Richardson (good); Ridderbos, *Coming of the Kingdom*; Trench; van der Loos, *Miracles of Jesus* (L, but exhaustive).

Matthew

Albright and Mann (AB, poor); Allen (ICC); Anderson, *Matthew's Narrative Web* (helpful literary and narrative reading); Argyle (NCaB); Allison, *Sermon on the Mount* (L); Betz, *Sermon on the Mount* (L); Blomberg (NAC); Bruner, *Christbook and Churchbook*; Carter, *Matthew and the Margins* (L, sociopolitical reading); Cox (T); Davies (L); Davies and Allison (ICC, massive); J. T. Dennison, “A Babe and the Babes of Bethlehem.” *Kerux* 3 (Dec. 1988): 27-34 (<http://kerux.com/doc/0303A4.asp>); “Born of the Virgin Mary.” *Kerux* 18/3 (Dec 2003): 16-25 (<http://kerux.com/doc/1803A3.asp>); “The Law from the New Mount.” *Kerux* 21/1 (May 2006): 42-48 (<http://kerux.com/doc/2101A4.asp>); Evans (NCBC); Fenton (L); Filson (L); France (NICNT; major new massive work; cf. review <http://kerux.com/doc/2203R2.asp>); France (Ty, quite good); Gundry, *Use of the OT in Matthew's Gospel*; Gundry (L); Hagner (W); Harrington (SP); Hendriksen (NTC); Hill (NceB—good); Keener (C, predictable); Kingsbury (all his material on Matthew is excellent); Lenski (C); Luz (H, 3 vols.); McNeile (L); Minear, *The Good News According to Matthew* (unique and suggestive); Morris (C, review here, <http://kerux.com/doc/0901R1.asp#review1>); Mounce (NIBC); Neyrey, *Honor and Shame in the Gospel of Matthew* (L, but may be helpful); Nolland (massive, moderately critical, NIGTC); Osborne (C); Patte (L); Ridderbos (disappointing full-length commentary, shorter study [*Matthew's Witness to Jesus Christ: The King and the Kingdom*] is better); Ryle; Sabourin (L); Senior (L, feeble attempt at a narrative reading); Snackenburg (L); Schweizer (L); Smith (L); Stendahl (L); Talbert (Sermon on Mount); Talbert (L, structural insights); Tasker (Ty); Thompson, *Matthew's Story* (L); Turner (C); Witherington (C).

Mark

Anderson (NCeB); Beavis (L); Bock (NCaB, but Bock is conservative); Boring (NTL); Bratcher, *Translator's Handbook*; Broadhead, *Prophet, Son, Messiah* (chapters 14-16, very helpful); Brooks (NAC); Carrington (L); Cole (Ty); Collins (H, massive new critical commentary); Cranfield; Culpepper (L, disappointing); J. T. Dennison, Audio Tapes covering the entire Gospel available from New Life Mission Church, La Jolla, CA; J. T. Dennison, "The Gospel of Mark from Beginning to End." *Kerux* 9 (Dec. 1994): 3-10 (<http://kerux.com/doc/0903A1.asp>); Donahue and Harrington (SP); Dowd, *Reading Mark* (L, but good narrative and structural insights); Edwards (C); Evans (chap. 8:27-16:20, W); Focant (L, French narrative-redaction school; expensive); France (C); France (full-length, NIGTC); Gould (ICC); Guelich (chap. 1-8:26, W); Gundry (L, review here, <http://kerux.com/doc/1202R1.asp>); Harrington (BTC); Heil (OK, but his journal articles are better); Hendriksen (NTC); Hunter (T); Hurtado (NIBC); Johnson (L); Juel (L, but helpful); Kingsbury, *Theology of Mark* (good); Lane (NIC, still the best complete commentary and conservative too); Lenski; Malbon, *Narrative Space & Mythic Meaning in Mark* (L, but fascinating; much of what she has written on Mark is essential reading and she has written many journal articles; "The Beginning of a Narrative Commentary on the Gospel of Mark," *Society of Biblical Literature Seminar Papers 1996*, 98-122; this was to be the launch of a full narrative commentary on the gospel—it appears it may never come to fruition); Malbon, *In the Company of Jesus*; Malbon, *Hearing Mark: A Listener's Guide* (short and very suggestive overview of the entire gospel); Malbon, *Mark's Jesus* (this volume proves that she is a card-carrying higher critic who insults the genuine and glorious deity of the Lord Jesus Christ; very disappointing, tendentious and self-serving volume; you began so well, who hindered you?? The clique, of course); Marcus (AB); Martin; Michie & Rhoads, *Mark as Story* (L, but good narrative analysis); Minear (L); Moloney (L); C. F. D. Moule (NCaB); Nineham (Pelican); Painter (L, but helpful); Ryle; Schweizer (L); Smith, *Lion with Wings* (good narrative analysis); Stein (predictable Stein, i.e., unexciting; also, too many concessions to higher criticism from an alleged 'evangelical'); Strauss (C, weak on narrative analysis); Taylor (L); Turner (careful); Van Iersel, *Reading Mark* (L, but interesting); Van Iersel, *Mark: A Reader-Response Commentary* (new reader-response commentary from JSOT Press); Voelz (1:1-8:26, C—Concordia series); Williams, *Other Followers of Jesus* (well done); Williamson (L); Witherington (C).

Luke

Bock (C; review here, <http://kerux.com/doc/1501R2.asp>); Bovon (H, massive 3-volume set; **NB**: weak in narrative theological insight); Browning (T); Caird (L); Conzelmann, *Theology of Luke* (L); Creed; Danker, *Jesus and the New Age* (very good); audio series by James T. Dennison, Jr., on Luke 1-2; 3:1 and 4:16-30, here <http://nwts.edu/audio/jtd/luke.htm>; J. T. Dennison, "Pax Romana; Pax Christi." *Kerux* 2 (Dec. 1987): 3-9 (<http://kerux.com/doc/0203A1.asp>); J.T. Dennison, "Simeon's Farewell." *Kerux* 16/3 (Dec. 2001): 10-17 (<http://kerux.com/doc/1603A2.asp>); J. T. Dennison, "The Eschatological Jubilee." *Kerux* 31/1 (May 2016): 31-36, <http://kerux.com/doc/3101A6.asp>; Dillon, *The Hymns of Saint Luke* (Christmas hymns in Luke 1 and 2; review here: <http://kerux.com/doc/2901R1.asp>); Edwards (Useful, though heavily dependent on German critic Michael Wolter's commentary which will appear in English translation in 2016. Wolter construes Jesus and his eschatology as "the restoration of Israel", even into the (future) "temporal" eschaton. In so doing, Wolter argues that in Luke, "eschatology has been swallowed up in ethics" [his words]—an essentially Enlightenment point of view; review here <http://kerux.com/doc/3101R2.asp>); Ellis (NceB—good); Evans (NIBC); Fitzmeyer (AB); France (C, review here, <http://kerux.com/doc/2901R1.asp>); Garland; Geldenhuys (NIC); Gooding (C); Green (NIC); Hendriksen (NTC); Jeffrey; L. T. Johnson (L); Kingsbury; Knight (L); La Verdere (BTC);

Lenski; Marshall (good); McComiskey (structure); Meynet (brilliant; now the standard! Begin here!!! Review: <http://kerux.com/doc/3002R1.asp>); Morris (Ty); Navonne (excellent theological suggestions); Nolland (W); Parsons (interesting); Reiling, *Translator's Handbook*; Ryle; Sabourin (L); Schweizer (L); Stein (NAC); Talbert, *Reading Luke* (L, not up to his usual standard of helpful literary insights); Tannehill (Luke-Acts, L, but good narrative pointers); Tiede (L); Tinsley (NCaB); Wilcock (C).

John

Barrett (L); Beasley-Murray (W); Bernard (ICC); Boice (C); Borchert (NAC, 2 vols.); Brant (L); Brown (AB—critical, but very good for theology, 2 vols.); Bruce (C); Bruner (L); Culpepper, *Anatomy of the Fourth Gospel* (L, stimulating); Culpepper, *Gospel and Letters*; J. T. Dennison, “The Eagle and the Lamb: Christology, Soteriology and Eschatology in the Fourth Gospel” (Overview of the biblical theology of the Gospel of John)—Audio Tape (available from Trinity URC, 7350 Kalamazoo Ave., SE, Caledonia, MI 49316); J. T. Dennison, *Kerux* 7/1 (May 1992): 37-42 (<http://kerux.com/doc/0701A3.asp>), *Kerux* 8/2 (Sept. 1993): 3-9 (1:1-18, <http://kerux.com/doc/0802A1.asp>), *Kerux* 9/2 (Sep 1996): 3-6 (Lazarus, <http://kerux.com/doc/1102A1.asp>); J.T. Dennison, 2005 lectures on the entire gospel, <http://nwts.edu/audio/JTD/John.htm>); “Symmetries of Equivalence: Logos and Theos” (Jn. 1:1, 2). *Kerux* 18/1 (May 2003): 29-36 (<http://kerux.com/doc/1801A3.asp>); “*Abcondita cum Christo: The Blind Man and Jesus (John 9).*” *Kerux: The Journal of Northwest Theological Seminary* 23/3 (December 2008): 3-11 (<http://kerux.com/doc/2303A1.asp>); J.T. Dennison, Sermons on chapters 18 and 19 (audio here, <http://nwts.edu/audio/JTD/Passion.htm>); Duke, *Irony in Fourth Gospel* (excellent); Edwards (L); Ellis, *Genius of John* (L, chiasms everywhere and not always based on the original Greek text); Godet (old, C); Haenchen (radical, H); Hendriksen (safe, NTC); Hoskyns (L—good); Hunter (NCaB); Keener (massive, don’t expect anything spectacular); Koester, *Symbolism in the Fourth Gospel* (some insights); Kostenberger (C, not penetrating); Kruse (C, review here, <http://kerux.com/doc/2101R2.asp>); Kysar (*Preaching John*, cf. review by J.T. Dennison, *Preaching John. Kerux: The Journal of Northwest Theological Seminary* 17/2 (September 2002): 73-75, <http://kerux.com/doc/1702R1.asp>); Lenski; R. H. Lightfoot (good); Lincoln (rejects historicity of miracles and more); Lindars (NCeB); Maloney (SP, useful narrative material); Maloney (3 vol. set from Fortress, L); Marsh (Pelican); Michaels (NIBC); Michaels (NICNT, maudlin); Mlakuzhyil, *Christocentric Literary Structure of the Fourth Gospel* (the place to begin; revised edition 2011 *Christocentric Literary-Dramatic Structure of John's Gospel*, VERY expensive; review here, <http://kerux.com/doc/0501R1.asp>); Moloney (SP); Morris (NIC); Morris, *Studies in the Fourth Gospel* (good); Neyrey (NCBC); Richardson (T); Ridderbos (C, he could not write a good commentary); Ryle; Sanders (L); Schnackenburg (very good); Sloyan (L); Stibbe (has written several books, all of which are helpful; perhaps the best is the JSOT Press 1993 imprint with ISBN: 1-85075-433-0); Talbert (good); Tasker (Ty); Tenney (C); Turner; von Wahlde (radical); Whitacre (C)

Acts

Alexander (C); Arrington (Charismatic); Barrett (L); Blaiklock (Ty); Bock (C; bland, evangelical treatment); Bruce (NIC); Conzelmann (H); J. T. Dennison, “Paul on the Damascus Road.” *Kerux* 2 (Sept. 1987): 21-28; Crowe (BTC); Dunn (L); Fitzmyer (AB); Foakes-Jackson (a classic—L); Gaventa (L); Haenchen (L—but thorough); Holladay (NTL); L. T. Johnson (L); Keener (massive; watch the nutty

modern miracles nonsense); Kistemaker (NTC); Larkin (C); Lenski; Marshall (Ty); Lightfoot (chaps. 1-21 only; 19th c. ms., recently discovered); Munck (AB—weak); Neil (NCeB); Packer (NCaB); Parsons (L; watch the reconstruction of the narrative); Pervo (H); Peterson (C, solid, but no biblical theology); Polhill (NAC); Ridderbos, “Speeches of Peter in the Acts of the Apostles” (available here http://www.biblicalstudies.org.uk/pdf/speeches_ridderbos.pdf); Schnabel (C, worth a look); Spencer (*Journeying Through Acts*, L); Talbert (*Reading Acts*); Tannehill; Williams (L); Williams (NIBC); Williams (T); Willmon (L); *Translator’s Handbook*; Witherington (C)

Romans

Achtemeier (L); Barrett (L); K. Barth (L); Best (NCaB); Black (NCeB); Bruce (Ty); Byrne (L); Cranfield (new ICC—excellent, L); James T. Dennison, Jr., “The Eschatological Aspect of Justification.” *Kerux* 10/1 (May 1995): 10-16 (<http://kerux.com/doc/1001A2.asp>); J. T. Dennison, Sermon on Rom 5:12-21, <http://nwts.edu/audio.htm>); Dunn (W); Edwards (NIBC); Fitzmyer (AB, not much); Haldane (C); Hendriksen (NTC); Hodge (standard Reformed work; get unabridged ed.); Hunter (T); Jewett and Epp (H; massive 1100 pages; now the liberal-critical standard; thorough review by Scott Sanborn here <http://kerux.com/doc/2903A6.asp>; and here <http://kerux.com/doc/3101A4.asp>; and here <http://kerux.com/doc/3201A2.asp>); Johnson (L); Kasemann (L); Keck (L); Kruse; Lenski; Lloyd-Jones (C); Longenecker (C, huge!); Luther; Matera (L); Moo (NIC); Morris (C); Mounce (NAC); Murray (NIC—very good); Newman, *Translator’s Handbook*; Nygren (L, but penetrating); Osborne (C); Porter (C); Sanday and Headlam (ICC); Schlatter (C); Schreiner (C); Shedd (older Reformed work still valuable); Steiner (C); Stuhlmacher (L); Talbert (L); Witherington; Ziesler (L).

1 Corinthians

Barrett (L); Bruce (NCeB); Ciampa and Rossner (dependence on N.T. Wright and ignorance of Vos [esp. on chap. 15] is unconscionable); Gordon Clark (C); Collins (SP); Conzelmann (H); Fee (NIC); Fitzmeyer (AB); Garland (C); Groshiede (NIC); Harrisville (L); Heil, *Rhetorical Role of Scripture in 1 Corinthians*; Hering; Hodge (C); Horsley (radical); Johnson (C); Keener (NCBC); Kistemaker (NTC); Lenski; Morris (Ty); Orr and Walther (AB, poor; waste); Perkins (L); Prior (C); Robertson (ICC); Simon (T); Soards (NIBC); Talbert (L); Thistleton (probably the new standard, but watch it); Thrall (NCeB).

2 Corinthians

Barnett (NIC); Barrett (L); Belleville; Best (L); Betz (chs. 8-9, H); Bruce (NCeB); Bultmann (L); Collins (L, review here, <http://kerux.com/doc/2802R2.asp>); Danker (L); Furnish (AB); Garland (NAC); Guthrie (C); Hanson (T); Harris (NIGTC); Hering; Hodge (C); Hughes (NIC); Keener (NCBC); Kistemaker (NTC); Kruse (Ty); Lambrecht (SP); James Lee, Sermons on entire epistle available from New Life Mission Church of La Jolla, CA; Lenski; Martin (W); Matera (NTL); Scott (NIBC); Seifrid (C); Spencer (L); Tasker (Ty); Thrall (NCeB); Thrall (ICC).

Galatians

Allan (T); Betz (H); Bruce (C); Bruce (NIGTC); Burton (ICC); Cole (Ty); Cousar (L); De Boer (NTL); Fee (Pentecostal); Fung (NIC, replaces Ridderbos; very good); George (NAC); Guthrie (NCeB); Hansen (C); Hendriksen (NTC); Jervis (NIBC); Lenski, Lightfoot; Longenecker (C); Leuhrmann (L); Luther

(classic); Martyn (AB, unique!); Matera (SP); Moo (C, careful); Neil (NCaB); Oakes; Ridderbos (NIC, weak); Scott Sanborn, Audio lecture series on entire book at nwts.edu (includes handouts; excellent material; <http://nwts.edu/audio/SFS/Galatians.htm>); Schreiner (C); Stott, *Message of Galatians* (very good); *Translator's Handbook*; Witherington, *Grace in Galatia*; Ziesler (L).

Ephesians

Abbott (ICC); Allan (T); Arnold (C); M. Barth (AB, useful, 2 vols.); Bayne (Puritan); Best (L); Bruce; Calvin, *Sermons on Ephesians*; Foulkes (Ty); Fowl (NTL); Heil (finds chiasms everywhere); Hendriksen (NTC); Hodge (C); Hoehner (C); Lenski; Liefeld (C); Lightfoot; Lincoln (W); Lloyd-Jones (C); Martin (L); Mitton (NCeB); Morris (C); Muddiman (L); O'Brien (C, may become the conservative standard); Patzia (NIBC); Schnackenburg (L, stimulating); Simpson and Bruce (NIC); Slater (L); Stott (C); Talbert (L, disappointing); Thielman (C, review here, <http://kerux.com/doc/2601R4.asp>); Thompson (NCaB); Thurston, *Reading Ephesians* (L); *Translator's Handbook*; Westcott.

Philippians

Beare (L); Boice (C); Bruce (C); Cousar (NTL); Craddock (L); Fee (C); Fowl (NTC, watch the Catholicism); Grayston (NCaB); Hawthorne (W); Heil (L, chiasmic proposal for entire epistle); Hendriksen (NTC); Lenski; Lightfoot; Marshall (C); Martin, *Carmen Christi* (excellent); Martin (Ty); Martin (NCeB); Melick (NAC); Motyer, *Message of Philippians* (C); Muller (NIC—weak); O'Brien (NIGTC); Reumann (AB); Silva (C); Thurston and Ryan (SP); Vincent (ICC); *Translator's Handbook*; Witherington, *Friendship and Finances in Philippi*; Witherington (C).

Colossians

Abbott (ICC); Barth and Blanke (AB, massive but neo-orthodox), Bratcher, *Translator's Handbook*; Bruce (also NIBC); Campbell (Baylor Greek Text series—grammatical exegesis of whole book, but very little commentary); Carson (Ty); Clark (C); James T. Dennison, Jr., Series on Colossians here: <http://nwts.edu/audio/jtd/colossians.htm>; Deterding (C, save your money); Dunn (NIGTC, L); Foster (L); Harris (C); Harrison (C); Hawthorne (C; 1:1-3:16, unfinished at his death in 2010, but very useful); Heil (L, chiasmic proposal for entire epistle); Hendriksen (NTC); Lenski; Lightfoot; Lincoln (*New Interpreter's*, not much); Lloyd-Jones (C); Lohse (H); Lucas (C); Martin (Zondervan title); Martin (NCeB); Melick (NAC); Moo (C, good work); C. F. D. Moule (superb, but dated); O'Brien (W, evangelical standard); Patzia (NIBC); Pokorny (L); Talbert (L, disappointing); Tidball (sociological treatment of the city, NOT a verse by verse commentary; conclusions should be treated as tentative and sometimes tenuous); Thompson (NCaB); Schweizer (L); Sumney (NTL, ho hum [again]—Paul did NOT write it); Thompson (L); Wall (C); Wilson (ICC); Witherington (C); Wright (Ty). [**Background:** see now Alan Cadwallader, *Fragments of Colossae: Sifting Through the Traces*. Excellent overview of the history of the city and the mound that covers its past—just now beginning to be excavated. Superb color photos of the location and surroundings. Helps one visualize the church's environment and story. Review here: <http://kerux.com/doc/3102R2.asp> .]

1 and 2 Thessalonians

Beale (C); Best (L); Boring (NTL); Bruce (W); Collins (1 Thess.—thorough, L); J.T. Dennison, “Eschatology and the Structure of 1 Thessalonians.” *Kerux: The Journal of Northwest Theological Seminary* 19/3 (Dec. 2004): 31-35 (<http://kerux.com/doc/1903A6.asp>); Donfried (useful; review here <http://kerux.com/doc/1801R3.asp>); Frame (ICC); Furnish (L); Grayston (NCaB); Green (C); Hendriksen (NTC); Hiebert (C); Johnson (C, Arminian-Holiness); Lenski; Malherbe (AB); Marshall; Martin (NAC); Moore (NceB—very good); Morris (Ty); Morris (NIC); Neil (T); Paddison (theology, 1 Thess., careful); Richard (SP); Wanamaker (C); Ward (C); Weima (long-awaited; massive; promises to be helpful; review here <http://kerux.com/doc/3101R1.asp>); Williams (NIBC); Williams, *Translator’s Handbook*; Witherington (C).

Pastoral Epistles

Calvin, *Sermons*; Clark (C); Collins (NTL); Dibelius (H); Fairbairn (C); Fee (NIBC); Fiore (SP); Gromacki (C); Guthrie (Ty); Hanson (NCaB); Hendriksen (NTC); Johnson (AB); Kelly (L); Knight (C); Knight (NIGTC); Krause (1 Tim., feminist); Lea and Griffin (NAC); Lock (ICC); Marshall (C, but will compete with Quinn and Wacker); Oden (L); Quinn (AB, Titus); Quinn and Wacker (L, does not include Titus; Paul not the author; but may become the standard); Stott (2 Tim.); Taylor (Titus—Puritan); Towner (NIC, as massive as Grant and Wacker and more conservative); Van Neste (structure; watch it); Verner, *Household of God* (L); Wall (L); Ward (C); Witherington (*Letters and Homilies for Hellenized Christians*)

Philemon

Barth (L, massive; watch the neo-orthodoxy); Bratcher, *Translator’s Handbook*; Bruce; Campbell (Baylor Greek Text series); Carson (Ty); Cousar (NTL); J. T. Dennison, Series on the whole epistle here (<http://nwts.edu/audio/jtd/philemon.htm>); J.T. Dennison, “Paul, Philemon, Onesimus and the New Creation in Christ Jesus.” *Kerux* 6:3 (Dec 1991):38-45 (<http://kerux.com/doc/0603A4.asp>); Dunn (NIGTC, L); Harris (C); Hendriksen (NTC); Fitzmyer (AB); Lenski; Lightfoot; Lohse (H); Lucas (C); Martin (NCeB); Melick (NAC); Moo (OK, but finds inclusios where there are no inclusios in the Greek text); C. F. D. Moule; Muller (NIC); Nordling (C, definitely the most helpful; also get his journal articles which are very good); O’Brien (W; he is always useful); Patzia (NIBC); Petersen, *Rediscovering Paul* (L, fascinating narrative approach); Thompson (NCaB); Thompson (NTC, but L); Thurston and Ryan (SP); Tolmie, *Philemon in Perspective* (most up-to-date survey of structural, exegetical and theological issues in print; very helpful, but very expensive! Use a library/inter-library loan copy); Vincent (ICC); Weima (for the most part, well done, in the Tolmie volume); Wendland (for structure, in the Tolmie volume); Wilson (ICC); Witherington (C, but too brief); Wright (new Tyndale, but New Perspective approach)

Hebrews

Attridge (H); Brown (C); Bruce (NIC); Buchanan (old AB, disappointing); Cockerill (NIC); Davies (NCaB); J. T. Dennison, Audio series on the Pilgrim Motif (organizing premise of the Letter) and Lectures on the epistle Chapter by Chapter with outline Handouts and Structural observations; also

available in Podcast format here, <http://nwts.edu/audio/JTD/Hebrews.htm>); J. T. Dennison, “‘To the Hebrews’: A Narrative Paradigm,” *Kerux: The Journal of Northwest Theological Seminary* 26/2 (Sep 2011): 30-33 (<http://kerux.com/doc/2602A3.asp>); J. T. Dennison, “Chiastic Homoiototon in Hebrews 10:39 and 11:1,” *Kerux: The Journal of Northwest Theological Seminary* 26/3 (Dec 2011): 16-19 (<http://kerux.com/doc/2603A2.asp>); deSilva, *Perseverance in Gratitude* (theologically ambiguous); Ellingsworth (NIGTC); Gordon (L); Guthrie (Ty); Hagner (NIBC); Heil (L, chiastic proposal for entire epistle); Hewitt (Ty); Hughes (C); Kasemann, *Wandering People of God* (L; Beware! The ‘pilgrimage’ motif is derived from Gnostic imagery. Yep, the Gnostic gremlin under every NT rock a la Bultmann [Kasemann is a post-Bultmannian] and even some idiotic erstwhile Reformed gurus. Remember, there is absolutely no primary document evidence for any pre-Christian Gnosticism; cf. Edwin Yamauchi and Hans Josef-Klauck); Johnson (NTL); Kistemaker (NTC); Koester (new AB); Lange (C); Lane (W; review here, <http://kerux.com/doc/1001R1.asp>); Lenski; Wm. Manson (good); Mitchell (SP); Moffatt (ICC); Montefiore (L); Neil (T); O’Brien (C, now the conservative commentary of choice); Owen (Puritan); Portalatin, *Temporal Oppositions as Hermeneutical Categories in the Epistle to the Hebrews* (this is a remarkable study on time and space in the epistle. It is very helpful in distinguishing the permanent from the temporary, the eternal from the temporal and the provisional from the everlasting; or, in Vosian terms, the semi-eschatological from the consummately eschatological. “There is a catholicity of religion not merely in the form of space but as well in the form of time”—Vos, “Hebrews, the Epistle of the Diatheke,” *RHBI*, 196), cf. the review of Portalatin by James T. Dennison, Jr. in *Kerux: The Journal of Northwest Theological Seminary* 27/1 (May 2012): 46-48 (<http://kerux.com/doc/2701R1.asp>); Schenck (vain attempt at a narrative approach, flawed by his Arminian ‘conditionalism’ [final salvation is conditioned on perseverance] and soteric universalism; also his bizarre ‘gnostic’ doctrine that what mankind needs is “heavenly material in our earthly bodies”—no joke! He actually wrote that on p. 35. Finally, he consistently de-ontologizes the Son of God, making Christ a creature exalted to ‘Son’ as a result of his works. This is Socinianism!); Stedman (C); Vos, *Teaching of the Epistle to the Hebrews* (C, not a full commentary, but important for orientation, as are his three major articles on the epistle in *Redemptive History and Biblical Interpretation*. All of these must be read carefully to savor the profound insights of this most profound of Reformed exegetes. Absolutely brilliant!!!!); *Translator’s Handbook*; Westcott.

James

Adamson (NIC); Adamson, *James: Man and Message* (C); Allison (ICC; massive liberal work); Bauckham (L); Brosend (NCBC); Davids (strange; also NIGTC); Dibelius (H); Hartin (SP); Johnson (AB); Johnstone (C); Kistemaker (NTC); Laws (L); Lenski; Manton (Puritan); Martin (W); Mayor (C); McKnight (NIC); Mitton (C); Moo (Ty; helpful); Motyer, *Tests of Faith* (C); Painter (L; “‘By faith alone’ [Lat. *sola fide*] has become a slogan that encapsulates ‘by faith apart from works,’ a slogan repudiated by James”, p. 109—enough said!); (L); Penner, *The Epistle of James and Eschatology* (the place to begin); Reicke (AB); Richardson (NAC); Ross (NIC); Sidebottom (NCeB); Stulac (C); Tasker (Ty); Williams (NCaB).

1 Peter

Achtemeier (H, massive); Beare (L); Best (L); Bigg (ICC); Boring (L, narrative attempt); John Brown (C); Clark (C); Clowney (C); Cranfield (L); Donelson (NTL); Elliott (AB); Feldmeier (linguistic analysis; L); Goppelt (L, fascinating); Grudem (Ty); Green (new); Hiebert (C); Hillyer (NIBC); Horrell; Jobes (careful); Joseph, *Narratological Reading of 1 Peter* (useful); Kelly (L); Kistemaker (NTC); Leaney (NCaB); Leighton (C); Marshall (C); Michaels (W); Reicke (AB); Schreiner (NAC); Selwyn

(L); Senior/Harrington (SP); Stibbs (Ty); Talbert (don't bother); *Translator's Handbook*; Witherington (*Letters and Homilies for Hellenized Christians*).

2 Peter

Bauckham (W); Clark (C); Davids (L); Donelson (NTL); Giese (C useful, but watch the Lutheran sacramentalism); Green (Ty); Gene Green (C, but be alert to over-use of pagan rhetoric); Hillyer (NIBC); Kelly (L); Kistemaker (NTC); Lloyd-Jones (C); Neyrey (AB); Reicke (AB); Schreiner (NAC); Senior/Harrington (SP); Sidebottom (NCeB); Witherington (*Letters and Homilies for Hellenized Christians*).

Johannine Epistles

Akin (NAC); Brooke (ICC); Brown (AB, but disappointing); Bruce; Bultmann (H); Candlish (C); Dodd; Grayston (NCeB); Houlden; Jackman (C); Jobes (?C; watch it—?gnosticism under every verse and the ghost of Bultmann lives on!!); Johnson (NIBC); Kistemaker (NTC); Kruse; Law, *Tests of Life*; Lieu (NTL, worthless; she argues the epistles are a redactional morass, constructed from a plurality of “traditions”. UGH!); Marshall (NIC); Painter, *John: Witness and Theologian* (very good); Painter (SP); Parsenius (L); Rensberger (L); Ross (NIC); Smalley (W); Stott (Ty); Strecker (H, massive); *Translator's Handbook*; Thompson (not much, review here, <http://kerux.com/doc/0802R1.asp#review1>); von Wahlde (radical); Westcott; Williams (NCaB); Witherington (*Letters and Homilies for Hellenized Christians*); Yarbrough (C).

Jude

Bauckham (W, with some reservations on vv. 5-7, a decent evangelical commentary); Bigg (ICC); Brosend (NCBC, stimulating); J. Daryl Charles, *Literary Structure in the Epistle of Jude*, plus numerous journal articles by Charles (begin with Charles!); Charles (two commentaries: one in the Believers Church Series; the other in *The Expositor's Bible Commentary*, vol. 13—this latter virtually a reprint of the former; hence not much new or up-dated matter); Davids (L); James T. Dennison, Jr., “What Should I Read on the Epistle of Jude?” *Kerux* 10/1 (May 1995): 25-31 (<http://kerux.com/doc/1001A4.asp>); James T. Dennison, Jr., “Narrative Echoes: The Words of Brother Jesus in Brother Jude's Epistle.” *Kerux* 28/2 (Sep 2013): 3-14, <http://www.kerux.com/doc/2802A1.asp>; James T. Dennison, Jr., series on the whole book available here: <http://www.nwts.edu/audio/JTD/Jude.htm>); deSilva (bound with Painter on James. Decent, helpful though brief); Donelson (NTL, higher critical and a waste of money. Jude is a shameful “name-caller”! Tsk! Tsk!); Giese (C, helpful and thorough, but marred by too much Lutheran sacramental eisegesis); Gene Green (C, but too much pagan rhetorical material which is actually irrelevant and distracting; otherwise perhaps the best conservative treatment in print); M. Green (Ty); Hiebert (C); Hillyer (NIBC); Kelly (L); Kistemaker (NTC); Lawlor (C, very good); Leaney (NCaB); Manton (Puritan); Mayor (C); Mills (so so); Morris (Ty); Neyrey (AB, helpful); Perkins (L); Reicke (AB); Schriener (NAC, fair); Senior/Harrington (SP); Sidebottom (NCeB); Towner (C); Watson, *Invention, Arrangement and Style: Rhetorical Criticism of Jude and 2 Peter* (good); Robert L. Webb (several journal and book articles presaging a future commentary, d.v.; cf. his contribution to *Reading Jude with New Eyes* and “The Use of ‘Story’ in the Letter of Jude.” *JSNT* 31 (2008): 53-87); Witherington (very helpful and insightful, but watch the Arminianism).

Revelation

Aune (W, good for structure); Beale (new conservative standard, NIGTC); Beasley-Murray (NCeB); Beckwith; Blount (NTL); Boring (L); Boxall (L); Caird; Charles (ICC); Chilton, *Days of Vengeance* (Theonomic); Collins (L); Fiorenza (L); Ford (AB—strange!); Glasson (NCaB); Harrington (L); Hemer, *Seven Letters* (superb); Hughes (C); Hendricksen, *More Than Conquerors* (probably still the best Reformed work); Koester (AB); Kovacs and Rowland (L); Ladd (historic premil); Lenski; Lupieri (L); Michaels; Minear, *I Saw a New Heaven and a New Earth*; Morris (Ty); Mounce (NIC); Osborne (C, will compete with Beale); Preston (T); Resseguie (useful summary of commentary literature on each chapter, review here, <http://kerux.com/doc/2601R2.asp>); Smalley (L); Swete; Van Kooten (Robert), Sermon series on the entire book of Revelation available at <http://www.sgopc.org/sermons.html> (Reformed, amillennial; very helpful); Walvoord (dispensational); Wall (NIBC); Wilcock, *I Saw Heaven Opened* (C); Williamson (L, Roman Catholic); Witherington (NCBC).

I. Language Tools

A. Hebrew Concordances

Lisowsky, Mandelkern, Even-Shoshan

Logos Series X CD-ROM

BibleWorks 5.0 CD-ROM

B. Greek Concordances

Hatch and Redpath (LXX)

Moulton and Geden

Schmoller

Logos Series X CD-ROM

BibleWorks 5.0 CD-ROM

C. English Concordances

Cruden (AV)

Strong (AV)

Young (AV)

Hazard (ASV)

Logos Series X CD-ROM
BibleWorks 5.0 CD-ROM

II. Dictionaries, Encyclopedias, Wordbooks

John Davis, *Dictionary of the Bible* (there is a revised edition by Gehman; old, but useful. Davis taught OT at Princeton in the early 20th century.)

Douglas, *New Bible Dictionary* (probably best one-volume dictionary for conservatives. Revised as 3-volume *Illustrated Bible Dictionary*.)

Patrick Fairbairn (ed.), *Imperial Bible Dictionary* (old, but remarkably sharp.)

Hastings, *Dictionary of the Bible*

Hastings, *Dictionary of the New Testament* (includes *Dictionary of Christ and the Gospels* and *Dictionary of the Apostolic Church*. Both are well done though somewhat dated. Eclectic, articles by orthodox conservatives, i.e., Warfield, Vos.)

Orr, *International Standard Bible Encyclopedia* (older, standard conservative work.) (comes with Bible Works 5.0)

Bromiley, *International Standard Bible Encyclopedia* ([1979-1988] revised ed. of the above; replaces and updates the older work.)

Buttrick, *Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible* (liberal, but essential tool. Note Supplement Volume) (on CD-ROM)

Freedman, *Anchor Bible Dictionary* (massive, up-to-date survey to 1992; very critical, very liberal; well written) (on CD-ROM)

Miller, *Harper's Bible Dictionary* (liberal)

Harris, Archer, Waltke, *Theological Wordbook of the OT* (brief, but complete. Conservative. Very helpful).

Jenni and Westermann, *Theological Lexicon of the OT* (Critical, but helpful)

VanGemeren, *New International Dictionary of OT Theology and Exegesis* (Evangelical attempt at an OT Kittel) (on CD-ROM)

Bauer, *Sacramentum Verbi* (theological wordbook; Roman Catholic. Bland treatment.)

Botterweck and Ringgren, *Theological Dictionary of the OT* (15 vols.)

Colin Brown, *New International Dictionary of Theology*
(basically conservative.)

Kittel, *Theological Dictionary of the NT* (Learn to use the index volume!) (on CD-ROM)

Leon-Dufour, *Dictionary of Bible Theology* (a must!)

McClintock and Strong, *Encyclopedia of Biblical Theological and
Ecclesiastical Literature* (old, but in many ways unsurpassed.)

Palmer, *Encyclopedia of Christianity* (only 4 volumes were completed;
conservative.)

Ryken, et al, *Dictionary of Biblical Imagery* (Useful, but not scintillating)

Alexander, *Dictionary of the Old Testament: Pentateuch* (tepidly C, but will make critical
concessions. The first in a series of volumes from IVP that will cover the entire OT)

Arnold, *Historical Books* (see review by J. T. Dennison
<http://www.kerux.com/documents/KeruxV22N1A7.htm>)

Longman and Enns, *Wisdom, Poetry & Writings* (Trouble! ‘Soft’ higher criticism)

Boda and McGonville, *Prophets* (Again. Not bona fide conservatism!)

Evans, *Dictionary of the New Testament: Background* (massive 4-volume set [see below]
dealing with the NT. Basically conservative scholarship, but some critical surprises
and concessions.)

Green, *Dictionary of Jesus and the Gospels*

Hawthorne, *Dictionary of Paul and his Letters*

Martin, *Dictionary of the Later New Testament & its Development*

III. Lexicons

A. Hebrew

Brown-Driver-Briggs (BDB) (older, but still preferred by some scholars.)

Holladay, *Concise Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the OT* (very
handy; short, to the point.)

Koehler-Baumgartner, *The Hebrew and Aramaic Lexicon of the OT* (now
the most authoritative and up-to-date tool) (on CD-ROM)

Clines, *Dictionary of Classical Hebrew* (8 vols.; very useful; very expensive)

B. Greek

TLG = Thesaurus Lingua Graecae (Tagged Greek database covering all Greek authors from Attic, Koine, and Patristic sources up to the Byzantine era)

Bauer (Arndt and Gingrich; now in third edition)

Lampe, *Patristic Lexicon* (Greek of the Church Fathers)

Liddell and Scott, *Greek-English Lexicon* (for the use of classical and koine Greek.)

Moulton and Milligan, *Vocabulary of the Greek Testament* (terms from NT papyri; newly up-dated by I.H. Marshall, 2002)

IV. **One Volume Commentaries**

Abingdon (liberal)

Jerome (Roman Catholic; occasional biblical-theological insights.)

New Bible Commentary (Revised ed. Best one-volume commentary for conservatives.)

V. **Commentary Sets**

Anchor Bible (in process; liberal, but some excellent volumes especially Raymond Brown on John's Gospel.)

Barnes's Notes on the OT and NT (old, dated)

Calvin (still worth having)

Expositor's Bible

Expositor's Greek Testament (NT—very good for grammatical exegesis.)

Harper's New Testament Commentaries (in process; liberal but some fine work in places.)

Matthew Henry (devotional Puritan style.)

Hermenia (in process; modern critical scholarship at its best.)

International Critical Commentary (ICC) (very liberal and critical; now being

revised—spotty, some vols. junk. Beware)

Interpreter's Bible (older version; liberal, often disappointing.)

Keil and Delitzsch (OT, older work, some grammatical insights)

Lange (OT and NT—conservative; helpful homiletical suggestions.)

Layman's Bible Commentary (moderately critical; often too brief.)

Meyer's NT Commentary (laborious grammatical exegesis, and little else)

Moffatt NT Commentary (liberal)

New Cambridge Bible (based on the RSV; liberal, suggestive.)

New Cambridge Bible Commentary (launched 2004, liberal generally)

New Century Bible (critical, but some excellent volumes.)

New International Commentary (OT and NT; conservative scholarship
at its best.)

New Interpreter's Bible (Liberal, but attempting to deal with narrative structure in a few cases)

New Testament Commentary (William Hendriksen/Simon Kistemaker; solid
Reformed treatment of most NT books.)

Old Testament Library (Westminster Press/John Knox; critical, but essential)

Pelican NT Commentaries (in process; critical)

Poole (whole Bible; Puritan.)

Torch Bible Commentaries (short, liberal)

Tyndale Bible Commentaries (fine conservative scholarship)

Westminster Commentaries (old, liberal)

Word Commentaries (current, evangelical) (on CD-ROM)

VI. Preaching

J. T. Dennison, "Building the Biblical-Theological Sermon," Part I & II. *Kerux* 4 (Dec. 1989): 30-43 and 5 (May 1990): 32-46. <http://kerux.com/doc/0403A3.asp>. and <http://kerux.com/doc/0501A3.asp>.

EXAMINE KERUX ON THE WEB: KERUX.COM

VII. Narrative

J.P. Fokkelman, *Reading Biblical Narrative: An Introductory Guide* (certain to be compared with Bar-Efrat; cf. *Kerux* 15/3 [December 2000]: 31-35): <http://kerux.com/doc/1503R1.asp>.

Shimon Bar-Efrat, *Narrative Art in the Bible* (The finest introduction to narrative analysis of the Bible in print)

Alan Culpepper, *Anatomy of the Fourth Gospel* (does for Gospel/NT narrative what Bar-Efrat does for OT narrative). See also Michie and Rhoads, *Mark as Story*.

VIII. Poetry

Wilfred G.E. Watson, *Classical Hebrew Poetry: A Guide to its Techniques* (Massive introduction to Biblical poetry—even in prose sections of the MT—with exhaustive Scripture index. Though expensive, an absolute MUST for working with poetic idiom).

J. P. Fokkelmen, *Reading Biblical Poetry: An Introductory Guide* (cf. review by J. T. Dennison in *Kerux: The Journal of Northwest Theological Seminary* 17/3 (December 2002): 52-55, here <http://kerux.com/doc/1703R2.asp>).

IX. Journals

Old Testament Abstracts. The Catholic University of America, Washington, DC 20064.
\$36/year for 3 issues (essential for current commentaries and journal material)

New Testament Abstracts. The Catholic University of America, Washington, DC 20064.
\$43/year for 3 issues (essential for current commentaries and journal material)