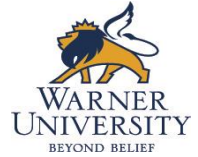


Ministry Department

2-22-2017

Biblical Research



Exegesis Sources

Doing research requires reliable sources. It is a way to test one's own thinking, and sources should be used to check and evaluate one's own work, not to substitute for it. Also, the internet should be used with great caution in regards to Biblical research, because there is so much that is not reliable on-line. Also, not all sources are created equal, but as one gains experience in Biblical study, one will be able to discern the best sources to use.

A starting place is a good translation of the Bible. Perhaps the best literal translations today are the English Standard Version and New American Standard Version. The New International Version and New Revised Standard version are also fine, but a step away in terms of word for word translation. A second obvious starting place is the student's textbook for the Old Testament or New Testament survey courses. While these will not serve to interpret individual passages, they can give an overview of the book of the Bible as a whole, including time and date of authorship and can provide an overview of general contents. Then, Biblegateway.com provides a searchable on—line concordance that is very reliable and can be used for a large variety of translations.

The following are some general helpful sources available in the library. There are also individual commentaries on each book that can be used after evaluation. Remember that different commentaries have different purposes. Some are more lexical or archaeological, others more theological.

Print Sets and Series:

- Anchor Bible
- Ancient Christian Commentary on Scripture
- Baker Commentary on the Old Testament
- Brazos Theological Commentary on the Bible
- Cambridge Bible Commentary
- Eerdmans Critical Commentary
- Expositors Bible Commentary
- International Critical Commentary
- Keil and Delitzsch Commentary on the Old Testament
- New International Commentary on the Old Testament
- New International Commentary on the New Testament
- New International Greek Testament Commentary
- New Interpreters Bible Commentary
- Reformation Commentary on Scripture
- Sacra Pagina
- The Bible Speaks Today
- Tyndale Old and New Testament Commentary
- The Wesleyan Bible Commentary
- Word Biblical Commentary

General Sources for Background and Word Studies:

- The Anchor Bible Dictionary
- The IVP Bible Backgrounds Commentary (Old and New Testament)

The New Bible Dictionary

The New International Dictionary of New Testament Theology

Theological Wordbook of the New Testament

Word Studies in the New Testament

Devotional and Homiletical Commentaries:

Some commentaries and sources are either quite dated in their information, or mainly devotional rather than exegetical in nature. Others are homiletical in nature and are basically sermons in written form. Check with your instructor if you are unsure what might fit this category for your class, or if one of these might be appropriate. At times they are very solid, but at other times they focus more on application of the text rather than interpretation.