

## Bibliographic Research for Biblical Studies (New Testament)

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- **Databases** <http://www.gordonconwell.edu/library/access-databases.cfm>
  - Books:
    - Online Catalog <http://gordonconwell.on.worldcat.org>
      - Keyword searching
      - Library of Congress Subject Headings: "Bible Peter 1st"
      - Note also "Paul the Apostle, Saint"
      - Interlibrary Loan
    - Once you find a book, browse the surrounding shelves. Serendipity!
    - Dissertations and theses can searched as well. See handout: <http://www.gordonconwell.edu/library/documents/theses-dissertations.pdf>
  - Articles, Reviews, Essays, Chapters in Books:
    - See EBSCOhost Tutorial <http://www.gordonconwell.edu/library/documents/ebSCOhost-tutorial.pdf>
    - ATLA Religion Database (use Scripture index as well as keyword; in subjects, use "Bible Philippians")
    - New Testament Abstracts (use Scripture index; as well keyword. NOTE: Scripture index is in strict alphanumeric order, so Acts comes before Genesis; Genesis 10 comes before Genesis 2; Online version goes back to 1985; print version goes back to 1956).
    - Old Testament Abstracts (if you are working on a passage quoting OT, you can use to research the OT context).
    - JSTOR search (you can search by keyword in whole documents; many classical history works are available in JSTOR; many items are linked to ATLA search results, but many history journals are NOT indexed in ATLA).  
**NOTE:** Resist the temptation to limit yourself to full-text online; there is a lot of important material that has not yet been digitized (or we do not have access to digital versions).
- **In-Print Bibliographies** (particularly helpful for older articles)
  - Bibliographic Section (exhausting, but potentially fruitful):
    - *New Testament Abstracts* (note that online edition only goes back to 1985, but the print edition goes back to 1956).
    - *ETL – Ephemerides theologicae lovanienses*
    - Langevin – *Bibliographie biblique = Biblical bibliography*
  - Reference Section Ref. Z7770-Z7772; Z7806; Z8455-Z8685
    - Bibliographies for Biblical Research: New Testament Series Ref. Z7772.L1.B4 1993
    - Bibliographies for Biblical Research: Periodical Literature for the Study of the New Testament Ref. Z7772.L1.B42 2002
    - *An Index to Periodical Literature on the Apostle Paul* Ref. Z8665.45.M55 1993
- **Dictionaries & Encyclopedias** (articles are sources in their own right – often written by 'experts' on a particular topic; bibliographies are invaluable for leading to key resources)
  - Specific Subject Based
    - *\*Dictionary of Paul and His Letters* Ref. BS2650.2 .D53 1993
    - *\*Dictionary of New Testament Backgrounds* Ref. BS2312 .D53 2000
    - *\*Dictionary of the Later New Testament and its Developments* Ref. BS2625.5 .D53 1997
    - *\*Dictionary of Jesus and the Gospels* (2d ed.) Ref. BS2555.2 .D53 2013
    - *Encyclopedia of the Historical Jesus* Ref. BT303.2 .E56 2008
    - *Eerdman's Dictionary of Early Judaism* Ref. BM176 .E34 2010
    - *\*Oxford Classical Dictionary* Ref. DE5 .O9 2003

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- *Oxford Encyclopedia of Ancient Greece & Rome* Ref. DE5.O95 2010
- *Brill's New Pauly: Encyclopaedia of the Ancient World* Ref. DE5.N4813 2002
- *\*Encyclopedia of the Dead Sea Scrolls* Ref. BM487.E53 2000  
(\* available online)
- General Biblical Studies
  - *Anchor Bible Dictionary* Ref. BS440.A54 1992
  - *International Standard Bible Encyclopedia* (2d ed.) Ref. BS440 .I6 1979
  - *New Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible* Ref. BS440 .N445 2006
  - *Zondervan Encyclopedia of the Bible* Ref. BS440 .Z63 2009
- Greek Word Based
  - *Theological Dictionary of the New Testament* Ref. PA881 .T4313 1964
  - *New International Dictionary of New Testament Theology* (see index for Greek) Ref. BS2397.N48
  - *New International Dictionary of New Testament Theology & Exegesis* Ref. BS2312 .N48 2014
  - *Exegetical Dictionary of the New Testament* Ref. BS2312.E913 1990
  - *Theological Lexicon of the New Testament* Ref. PA875.S613 1994
- **Bibliographies in other Works**
  - Commentaries (shelved in Reference by book of the Bible BS2300+; except for Anchor Bible, which is in BS491) See Carson's *New Testament Commentary Survey* Ref. BS2341.2 .C33 2007; Evans' *Guide to Biblical Commentaries* Ref. Z7770 .E92 2016; also <http://www.denverseminary.edu/dj>; for lists of commentaries in series see <http://www.bestcommentaries.com> (be aware of rating system pitfalls).
    - Pay attention to more 'academic' commentaries: e.g., Word Biblical Commentary\*; Sacra Pagina\*; Anchor Bible\*; Exegetical Guide to the Greek New Testament\*; Hermeneia; New International Commentary on the New Testament; International Critical Commentaries; Baker Exegetical Commentary on the New Testament; New International Greek Testament Commentary.  
\*Note: Word Biblical Commentary, Anchor Bible, Sacra Pagina, and the Exegetical Guide to the GNT provide bib. for each pericope.
    - Commentaries can be read multiple ways. (Don't be irresponsible – do your own work first!)
      - Find out what the author of the commentary says about a passage.
      - Find out what modern scholars the author interacts with.
      - Find out what ancient resources the author cites as important for background/context (and look them up!)
  - Articles / Monographs / Dissertations & Theses
    - Consult their bibliographies and footnotes.

### Notes:

- Remember the "law of diminishing returns." Start with databases, commentary bibliographies, dictionary articles, bibliographies in the reference section, and then bibliographic center
- Pay attention to repetition. If the same article is cited by multiple authors, it's probably worth tracking down.
- As you're finding more information, note the vocabulary that different authors use to describe the topic. Note especially the "controlled vocabulary" or "subjects" used by the library catalog and other bibliographic databases. Use them to refine or expand your search terms.
- Tutorials for using various online databases are available at <http://www.gordonconwell.edu/library/tutorials.cfm>