

EVALUATE A STUDY BIBLES' NOTES AND COMMENTARY

GENESIS

Who wrote the Pentateuch?

- The Documentary Hypothesis, JEDP Theory proposes that the Pentateuch (the first five books of the Old Testament) was compiled from four distinct sources rather than written by a single author, traditionally Moses.
 - These sources are identified by specific characteristics and divine names:
 - **J** (Yahwist), which uses the name *Yahweh*.
 - **E** (Elohist), which uses *Elohim*.
 - **D** (Deuteronomist), associated with the book of Deuteronomy and covenantal law; and
 - **P** (Priestly), which focuses on genealogies, rituals, and worship instructions.
- Many Scholars today have abandoned the Documentary Hypothesis, agreeing that it is based on a faulty understanding of ancient Near East literature and that it contributes nothing helpful to our understanding of the Pentateuch.

Location of Eden (Genesis 2:10-14)?

- The Garden of Eden is widely theorized to be located in Mesopotamia (modern-day Iraq) or the Armenian Highlands (Eastern Turkey), based on the biblical description of four rivers, including the known Tigris and Euphrates.
- Scholars and theorists propose several specific regions:
 - **Head of the Persian Gulf:** Some suggest the garden was at the confluence of the Tigris and Euphrates, potentially a wetland valley now submerged under the Persian Gulf due to rising sea levels after the last Ice Age.
 - **Eastern Turkey:** Locating Eden at the headwaters of the Tigris and Euphrates places it in this region, near the ancient site of Göbekli Tepe.
 - **Armenian Highlands:** Proposed as a location where the rivers originate, distinct from their current mouths in the Persian Gulf.
 - **Lebanon:** Certain interpretations, particularly from Ezekiel, place Eden in the Lebanon and Anti-Lebanon mountain ranges, associated with cedar forests and ancient Canaanite traditions.
 - **Other Theories:** Various groups have suggested locations including Iran (near Tabriz), Jerusalem, Jackson County, Missouri, Bedford, England, Ethiopia/Africa (linked to the Nile), and Xinjiang, China, though these lack mainstream academic consensus.

What a “Day” means.

- **Literal 24-Hour Interpretation** The most straightforward view holds that "day" refers to a standard rotation of the earth, supported by the recurring phrase "evening and morning" and the analogy to the Sabbath command in Exodus 20:11. Proponents argue that whenever the Hebrew word yom is paired with a number (e.g., "first day"), it strictly denotes a 24-hour period without exception, as seen in the creation account where God established a pattern for human workweeks.
- **Symbolic and Extended Time Interpretations** Alternative theories suggest "day" represents long geologic ages or indefinite periods of time, often citing verses like Psalm 90:4 where a day is equated to a thousand years. Other frameworks include the Intermittent-Day Theory, where a 24-hour day introduces a new creative era, and the Framework Theory, which views the days as a non-chronological literary structure emphasizing symmetry between forming and filling.
- **Biblical Usage and Measurement** In ancient Hebrew culture, a day was traditionally reckoned from evening to evening, reflecting the creation pattern in Genesis 1:5. The word itself is flexible, capable of denoting periods of light, vague timeframes, or specific points in time, with the specific meaning determined by the surrounding context rather than a single fixed definition.

What is the serpent (Genesis 3)

- Theories regarding the identity of the serpent in the Bible range from literal animal interpretations to supernatural entities and mythological archetypes. While the text in Genesis 3:1 describes the serpent as one of the "beasts of the field," later biblical books like Revelation 12:9 and 20:2 explicitly identify the "ancient serpent" as Satan or the Devil, a connection not made in the original Genesis narrative but developed in later Jewish and Christian theology.

Literary and Theological Interpretations

- **Literal Animal with Supernatural Abilities:** Some scholars, including Gerhard von Rad, argue the original author viewed the serpent as a literal wild animal created by God, differentiated only by its ability to speak, rather than a supernatural being or demon.
- **Agent of Satan:** Mainstream Christian tradition and the New Testament identify the serpent as an instrument or manifestation of Satan, who deceived Eve and introduced sin, a view supported by passages in 2 Corinthians and John.
- **Psychological Allegory:** Modern Rabbinic interpretations often view the serpent as a symbol of the yetzer hara (evil inclination) or sexual desire, representing the hedonic faculties that compete with reason and emotion in a psychological allegory.

Ancient Near Eastern Background

- **Mesopotamian Mythology:** Many scholars propose the serpent is a reworking of Mesopotamian motifs, specifically the snake in the Epic of Gilgamesh that steals the plant of life, or the ushumgal ("great serpent") epithets associated with gods like Ea (Enki), Anu, and Dumuzi.
- **Canaanite Symbolism:** Less common theories suggest the serpent symbolizes Canaanite deities like Baal or El, though experts note that Baal was typically depicted as a dragon-slayer rather than a serpent itself, and El is generally viewed positively in the Hebrew Bible.
- **Gnostic View:** In contrast to orthodox views, Gnostic traditions praised the serpent as a liberator or savior who brought gnosis (knowledge) to humanity, freeing them from the control of the malevolent Demiurge (the creator god of the Old Testament).

EXODUS

Who was the Pharaoh of the Exodus? (Exodus 7)

- Rameses II
- Thutmose III
- Amenhotep II

Two possible dates of the Exodus

The two primary dates proposed for the Exodus are 1446 B.C. (the "early date") and 1225 B.C. (the "late date"), though some sources cite 1290 B.C. or 1406 B.C. as alternative specific years within these frameworks.

- **1446 B.C. (Early Date):** This date is derived from a literal interpretation of 1 Kings 6:1, which states the Temple was built 480 years after the Exodus. It aligns with the reign of Amenhotep II and is supported by archaeological evidence such as the destruction layers at Jericho and the Amarna Letters referencing the 'Apiru.
- **1225 B.C. or 1290 B.C. (Late Date):** This date is based on archaeological evidence and the biblical mention of the city of Rameses (Exodus 1:11), associating the event with the reign of Rameses II (c. 1279–1213 B.C.). Proponents of this view often interpret the "480 years" in 1 Kings 6:1 as non-literal or symbolic.

Possible routes of the Exodus

- **The Southern Route Theory – Traditional:** The Traditional Southern Route is the most widely accepted view, suggesting the Israelites crossed the "Red Sea" (Yam Suph) at Lake Timsah or the Bitter Lakes, traveled south along the Sinai Peninsula's western coast, and reached Mount Sinai at Jebel Musa or Jebel Serbal in southern Sinai before proceeding to Kadesh-barnea.
- **The Northern Route Theory:** The Northern Route posits a crossing at Lake Serbonis followed by a path along the Mediterranean coast, but this theory is generally rejected by scholars because the biblical text explicitly states God led the people away from the fortified Philistine road (Exodus 13:17-18) and because the lake likely did not exist at the time.
- **The Saudi Arabian Route:** The Saudi Arabian (Arabia) Route argues that the crossing occurred at the Gulf of Aqaba (specifically the Straits of Tiran) and that Mount Sinai is located in northwestern Saudi Arabia, with candidates including Jabal al-Lawz or Gebel Khashm et-Tarif.
- **The Wind Set-Down Hypothesis** - The Wind Set-Down Hypothesis proposes that the parting of the Red Sea described in Exodus 14 was a natural meteorological phenomenon where strong, sustained east winds blew across a long, narrow body of water, pushing the surface water away and exposing the seabed. This effect, known scientifically as wind set-down, occurs when wind stress causes water levels to drop on the windward side while creating a wall of water on the lee side, a process observed in modern bodies of water.

Locations of Mount Sinai

- The exact location of the biblical Mount Sinai remains disputed among scholars, with proposals spanning the Sinai Peninsula, the Negev, Edom/Nabatea, and northwestern Saudi Arabia.
 - Mount Sinai (Jabal Musa), *Traditional:* south central Sinai Peninsula, Egypt
 - Mount Serbal – Early Christian Tradition
 - Mount Catherine – 6th Century Josephus
 - Jabal al-Lawz – Ron Wyatt (1984)
- Alternative theories place the mountain in northwestern Saudi Arabia, where many scholars argue the ancient land of Midian was located. Key candidates in this region include Jabal al-Lawz (proposed by Ron Wyatt in 1984), Jabal Maqla (considered by some as the most plausible based on archaeological criteria), and Hala-'l Badr (a volcanic peak proposed by Alois Musil and Colin Humphreys).
- Other proposed locations include sites in Jordan, such as Jabal Ahmad al Baqir (near Aqaba) and Jebel al-Madhbah (Petra), as well as Har Karkom in the Negev Desert. Some scholars also suggest Mount Hermon in Lebanon or Mount Helal and Mount Sin Bishar in North Sinai, Egypt.

ROMANS

Paul's Inner Struggle: Romans 7:15-20

- **The Unregenerate View** This theory posits that Paul describes his experience as a sinner before conversion, using the passage to illustrate the hopelessness of life under the law without Christ. Proponents argue that Paul uses the letter "I" 33 times to show that sin works in one direction, leading to death, hell, and fire, and that the speaker is "sold under sin" with no ability to please God. In this view, the struggle described is the result of a person trying to live by the law without the Spirit, resulting in a state where they are "dead to all hope of life by the law."
- **The Regenerate View** This theory argues that the passage describes the ongoing struggle of a believer who has been justified but still battles indwelling sin. Advocates suggest Paul distinguishes between his "renewed self" (spirit) and his "flesh" (corrupt nature), noting that "it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me." This interpretation views the conflict as a battle between two principles within the Christian: the desire to do good and the power of the "sin virus" or flesh that remains until the final redemption.

Pre-Destination / Free Will: Romans 9:6-13

Interpretations of Romans 9:6-13 primarily diverge between Reformed theology, which views the passage as teaching individual unconditional election, and Arminian theology, which interprets it as corporate election based on faith.

- **Reformed Interpretation: Individual Sovereign Election**

Reformed theologians argue that Paul demonstrates God's sovereign choice is not based on physical descent, works, or foreknowledge of faith, but solely on His will.

 - They emphasize that God chose Isaac over Ishmael and Jacob over Esau before either was born or had done good or bad, proving that election is unconditional.
 - This view holds that the distinction between "ethnic Israel" and "true Israel" (v. 6) shows God never intended to save every physical descendant of Abraham, but only a specific remnant chosen by grace.
 - Key proponents like John Piper and Douglas Moo assert that this passage establishes individual predestination, where God's purpose stands "not by works but by him who calls."

○ **Arminian Interpretation: Corporate Election**

Arminian theologians, such as Robert Shank, contend that the passage teaches corporate election, where God elects the body of true believers (the Church) rather than specific individuals unconditionally.

- They interpret the distinction between Isaac and Ishmael or Jacob and Esau as representing two groups: those who are part of the covenant through faith and those who are not, rather than individuals destined for heaven or hell before birth.
- This perspective suggests that while the means of election (faith) is decreed by God, the who refers to individuals who freely receive the promise through faith.
- Some scholars note that the biblical text regarding Ishmael (Genesis 17:20) promises he will "live before God," which complicates the Reformed view that he was eternally condemned by God's choice, suggesting instead a distinction in covenantal role rather than individual salvation status.

○ **Historical and Contextual Nuances**

- Historical analysis of the patristic period reveals that early interpreters like Augustine and Origen read the text through the lens of gnostic and Manichaean influences, contributing to the development of predestinarian doctrines.
- The passage serves as a theodicy to explain that God's word has not failed despite the rejection of the gospel by many ethnic Jews.
- Paul uses these Old Testament examples to show that physical birth guarantees nothing; salvation is always based on God's promise and call, not human lineage or merit.

Calvinist Theology: Romans 9:19-23

- A primary interpretation, often associated with Calvinist theology, views Romans 9:19-23 as a defense of God's absolute sovereignty in election, asserting that the Potter (God) has the right to create vessels of wrath for destruction and vessels of mercy for glory solely by His own will. Proponents of this view argue that questioning God's right to judge or save is blasphemous, as creatures have no standing to criticize the Creator, and that God prepared these vessels beforehand to display His wrath, power, and glory.
- In contrast, a non-Calvinist or Arminian interpretation suggests that the "vessels of wrath" are not created by God for destruction but are clay that spoiled through their own sin, with God remaking them for a greater redemptive purpose or simply allowing them to remain in their self-chosen state. This perspective argues that the Greek text in verse 22 can be read in the middle voice, meaning sinners "fit themselves for destruction" through their rejection of the truth, while God actively prepares only the "vessels of mercy" for glory.

Key points of divergence include:

- **The cause of the vessel's state:** One view holds God determines the state (sovereign election/reprobation), while the other holds the sinner's own choices determine the state of being a vessel of wrath.
- **The meaning of "prepared":** One interpretation sees God actively preparing both wrath and glory, whereas the other sees God preparing only the vessels of mercy, with the vessels of wrath being "ripe" or "ready" due to their own sin.
- **God's intent:** Some argue God's original intent was never to make vessels of wrath, viewing them as a result of human rebellion, while others emphasize God's patience in enduring them to eventually display His glory.
- **The scope of election:** One view limits election to specific individuals for salvation and reprobation for damnation, while the other views election as corporate (nations like Israel) or conditional upon faith.

All Israel will be Saved: Romans 11:11-26

The phrase "all Israel will be saved" in Romans 11:26 is interpreted in four primary ways, distinguishing between the identity of "Israel" and the nature of the salvation event.

- **Ethnic Israel as a future mass conversion** is the most widely supported view, suggesting that "all Israel" refers to a future, large-scale turning of the Jewish nation to faith in Christ, rather than every single individual Jew. This interpretation holds that the hardening of Israel is temporary and will end once the "fullness of the Gentiles" has come in, prompting a divine reversal where ethnic Jews are grafted back into the olive tree. This salvation is spiritual, involving the removal of ungodliness through the Deliverer from Zion, rather than political or geographical restoration.
- **The "Elect Remnant" view** argues that "all Israel" refers specifically to the elect remnant of ethnic Jews who are already saved, rather than a future event. Proponents of this view contend that Paul's discussion of the "rest" being hardened means only a portion of the nation is currently saved, and the "all" in verse 26 simply confirms that every elect Jew will be included in salvation. This perspective often emphasizes the continuity of God's covenant faithfulness to the Jewish people without requiring a future mass conversion event.
- **The Dispensational view** posits a future national restoration of Israel in addition to their spiritual salvation, occurring at the end of the current age. This interpretation suggests that "all Israel" includes the entire nation being restored to a distinct identity and role in a millennial kingdom, mediating blessings to Gentile nations. Unlike other views, this position argues for a two-stage salvation for Gentiles (church age and millennial restoration) and sees the "fullness" of Israel as involving both spiritual conversion and national reinstatement.

- **The "Church as Israel" view** is less supported by the immediate context but suggests that "all Israel" refers to the entire church composed of both Jews and Gentiles. This interpretation argues that the term "Israel" shifts meaning in verse 26 to represent the spiritual people of God, contrasting with the distinction Paul makes between ethnic Jews and Gentiles in the preceding verses. However, most scholars reject this because the context of Romans 9–11 clearly distinguishes ethnic Israel from the Gentiles throughout the passage.

1 CORINTHIANS

Woman silent in Church - Complementarian View / Egalitarian View: 1 Corinthians 14:34-35

There are at least seven major interpretations of 1 Corinthians 14:34-35, primarily revolving around whether the text is a universal prohibition, a specific contextual instruction, or a quotation being refuted by Paul.

- **The Evaluation of Prophecy View:** Many complementarians argue Paul only prohibits women from evaluating or judging prophecies (1 Cor 14:29), a role that would involve exercising authority over men, rather than a total ban on speech.
- **The Quotation-Refutation View:** Some scholars suggest verses 34-35 are a quotation of a Corinthian belief or letter that Paul is refuting in verses 36-38, where he asks, "Or did the word of God come from you?"
- **The Disruptive Questioning View:** This interpretation posits that Paul commands silence to stop disruptive questioning or chatter by women who were confused due to limited education or language barriers, urging them to ask husbands at home (v. 35) to maintain order.
- **The Universal Prohibition View:** Traditional and historical Reformed theologians (e.g., Bullinger, Knox) view the passage as a timeless command parallel to 1 Timothy 2:12, prohibiting women from teaching, preaching, or exercising authority in public worship.
- **The Nuisance Chatter View:** Some commentators, like Chrysostom, believe the instruction targets specific nuisance chatter or "babbling" rather than all speech, aligning with the chapter's broader theme of maintaining order.

EPHESIANS

Wives submit to husbands: Ephesians 5:22-24

The primary interpretation of Ephesians 5:22-24 is that wives are commanded to submit to their husbands as a specific application of the general call for all believers to "submit to one another" in verse 21. This submission is defined as placing oneself in a subordinate position based on the husband's role as "head" (Kephālē), analogous to Christ's headship over the church, rather than based on the husband's personal character or superiority.

Several key nuances distinguish this submission from other concepts:

- **Contextual Basis:** The verb "submit" is grammatically carried over from verse 21, leading some scholars to argue the passage teaches mutual submission where wives specifically submit in the context of the home.
- **Nature of Authority:** The husband's headship is described as a stated fact rather than a command, implying an inescapable leadership role that requires the husband to love and protect his wife sacrificially, mirroring Christ's love for the church.
- **Scope of Obedience:** Submission is interpreted as voluntary submission to authority (hypotassō) rather than slavish obedience (hypakouō), meaning it applies to lawful matters and does not require a wife to submit to abuse or sin.
- **Spiritual Motivation:** The command is to submit "as to the Lord," meaning the wife's obedience is an act of reverence for Christ, regardless of the husband's personal worthiness or performance.

Interpretations vary on whether this establishes a hierarchical order that reflects the Trinity's internal relationships or if it is a cultural concession to the first-century household structure that emphasizes the spirit of the relationship over the specific roles. Some sources note that while the order of authority is clear, the spirit in which it is carried out is transformed by the command for husbands to love their wives sacrificially.

1 TIMOTHY

“I do not permit a woman to teach”: 1 Timothy 2:11-15

Interpretations of 1 Timothy 2:11-15 primarily diverge on whether the passage establishes a permanent, universal prohibition against women teaching or holding authority, or if it addresses a specific local crisis in Ephesus involving false teaching.

- **The Traditional/Complementarian View** holds that the instructions are timeless and universal, grounded in the creation order and the deception of Eve. Proponents argue that Paul forbids women from teaching or exercising authority over men because Adam was formed first and Eve was deceived, establishing a permanent principle of male leadership in the church. This view interprets "saved through childbearing" (v. 15) as a promise that women will be preserved through the dangers of childbirth or as a reference to the birth of the Messiah, provided they continue in faith, love, and holiness.
- **The Contextual/Particular View** suggests the passage addresses a specific situation in Ephesus where women were spreading false doctrines or disrupting worship, rather than establishing a universal rule. Scholars in this camp argue that the Greek word *authentain* (often translated as "exercise authority") may carry a negative connotation of "domineering" or "usurping authority," meaning Paul was prohibiting abusive behavior rather than all forms of leadership. Additionally, some interpretations propose that "learn in silence" means "without disturbance" rather than absolute silence, and that the reference to Adam and Eve serves to highlight the consequences of the false teaching circulating at the time, which encouraged women to abandon their families.

○

REVELATION

Jesus' harsh rebuke of the church in Laodicea: Revelation 3:14-18

- Revelation 3:14-18 contains Jesus' harsh rebuke of the church in Laodicea for being lukewarm, a state that causes Him to spit them out of His mouth, despite their self-perception of wealth and self-sufficiency.
 - **The Sender's Identity:** Jesus introduces Himself as "the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the ruler (or beginning) of God's creation," asserting His absolute authority and truthfulness.
 - **The Church's Condition:** The Laodiceans are condemned for being neither hot nor cold but lukewarm, and they are ironically described as wretched, pitiful, poor, blind, and naked while believing they are rich and lack nothing.
 - **The Spiritual Prescription:** Jesus counsels them to buy from Him gold refined by fire for true spiritual richness, white garments to cover their shame, and eye salve to gain spiritual sight, contrasting their material wealth with their spiritual poverty.

The passage highlights the danger of spiritual complacency, where a lack of zeal leads to rejection by Christ, and emphasizes that true value comes only from a relationship with Him rather than earthly possessions.

- The **most prominent interpretation** of Jesus' rebuke of the Laodicean church centers on the geographical and hydrological context, where the city received water from two nearby sources: hot springs from Hierapolis and cold springs from Colossae. By the time these waters traveled through aqueducts to Laodicea, they became lukewarm and nauseating, which directly parallels Jesus' declaration that He will "spit" the church out of His mouth because their spiritual state is detestable and useless.

- **Another key interpretation** views the rebuke as a condemnation of spiritual self-sufficiency and materialism, where the church's pride in their banking, textile, and medical wealth led to a delusion of being "rich" and needing "nothing." Jesus contrasts this with their true condition of being "wretched, pitiable, poor, blind, and naked," arguing that their reliance on worldly success had replaced genuine faith and made them spiritually bankrupt.
- Some scholars offer a **more severe interpretation** suggesting the church may have been fundamentally false or apostate, having drifted from the true gospel to a works-based salvation or a flawed view of Christ. Under this view, the "lukewarm" state represents a mixture of hot (true believers) and cold (unbelievers) that results in a profession of faith without genuine spiritual life, prompting Jesus to warn that He is about to vomit them out to exclude them from His body.

Regardless of the specific nuance, the remedy remains consistent across interpretations:

- Buy gold refined by fire to gain true spiritual riches.
- Buy white garments to cover spiritual nakedness.
- Buy eye salve to anoint eyes and see spiritual reality.
- Repent and be zealous to open the door for Christ to enter and restore fellowship.

144,000 Jewish Believers: Revelation 7:4-8

- Interpretations of Revelation 7:4–8 primarily divide between a literal reading of 144,000 Jewish believers and a symbolic view representing the complete church.
 - **Literal Interpretation:** Many scholars argue the text refers to exactly 144,000 ethnic Jews (12,000 from each of the 12 tribes) sealed for protection during the tribulation. This view notes that Levi is included while Dan is omitted, likely due to Dan's historical association with idolatry and the serpent, and that Joseph is listed with Manasseh replacing Ephraim to maintain the count of twelve. Proponents cite the specific tribal lists and Jesus' promise to judge the "twelve tribes of Israel" as evidence for a literal restoration of the nation.
 - **Symbolic Interpretation:** Other commentators view the number 144,000 ($12 \times 12 \times 1,000$) as a figure of completeness and perfection rather than a literal headcount, representing the full number of God's people from both the Old and New Testaments. In this view, the "tribes of Israel" symbolize the spiritual people of God (the Church), and the text emphasizes that none of God's servants are missed during judgment. This perspective is supported by the immediate following vision in verse 9 of a "great multitude... of all nations" that cannot be counted.

- Key variations in the list of tribes further drive these differing interpretations:
 - **Exclusion of Dan:** The tribe of Dan is absent from the list in Revelation 7, a unique feature often linked to its biblical reputation for idolatry or its symbolic connection to the serpent.
 - **Inclusion of Levi:** Unlike standard Old Testament censuses (e.g., Numbers 1) where Levi is excluded from tribal counts, Revelation includes Levi, possibly because the Levitical priesthood is fulfilled by Christ.
 - **Joseph vs. Ephraim:** The list includes "Joseph" alongside "Manasseh," effectively substituting Joseph for Ephraim, a variation found in other biblical texts like Ezekiel 48.

Ultimately, the text serves to assure believers of God's ownership and protection, with the number functioning either as a specific count of Jewish evangelists or as a metaphor for the perfect, sealed multitude of the faithful.

The meaning and who is 666? Revelation 13:17-18

- Interpretations of Revelation 13:17–18 vary primarily between literal, symbolic, and historical frameworks, with the "number of the beast" (666) being the most debated element.
- The Mark of the Beast (Verse 17)
 - **Economic and Political Control:** Many scholars view the mark as a mechanism for economic exclusion, preventing those without it from buying or selling, which reflects the historical context of the Roman Empire demanding emperor worship to participate in civic and commercial life.
 - **Spiritual Allegory:** Some interpret the mark as a parody of God's seal on faithful Christians, representing a conscious choice to align with a counterfeit kingdom rather than the true divine order, regardless of whether the mark is physical or symbolic.
 - **Future Literalism:** Certain theological perspectives, particularly within dispensationalism, predict a future, literal mark administered by a False Prophet during a tribulation period, where taking the mark results in eternal condemnation.
- The Number of the Beast (Verse 18)
 - **Gematria and Historical Figures:** A prevalent historical interpretation uses gematria (assigning numerical values to letters) to link 666 to specific figures, most notably Nero Caesar (transliterated into Hebrew) or the Roman Empire itself, suggesting the text was originally a coded reference to contemporary persecution.
 - **Symbolic Incompleteness:** Theologically, the number is often seen as representing human imperfection and falling short of divine perfection (represented by the number 7), signifying that the beast's power is ultimately limited and flawed compared to God.
 - **Individual vs. Humanity:** While some argue the phrase "number of a man" refers to mankind in general, others contend the singular masculine pronoun "his number" points to a specific individual Antichrist yet to come, distinguishing it from a general concept of human sin.

- Textual Variations: It is noted that at least one ancient manuscript variant reads 616 instead of 666, which some scholars argue further supports the Roman Empire connection, as the Latin spelling of "Nero Caesar" yields 616.
- The Nature of the Beast
 - Composite Empire: The beast is frequently interpreted as a composite of all God-opposing world powers throughout history (drawing parallels to Daniel 7), rather than a single entity, representing the sum-total of evil political systems.
 - Specific Political Leader: Conversely, other interpretations identify the beast as a specific future political-military leader (the Antichrist) who embodies these historical patterns, often associated with a revived Roman Empire or a global totalitarian state.

The Millenium: Revelation 20: 1-6

- Revelation 20:1-6 describes an angel binding Satan for a thousand years and the first resurrection of martyrs who reign with Christ. The passage details how an angel seizes the "dragon, that ancient serpent," casts him into the Abyss, and seals it to prevent deception of the nations during this period.
- It further reveals thrones of judgment where souls of those beheaded for their faith in Jesus sit to rule, having not worshipped the beast or received its mark. These participants in the first resurrection are declared blessed and holy, immune to the second death, and serve as priests of God and Christ for the millennium.
- The text distinguishes between these resurrected souls and "the rest of the dead," who do not come to life until the thousand years are finished. This vision serves as a comfort and encouragement to believers, emphasizing that death is not the end and that God's plan ultimately triumphs over evil.
- The four primary interpretations of Revelation 20:1-6 are Premillennialism, Postmillennialism, Amillennialism, and Historic Premillennialism, each differing on whether the "thousand years" is a literal period or a symbolic era.
 - Premillennialism (Chiliasm): This view, held by the earliest Church Fathers, interprets the text as a literal 1,000-year reign where Christ returns before His kingdom commences on earth. It posits a physical resurrection of the righteous at the beginning of the millennium to reign with Christ, followed by a second resurrection of the wicked after the thousand years end.
 - Amillennialism: This perspective views the thousand years as symbolic of the entire New Testament church age, which began with Christ's first coming. It interprets the "first resurrection" as the spiritual resurrection of believers at conversion or their vindication in heaven, noting that the binding of Satan refers to his limited power during this era rather than total imprisonment.
 - Postmillennialism: Proponents believe the millennium is a long period where the world is gradually transformed by the gospel, leading to a golden age before Christ's return. The thousand years are not literal but signify a long era of blessing and societal improvement, after which Christ returns to establish the new heaven and earth.

- **Historic Premillennialism:** This view sees the events as a recapitulation rather than a strict chronological sequence following the destruction of the Beast, often arguing that the battle imagery in Revelation 19 and 20 describes the same conflict. It emphasizes that the spiritual character of the first and second deaths suggests the first resurrection is a preliminary, non-final state of vindication for martyrs.

The debate often centers on whether the language is literal or figurative, with scholars noting that terms like "resurrection" and "life" in this visionary context may describe spiritual realities rather than physical events, similar to how "beast" and "wound" are symbolic in Revelation 13.

Suggested Study Bibles with Commentary:

1. **ESV Study Bible** – Crossway (Good News Publications)

- a. Crossway is a not-for-profit evangelical Christian publishing ministry headquartered in Wheaton, Illinois, founded in 1938 by Clyde and Muriel Dennis as Good News Publishers. Best known for publishing the English Standard Version (ESV) Bible and over 1,500 evangelical Christian titles, the organization aims to proclaim the gospel and serve the church through gospel-centered, Bible-based content.
- b. Current version contains the 2016 Text of the ESV Bible

2. **MacArthur Study Bible, 2nd Edition** – notes are the same across all the different translations

- a. Dr. John MacArthur (1939–2025) was a prominent American Calvinistic Baptist pastor, theologian, and author who served as the longtime senior pastor of Grace Community Church in Sun Valley, California, from 1969 until his death on July 14, 2025. He was the founder of the Grace to You ministry, a nationally syndicated radio and television Bible teaching program that began broadcasting in 1977, and served as chancellor emeritus of The Master's University and The Master's Seminary.
- b. MacArthur was renowned for his verse-by-verse expository preaching, completing a 42-year series covering the entire New Testament by 2011, and authored or edited nearly 400 books, including the best-selling The MacArthur Study Bible and the Legacy Standard Bible (LSB). His theological positions were staunchly conservative, advocating for cessationism, Young Earth creationism, complementarianism, and Lordship salvation, which often placed him at the center of debates within evangelical circles regarding Charismatic practices, gender roles, and cultural issues.

3. **Ryrie Study Bible** – His preferred translation was the 1995 NASB

- a. Dr. Charles Caldwell Ryrie (1925–2016) was a renowned American theologian and Bible scholar best known for editing the Ryrie Study Bible, which has sold over 2.6 million copies. He served as a professor of systematic theology and dean of doctoral studies at Dallas Theological Seminary and was a leading proponent of dispensationalism and Free Grace theology.
- b. Ryrie held to dispensational premillennialism, teaching the pretribulation rapture and that salvation requires only fiduciary faith rather than "Lordship salvation." He authored more than 30 books, including the influential Basic Theology and So Great Salvation, and his collection of rare Bibles sold for \$7.3 million at auction in 2016.

4. **The Reformation Study Bible** – R.C. Sproul

- a. The Reformation Study Bible is a study Bible published by Ligonier Ministries that aims to carry on the legacy of the Geneva Bible by presenting biblical Christianity through a distinctively Reformed theological perspective. Edited by Dr. R.C. Sproul, it features verse-by-verse notes and theological articles written exclusively by scholars who align with major Reformed confessions, such as the Westminster Confession of Faith and the Heidelberg Catechism.
- b. Currently, the standard edition (2015 revision) uses the English Standard Version (ESV) as its Bible text, a change fully adopted in late 2021 after previously offering a New King James Version (NKJV) option. The 2015 edition includes 44% more commentary than the original, totaling over 1.1 million words of notes contributed by 75 distinguished theologians, along with historical creeds, maps, and cross-references.

5. **Grace and Truth Study Bible** – Dr. Albert Mohler

- a. The Grace and Truth Study Bible is a commentary-style study Bible edited by Dr. R. Albert Mohler Jr., president of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, designed to reveal grace and truth on every page of God's Word. It features passage-by-passage study notes that are described as evangelical, Reformed, and complementarian, focusing on the theological basis of God's redemptive plan and the character of Jesus Christ.

6. **King James Study Bible, Full Color Edition** – Original Notes from Jerry Falwell and Liberty University

- a. The King James Study Bible is a comprehensive study edition of the King James Version (KJV) originally produced by Liberty University and first published in 1988, now sold by Thomas Nelson in various formats including a Full Color Edition.
- b. It is distinguished as the only study Bible featuring extensive commentary, doctrinal notes, archaeological insights, and time-tested study aids developed exclusively for the King James Version.
- c. The edition contains over 5,700 authoritative study notes, hundreds of color maps and charts, personality profiles, and a word-study concordance, all reflecting conservative Christian theology.

7. **The New Oxford Annotated Study Bible with the Apocrypha, Expanded Edition, Revised Standard Version, 2nd edition – May 27, 1982**

- a. The New Oxford Annotated Bible with the Apocrypha (Revised Standard Version) is an ecumenical study Bible published by Oxford University Press that remains in print as the only RSV study Bible currently available. It features extensive academic annotations, book introductions, cross-references, and full-color maps, making it a widely used resource in schools, colleges, and seminaries.
 - i. **Translation:** It utilizes the Revised Standard Version (RSV), specifically the second edition of the New Testament (1971), which many scholars and readers prefer for its balance of accuracy and reverence.
 - ii. **Editions:** The most common current version is the Expanded Edition (ISBN 9780195283488, 9780195283358), which includes the Apocrypha/Deuterocanonical books and is available in both hardcover and genuine leather bindings.
 - iii. **Features:** The text includes same-page annotations, supplementary essays on biblical history and criticism, and a two-piece protective box.
 - iv. **History:** First published in 1962 and republished with the Apocrypha in 1977, this edition has remained in print despite the release of newer editions in the NRSV translation.

8. **Thompson Chain Reference Bible** – Most major translations

- a. The Thompson Chain-Reference Bible is defined by its patented chain-reference system, which features over 100,000 marginal references linking related verses across more than 8,000 topics to allow users to follow biblical themes from the front to the back of the text. Unlike traditional study Bibles that rely on human commentary, this system is designed to be "influence-free," enabling Scripture to interpret itself through interconnected "thought suggestions" rather than external opinions.

Key study aids and structural features include:

- i. **Comprehensive Indexes:** Alphabetical and numerical indices allow users to locate any of the 8,000 topics and trace their associated "chain links."
- ii. **Extensive Back Matter:** Editions typically include over 75 practical features such as 16 pages of full-color maps, charts, diagrams, and an archaeological supplement.
- iii. **Detailed Resources:** The Bible provides biographical sketches of Bible characters, outline studies for each book, Bible harmonies, and a revised concordance.
- iv. **Text Options:** Available in multiple translations including KJV, NKJV, NASB, NIV, and ESV, with options for Red Letter text, Large Print (up to 9-point font), and various binding styles like Lambskin leather.

The system, originally developed by Dr. Frank Charles Thompson and first published in 1908, allows readers to explore specific words or concepts by following a forward chain of verses, making it a unique tool for topical study, sermon preparation, and personal devotion.

9. Dake Annotated Study Bible – Some of the notes are out there. But hundreds of “Lists” and has a Pentecostal viewpoint

- a. The Dake Annotated Reference Bible (also known as the Dake Study Bible) is a comprehensive King James Version (KJV) and New King James Version (NKJV) study Bible created by Rev. Finis Jennings Dake (1902–1987) and first published in 1963.
- b. It is distinguished by its massive volume of study aids, including over 35,000 commentary notes, 500,000 cross-references, 9,000 outline headings, and 8,000 sermon outlines, making it one of the most heavily annotated Bibles available.
- c. Oneness Pentecostal’s love this bible. Eat the meat and spit out the bones

10. Ancient Faith Study Bible

- a. The CSB Ancient Faith Study Bible is a study edition published by Holman Bibles that features the Christian Standard Bible (CSB) text alongside extensive commentary and study notes drawn from early Church fathers of the 2nd through 5th centuries.
- b. Key contributors to its notes and articles include prominent figures such as Augustine of Hippo, John Chrysostom, Jerome, Irenaeus of Lyons, and Origen, whose writings help readers understand and apply historical biblical insights.

11. NIV Study Bible, Fully Revised Edition – Kenneth Barker, editor

- a. The NIV Study Bible is a study Bible originally published by Zondervan in 1985 that utilizes the New International Version (NIV) translation and is claimed by its publishers to be the world's bestselling study bible with over nine million copies sold.
- b. Key features of this resource include over 20,000 study notes, archaeological notes, extensive book introductions, and commentary from a committee of top evangelical scholars and former NIV translators. The Fully Revised Edition, released in 2020, represents a complete overhaul of the text and notes, featuring thousands of newly written or revised entries, full-color maps, charts, and illustrations designed to enhance understanding and application.

12. Scofield Study Bible (The Old Scofield Study Bible, KJV, Classic Edition) – The original “Dispensationalist” introduction to Americans

- a. The Scofield Study Bible (originally the Scofield Reference Bible) is a widely circulated study Bible edited and annotated by **Cyrus I. Scofield**, first published in 1909 by Oxford University Press. It is based on the King James Version and is best known for popularizing dispensationalism and the premillennial rapture doctrine among conservative Protestants in the 20th century.
- b. Key features include side-column study notes that function as a commentary, a chain reference system linking related verses across the Bible, and chronological data based on Archbishop James Ussher's calculations (e.g., dating Creation to 4004 BC).
- c. The original 1917 edition is often called the "Old Scofield" and remains in print, while the 1967 revision (known as the New Scofield Study Bible or Scofield Study Bible III) modernized the text and muted some theological tenets, with recent editions available in multiple translations including the NKJV, NIV, and NASB.

13. Ignatius Catholic Study Bible – Dr. Scott Hahn, Curtis Mitch

- a. The Ignatius Catholic Study Bible: Old and New Testament is a single-volume study edition that presents the complete Scripture in the Revised Standard Version Second Catholic Edition (RSV2CE) translation, designed to help Catholic readers understand and apply biblical lessons. Edited by Scott Hahn, Ph.D. and Curtis J. Mitch, M.A., it combines modern scholarship with the Church's tradition, offering introductions, outlines, and 17,500+ explanatory footnotes for every chapter.
- b. Key features include 20+ topical essays, 140+ word studies, 25+ charts, 50+ maps, and 1,700+ cross-references to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, all formatted in a readable 9-point type size. The Desk Edition measures 10 x 7 inches with 2,320 pages, while a smaller Personal Size Edition is also available for portability. Published by Ignatius Press, this edition is described as a "veritable library of Bible study resources" that highlights the unity of the Old and New Testaments.

14. The English Koren Tanakh - The Hebrew Bible in a New English Translation (No study notes, the reference material is excellent)

- a. The English Koren Tanakh features a masterful translation primarily by the late Rabbi Jonathan Sacks (Torah and Psalms) and Rabbi Dr. Tzvi Hersh Weinreb (Prophets and Writings), designed to convey the sacred majesty and rhythmic beauty of the original Hebrew. Proper names are consistently transliterated from Hebrew (e.g., Yaakov, Moshe) rather than using traditional English forms (e.g., Jacob, Moses) to maintain authenticity.
- b. The edition includes extensive, full-color reference material such as genealogies, timelines, maps, charts, and archaeological artifacts to aid comprehension. It is distinguished by a unique layout where the Hebrew text appears on the left and the English translation on the right, a format that allows the eye to absorb both languages simultaneously.

15. CEB Study Bible with the Apocrypha

- a. The CEB Study Bible with the Apocrypha is a comprehensive Christian study Bible based on the Common English Bible (CEB) translation, which includes the Apocrypha (also known as the Deuterocanonical books). It is designed for personal study, reflection, and spiritual growth, offering readers tools to understand the biblical text in its historical, literary, and theological context.
- b. Contains study notes for the Biblical canon AND the Apocrypha.

16. The NLT Life Application Study Bible

- a. The Life Application Study Bible is a study Bible published by Tyndale House Publishers and Zondervan that is advertised as today's #1 selling study Bible, featuring over 10,000 notes designed to help readers apply biblical truths to their daily lives. Its unique focus goes beyond explaining historical or theological context by providing practical application insights that answer the question, "How does this apply to my life?"
- b. Also available in other translations: NIV, NKJV, CSB

17. The NET Bible – Full Notes Edition

- a. The NET Bible, Full Notes Edition is a Holy Bible published by Thomas Nelson that pairs the New English Translation (NET) with the largest set of translators' notes ever created for a Bible, totaling nearly 60,000 notes. This edition provides unprecedented transparency by explaining every major translation decision, curating insights from over 400 cited resources, and organizing notes into Translation Notes (TN), Study Notes (SN), and Text Critical Notes (TC).
- b. Very dense material and the most notes available in a single volume study bible.

18. The Biblical Theology Study Bible

- a. The NIV Biblical Theology Study Bible is a comprehensive resource published by Zondervan that focuses on tracing the development of biblical themes across the canon rather than organizing content by systematic theological categories. Previously published as the NIV Zondervan Study Bible, this edition features the 2011 revision of the New International Version (NIV) text, updated with the Zondervan NIV Comfort Print® typeface and a three-column layout to make the volume thinner and more visually appealing.
- b. D.A. Carson

19. Cultural Background Study Bible

- a. The Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible is a resource published by Zondervan designed to bridge the gap between modern readers and the ancient world of Scripture by providing expert insights into the customs, culture, and literature of Bible times. Edited by Dr. John H. Walton for the Old Testament and Dr. Craig S. Keener for the New Testament, this study Bible features over 10,000 verse-by-verse notes, hundreds of full-color photographs, and dozens of charts and maps to help readers understand what the text meant to its original hearers.

20. NIV Archaeological Study Bible

- a. The NIV Archaeological Study Bible is a study edition published by Zondervan in 2005 that uses the 1984 New International Version (NIV) text to focus specifically on archaeological, historical, and cultural contexts rather than heavy theological commentary. Edited by Dr. Walter C. Kaiser Jr. and Dr. Duane Garrett, it aims to bring the ancient biblical world to life by examining the archaeological record surrounding God's Word.
- b. The edition is distinguished by its extensive reference material, including 520 short articles categorized into Archaeological Sites, Cultural and Historical Notes, Ancient Peoples and Lands, the Reliability of the Bible, and Ancient Texts and Artifacts. It features approximately 500 full-color photographs, in-text color maps, detailed charts, and bottom-of-page study notes that explore passages related to archaeological and cultural facts.
- c. No longer in print, many for sale on Ebay at various prices.

21. CSB Baker Illustrated Bible – June 15, 2026

- a. The Baker Illustrated Bible is a collection of seven comprehensive Bible study resources published by Baker Publishing Group, designed to provide visual and scholarly aids for understanding Scripture. The collection includes the Baker Illustrated Bible Commentary, Baker Illustrated Bible Handbook, Baker Illustrated Bible Dictionary, Baker Illustrated Guide to the Bible, Baker Illustrated Guide to Everyday Life in Bible Times, A to Z Guide to Bible Signs and Symbols, and The Baker Book of Bible Charts, Maps, and Timelines.

22. CSB Holy Land Illustrated Bible

- a. The CSB Holy Land Illustrated Bible is a visually immersive study Bible published by Holman Bibles (an imprint of B&H Publishing) that features the Christian Standard Bible (CSB) translation alongside over 1,100 to 1,200 images, maps, and illustrations. Released on September 15, 2020, it is designed to help readers explore the people, places, and things of Scripture without leaving home, effectively bringing the historical context of the Holy Land to life.

23. KJV Life in the Spirit Study Bible (Formerly Full Life Study, & Fire Bible)

- a. The KJV Life in the Spirit Study Bible is a King James Version study resource designed to guide readers into a Christ-centered, righteous, and Spirit-led lifestyle, with a specific focus on deepening one's connection with the Holy Spirit. Previously titled the Full Life Study Bible, this edition features updated and expanded study notes, 77 articles on life in the Spirit, and 5 custom-designed mega-charts covering topics like "Old Testament Prophecies Fulfilled in Christ" and "The Gifts of the Holy Spirit."
- b. Key features include Themefinder icons that identify passages related to themes such as "Baptized in/Filled with the Holy Spirit," "Healing," and "Salvation," alongside word studies that explain key terms in their original Greek and Hebrew contexts. The Bible includes a concordance, full-color map section, book introductions, and Words of Christ in red to aid in understanding and application. Based on the common underpinnings of Pentecostal and charismatic traditions, it is intended for all Christians seeking to experience the power and intimacy of the Holy Spirit described in the Book of Acts.

24. NKJV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible

- a. The NKJV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible is designed to bring the ancient world of Scripture to life for modern readers by providing expert insight into the customs, culture, and literature of Bible times. Edited by Dr. John H. Walton (Old Testament) and Dr. Craig S. Keener (New Testament), it features the complete New King James Version (NKJV) text, recognized as the 2017 ECPA Bible of the Year.

25. The Orthodox Study Bible

- a. The Orthodox Study Bible (OSB) is the first full-length English study Bible presenting the Bible of the early church, featuring an Old Testament newly translated from the Greek Septuagint (including the Deuterocanon) and a New Testament from the New King James Version (NKJV).
- b. Key features include commentary drawn from early Church Christians (Fathers and teachers of the first ten centuries), easy-to-locate liturgical readings, and book introductions and outlines that provide historical context. The volume also contains full-color icons, full-color maps, an exhaustive subject index, and supplemental articles addressing theological topics.

26. The Didache Bible

- a. The Didache Bible is a Catholic study Bible that features extensive commentaries on every book of Scripture based on the Catechism of the Catholic Church. It utilizes the Revised Standard Version, Second Catholic Edition (RSV-2CE), a translation highly regarded by Catholic leaders like Peter Kreeft and Scott Hahn for its beauty and fidelity.

27. The Lutheran Study Bible, ESV

- a. The Lutheran Study Bible (ESV) by Concordia Publishing House is distinguished as the first Bible in English developed with notes that are distinctively Lutheran, prepared by theologians and pastors from over twenty Lutheran church bodies. Its core features include 26,500-plus uniquely Lutheran study notes, over 2,000 application notes and prayers for every part of the Bible, and 80,000 center column cross-references.
- b. The Bible integrates over 200 articles, maps, and book introductions, providing insights from early church, medieval, and Reformation era church fathers. It utilizes the English Standard Version (ESV) translation and includes Luther's Small Catechism, one-year and three-year lectionaries, a two-year Bible reading plan, and a concordance with over 31,000 entries.

28. The Jerusalem Bible

The Jerusalem Bible (JB), first published in 1966, is a Catholic translation prepared by Roman Catholic scholars in Great Britain, marking the first English version translated directly from Hebrew and Greek texts rather than the traditional Latin Vulgate. It is characterized by its literary quality, copious footnotes, and introductions reflecting a "higher criticism" or modern scholarly approach, often including theories like the composite authorship of the Pentateuch and dating of the Book of Daniel.

Key features of the Jerusalem Bible include:

- i. **Source Material:** Translated from the French *La Bible de Jérusalem* (1956/1961), it prioritizes literal meaning while adopting a "mid-Atlantic" syntax to sound neither overly British nor American.
- ii. **Catholic Canon:** It includes the 73 books standard to the Catholic Church, comprising the 39 books of the Hebrew Bible, seven deuterocanonical books, and the 27 New Testament books.
- iii. **Scholarly Annotations:** The text is enriched with extensive footnotes and introductions that provide historical, cultural, and theological context, though these notes often reflect modern secular scholarship rather than traditional Catholic dogma.

- iv. **Distinctive Style:** The translation is known for its poetic and lyrical prose, with a notable departure from traditional phrasing, such as rendering Luke 1:28 as "Rejoice, so highly favored!" instead of "Full of grace."
- v. **Usage:** For roughly half a century, it served as the basis for the lectionary for Mass in much of the English-speaking world outside North America, though it has been partially replaced by newer translations like the Revised New Jerusalem Bible in regions like Australia and Ireland.

While the New Jerusalem Bible (NJB) published in 1985 was a fresh translation from the original languages (rather than from French) and introduced gender-inclusive language, the original 1966 Jerusalem Bible retains traditional, non-inclusive language and is still available in reissued formats like the Reader's Edition, which features single-column formatting and a 9-point font.

29. CSB: He Reads Truth Study Bible

- a. The CSB He Reads Truth Bible is designed primarily for reading, featuring the Christian Standard Bible (CSB) translation which balances literal accuracy with clarity. It includes robust theological extras such as 66 hand-lettered key verses (one for each book), color-coded book introductions, and curated reading plans for every book of the Bible plus a one-year plan with supplemental passages.

30. Chronological Life Application Study Bible – NIV, NLT, KJV, NKJV

- a. The Chronological Life Application Study Bible (CLASB) presents the biblical text arranged in the order events occurred, rather than the traditional canonical order. This format helps readers understand how the various parts of Scripture connect within the broader narrative of God's interaction with humanity. Published by Tyndale House Publishers, it combines the trusted study notes of the best-selling Life Application Study Bible with new features designed to enhance historical and cultural understanding.
- b. Available in various translations

31. The Open Study Bible

- a. The Open Bible is a time-tested study resource trusted by millions for over 50 years, designed to help readers easily navigate interconnected themes from Genesis to Revelation. It features over 200 study aids, including a Topical Index with 50,000 entries connecting 8,000 names, places, concepts, events, and doctrines, and a 72,000+ cross-reference system located in the center column.
- b. Key features include comprehensive book introductions and outlines that provide historical context, themes, and verse relationships, alongside a 24-page Visual Survey of the Bible that illustrates the entire scope and timeline of Scripture. The edition also contains 32 "Christian Guides" for a complete doctrinal overview, over 200 word studies on Hebrew and Greek terms, and 420 starred Messianic prophecies in the Old and New Testaments.

32. The Reese Chronological Bible, 1977

- a. The Reese Chronological Bible arranges the King James Version of the Bible in consecutive order. The Bible now can be read as a history of chronological events. This will be a valuable aid to the Bible student, giving many new insights into the Word of God.

- b. The KJV Reese Chronological Study Bible features a fully redesigned two-color interior that arranges the King James Version text in historical order based on Dr. Edward Reese's research, which aligns closely with Dr. Floyd Nolen Jones's dating system. Key study features include detailed timelines running up the page edge, geographical and archaeological notes to verify Scripture, and cultural/historical footnotes that provide context for biblical events.
- c. No longer in print

33. Henry Morris Study Bible – (KJV Defender Study Bible)

- a. The Henry Morris Study Bible is a King James Version (KJV) apologetics resource featuring over 10,000 comprehensive study notes based on 60 years of Dr. Henry Morris's biblical and scientific research.
- b. Content and Study Aids:
 - i. Focus: The notes emphasize Young Earth Creationism, defending the literal six-day creation, biblical inerrancy, and the authority of the KJV.
 - ii. Annotations: Designed to explain difficult passages, resolve alleged contradictions, and highlight scientific and historical accuracy.
 - iii. Appendices: Contains 22 appendices spanning nearly 100 pages covering topics like the chronology of the Patriarchs, Bible-believing scientists, internal biblical designs, and the creationist defense of the King James Bible.
 - iv. Introductions: Includes introductory commentaries to each book and general introductions to the Old and New Testaments.
- c. Defender's Edition: Features updated notes and corrections, containing 50% more notes than the original New Defender's Study Bible.

34. Dickson's Analytical Study Bible

- a. The Dickson's New Analytical Study Bible is a comprehensive King James Version (KJV) study resource known for its extensive supplementary materials designed to facilitate deep scriptural understanding. It contains over 800 pages of study helps and includes the following key features:
 - i. Dictionary of the Bible: A full biblical dictionary to explain terms, names, and concepts.
 - ii. Concordance: A comprehensive index to help locate specific words and verses.
 - iii. Cross-References: Extensive references linking related scriptures throughout the text.
 - iv. Red Letter Text: The words of Jesus are printed in red for easy identification.

35. Naves Topical Reference Bible

- a. Nave's Topical Bible, compiled by Orville J. Nave, an Army chaplain and theologian, is one of the most well-known and comprehensive topical Bible references. First published in the early 1900s, it was the result of fourteen years of dedicated study of the King James Version (KJV) of the Bible. The work functions as a topical concordance, organizing over 20,000 topics and subtopics with more than 100,000 associated Scripture references. Unlike traditional concordances that index by word, Nave's groups verses by idea or theme, making it especially useful for thematic Bible study.

36. Common Man's Reference Bible

- a. The Common Man's Reference Bible is a study Bible designed to help everyday readers understand the King James Version (KJV) with 60,000 inline cross-references and 3,000 footnotes containing over 12,000 additional references. It includes 12 full-color maps, book introductions for all 66 books, and common sayings noted in the center column to illustrate the KJV's cultural impact.
- b. The 6th Edition (published in 2021) features large print (10pt) Times New Roman font, Words of Christ in Red, and two ribbon markers. It utilizes thick, writable India paper (22#lb.) and Smyth-sewn pages for durability, housed in a premium black Lambskin leather binding with vintage raised hubs and gold-gilded page edges.
- c. Key study aids include same-page text helps, topical subheadings, and family record pages. The edition also contains two new articles following the book of Revelation: "Seven Steps to Learn the Scriptures" and "A Perfect Unity under a Pure Final Authority". The text is based on the Trustworthy KJV Cambridge Text Sixth Edition and is printed and bound in the U.S.A.

37. Ruckman Reference Bible

- a. The Ruckman Reference Bible is a King James Version study Bible that compiles 60 years of Dr. Peter Ruckman's personal notes and references, uniquely preserving the text without changes in either the scripture or the commentary. It features Dr. Ruckman's extensive footnotes and 118 appendices covering various theological topics, all presented from a dispensational premillennial perspective.
- b. Eat the meat and spit out the bones

38. The Wiersbe Study Bible

The NKJV Wiersbe Study Bible features over 7,800 verse-by-verse notes by Dr. Warren W. Wiersbe, designed to provide trustworthy and accessible explanations of biblical truths alongside the text. It includes hundreds of "Catalyst" notes that highlight key biblical themes and character issues to motivate spiritual transformation, as well as book introductions containing historical background, themes, and practical lessons for each book.

Key study aids and formatting features include:

- i. "Be Transformed" sections in every book introduction that specifically point to the life-changing impact of the Scripture.
- ii. A comprehensive Concordance with key words for deeper word study and an Index of Preaching Outlines derived from Dr. Wiersbe's "Be Series."
- iii. Thousands of cross-references showing connections throughout the Bible, along with full-color maps and red-letter text for the words of Jesus.
- iv. Ribbon markers for navigation and Comfort Print typography (typically 9.5-point or 10.5-point) for clear readability.

39. Charles Stanley Life Principles Study Bible

The Charles F. Stanley Life Principles Study Bible is designed to lead believers into a life-changing relationship with Jesus Christ by applying practical principles to daily life. The 2nd Edition features a completely new design with Thomas Nelson's NKJV Comfort Print® typeface, 100 specially designed maps and charts, and over 43,000 cross-references.

Key features include:

- i. 30 Life Principles articles that highlight Dr. Stanley's essentials for Christian living.
- ii. More than 2,500 Life Lessons verse notes that bring the practical and personal nature of God's Word to life.
- iii. Over 300 verses revealing God's promises to encourage, strengthen, and bring hope.
- iv. Answers to Life's Questions and "What the Bible Says About" articles that provide scriptural insight on important topics.
- v. Life Examples that teach biblical truths through the lives of important people in Scripture.
- vi. Topical indexes providing immediate access to hundreds of life-giving principles and promises.
- vii. Book introductions offering an overview of themes, literary structure, and important principles for each book.
- viii. A concordance for looking up word occurrences throughout the Bible.
- ix. Full-color maps showing the layout of Israel and other biblical locations for better context.

The Bible is available in multiple translations, including NKJV, NIV, and NASB, and has sold over one million copies to date.

40. The Rainbow Bible

The Rainbow Bible (also known as the Rainbow Study Bible) is distinguished by its unique, fully color-coded system that allows readers to quickly identify twelve major themes of Scripture throughout the text: salvation, God, family, love, history, prophecy, evil, sin, commandments, discipleship, outreach, and faith.

Beyond the color-coding, the study Bible features a system that underlines all words directly spoken by God the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit, making divine dialogue easy to locate.

The Bible includes extensive reference tools and study aids such as:

- i. Maps: 12 pages of full-color maps with an index (some editions list up to 75 colored maps).
- ii. Study Guides: A concordance, subject guide, "Where to Find It" index, and an outline of Old Testament history.
- iii. Devotional Aids: A Bible reading calendar, "Know What God Says" section, and a table of weights and measures.
- iv. Memorization Resources: Lists of 100 "Popular Bible Passages" and 365 "Popular Bible Quotations for Memorization and Meditation."
- v. Text Features: Black-letter text for Christ's words, a ribbon marker, and two-column text format (in CSB editions).

Available in various translations including the Christian Standard Bible (CSB), New International Version (NIV), and King James Version (KJV), the Rainbow Bible is marketed as the best-selling fully color-coded study Bible, with over 3 million copies sold across its various editions.

41. Reformation Heritage Study Bible

The Reformation Heritage KJV Study Bible is a comprehensive study tool edited by Joel R. Beeke, Michael Barrett, and Gerald Bilkes that integrates the King James Version (KJV) with extensive Reformed theological notes and devotional aids. Its layout features a double-column, verse-by-verse format where the text is separated from study material to ensure a clean reading experience, with black letter text in a 9.8-point Minion font and study notes in an 8-point Myriad font.

Key features include over 20,000 study notes that provide word studies, doctrinal commentary, cross-references, and explanations of archaic terms, alongside introductions to every book of the Bible containing author, date, theme, and outline. The Bible distinguishes itself with "Thoughts for Personal/Family Worship" at the end of every chapter, designed to guide daily family devotion and application. Additionally, it contains over 50 in-text doctrinal articles (covering topics like the Doctrine of God, Sin, and Salvation) and 36 articles on Christian living (such as prayer, worship, and family roles).

The back matter is extensive, featuring a 20-century overview of Church History, nine major creeds and confessions (including the Apostles' Creed, Nicene Creed, Belgic Confession, Heidelberg Catechism, Canons of Dort, and Westminster Standards), a concordance, color maps of the Near East and Holy Land, a reading plan, and tables of biblical weights and measures. Physical editions often include leather covers (goatskin, cowhide, or calfskin), art-gilt edges, two ribbons, and family record pages.

- a. **Theological Focus:** Thoroughly grounded in Reformed and Puritan theology, with notes and articles reflecting orthodox Reformed doctrine.
- b. **Unique Formatting:** Uses capitalized pronouns for deity (He, Him, His) in notes and introductions, and places references within study notes rather than keyed to the text.
- c. **Accessibility:** Includes plain-language definitions for archaic KJV terms and one-sentence chapter summaries to aid comprehension.
- d. **Devotional Utility:** Specifically designed for family worship, offering application questions and thoughts for personal devotion in every chapter.
- e. **Physical Quality:** Available in hardcover with Smyth-sewn binding, high-quality cream paper (28-30gsm), and elegant finishes like edge lining.