

**Tom Schreiner**  
**RECOMMENDED NEW TESTAMENT COMMENTARIES**

The numbering system is **not** significant. It is best to have a number of commentaries on each book. Commentaries with an asterisk (\*) require a knowledge of the Greek text. Some of the commentaries listed are excellent commentaries, but argue for critical views that are unpersuasive. **It is best not to buy sets of commentaries, but the best volumes on each book.**

AB=Anchor Bible; BECNT=Baker Exegetical Commentary on the New Testament; BNTC=Black's New Testament Commentary; EBC=Expositor's Bible Commentary; EGGNT=Exegetical Guide to the Greek New Testament; Harper=HNTC; HERM=Hermeneia; Int=Interpretation; ICC=International Critical Commentary; NAC=New American Commentary; NCB=New Century Bible; NIBC=New International Biblical Commentary; NICNT=New International Commentary on the New Testament; NIGTC=New International Greek Testament Commentary; NIVAC=New International Version Application Commentary; NTC=New Testament Commentary; PNTC=Pillar New Testament Commentary; TNTC=Tyndale New Testament Commentaries; WBC=Word Biblical Commentary; ZEC=Zondervan Exegetical Commentary

**Matthew**

1		D. A. Carson, EBC: clear first choice for pastors since it is exegetically and theologically rich
2	*	D. Hagner, WBC, 2 vols.: a helpful commentary on the Greek text, more accessible than Davies and Allison
3	*	W. D. Davies and D.C. Allison, ICC, 3 vols.: massive and technical Greek commentary
4		R. T. France, TNTC: a shorter treatment that is helpful
5		C. Blomberg—NAC: a shorter but helpful commentary for pastors
6		R. T. France—NICNT: a longer exposition than TNTC and excellent as well
7		U. Luz—HERM, 3 vols.: a careful and massive commentary

**Mark**

1		W. Lane, NICNT: an excellent exegesis of the English text. Highly recommended for the pastor and scholar
2	*	R. H. Gundry: a massive commentary for the student engaging in technical research
3		M. Hooker, BNTC: a shorter commentary that is accessible to pastors
4	*	R. Guelich and C. Evans, WBC, 2 vols.: a Greek text commentary for technical research
5		J. Edwards, PNTC: a helpful and clear exposition for pastors
6	*	R. T. France, NIGTC: a careful exegesis of the Greek text, the most accessible
7		Greek text treatment for pastors
		D. Garland, NIVAC: a very helpful exposition of Mark
8	*	R. Stein, BECNT: a helpful exegesis of the Greek text

**Luke**

1		R. H. Stein, NAC: a lucid and clear commentary for pastors and scholars.
2	*	D. Bock, BECNT, 2 vols.: a massive commentary that is very helpful for pastors
3	*	I. H. Marshall, NIGTC: a careful treatment of the Greek text by a well-known evangelical
4		L. Johnson: SP: a clear exposition by a Roman Catholics scholar.
5	*	J. Nolland, WBC, 3 vols.: a massive Greek text exposition for those engaged in technical research

6		J. Fitzmyer, AB, 2 vols.: a careful exegesis that is invaluable for interpreting Luke
7		J. Green, NICNT: a useful exposition
<b>John</b>		
1		D. A. Carson, PNTC: the first choice for pastors, exegetically and theologically rich
2	*	G. R. Beasley-Murray, WBC: a fine treatment of the Greek text
3		C. K. Barrett: an excellent exposition by a famous British scholar
4		R. E. Brown, AB, 2 vols.: a careful exposition by the renowned Roman Catholic scholar
5		L. Morris, NICNT: a thorough and reverent exposition of the English text by a well-known evangelical.
6	*	A. Köstenberger: an excellent work on the Greek text
7		H. N. Ridderbos: theologically insightful
8		C. Kruse: TNTC: a solid exposition for pastors
<b>Acts</b>		
1		J. Polhill, NAC: an invaluable and clear exposition for pastors and scholars
2		F. F. Bruce, NICNT: a lucid commentary by a famous NT scholar
3		R. Longenecker, EBC: a helpful and brief exposition for the busy pastor
4	*	C. K. Barrett, ICC, 2 vols.: a technical commentary for research purposes
5		I. Howard Marshall, TNTC: a brief exposition for the pastors and scholars.
6		A. Fernando, NIVAC: a clear exposition with helpful application to today's world
7		J. Fitzmyer, AB: a concise and clear commentary from a well-known scholar
8	*	D. Bock: BECNT: an excellent and clear commentary
9		D. Peterson, PNTC: an outstanding commentary for pastors and teachers
<b>Romans</b>		
1		D. Moo, NICNT: a careful and theologically astute exposition
2	*	J. D. G. Dunn, WBC, 2 vols.: a commentary from an exponent of "the new perspective" on Paul
3		J. A. Fitzmyer, AB: a brief commentary, including interaction with the church fathers, by a famous Roman Catholic scholar
4	*	T. R. Schreiner, BECNT: one of my favorite commentaries
5	*	C. E. B. Cranfield, ICC, 2 vols. : a technical but outstanding commentary on Romans, with rich theological insights
6		J. Murray, NICNT: Murray's commentary is still worth reading today, especially for its theological depth
7		P. Stuhlmacher: a helpful brief exposition of Romans from a famous German NT scholar
8		J. Stott: a meaty exposition with application to today from a famous preacher
<b>1 Corinthians</b>		
1		G. Fee, NICNT: an outstanding exposition of the letter with attention paid to its relevance for today
2		C. K. Barrett, HNTC: a brief but helpful exposition
3	*	H. Conzelmann, HERM: helpful especially in terms of background
4	*	A. Thiselton, NIGTC: a massive and technical commentary for research purposes
5		C. Blomberg, NIVAC: a helpful exposition that applies 1 Cor to today
6		B. Witherington: a social scientific and rhetorical commentary
7	*	D. Garland, BECNT: a solid exposition of the Greek text
8		R. Hays: Int: a fine brief exposition
<b>2 Corinthians</b>		
1		S. Hafemann, NIVAC: exegetically and theologically satisfying with application to today

2	*	R. P. Martin, WBC: a technical but clear exposition of the letter
3		V. Furnish, AB: an insightful interpretation of the letter.
4	*	M. Thrall, ICC, 2 vols.: a technical commentary for research purposes
5		C. K. Barrett, Harper or BNTC: a brief but insightful exposition
6	*	M. J. Harris, NIGTC: a technical but excellent commentary on the Greek text
7		P. Barnett, NICNT: a useful exposition of the letter
8		P. Hughes, NICNT: this older version of the NICNT is still helpful and insightful
9		D. Garland, NAC: an excellent and lucid commentary on the text
<b>Galatians</b>		
1		T. George, NAC: an excellent theological exposition, with a focus on the history of interpretation
2		J. D. G. Dunn, BNTC: an interesting exposition from an advocate of "the new perspective"
3		R. Fung, NICNT: a brief and helpful exposition for pastors
4	*	F. F. Bruce, NIGTC: a technical but meaty exposition from a famous scholar
5	*	R. Longenecker, WBC: the most helpful Greek commentary on Galatians
6		J. L. Martyn, AB: a massive study from a scholar who interprets Galatians from the perspective of "apocalyptic"
7	*	H. D. Betz, HERM: a technical but learned commentary
8		G. Fee, PC: a fresh and clear exposition
9	*	T. R. Schreiner, ZEC: another family favorite (forthcoming)
<b>Ephesians</b>		
1		P. O'Brien, PNTC: the best volume on Ephesians—lucid exegesis, solid theology, and defends Pauline authorship
2		F. F. Bruce, NICNT, Colossians & Philemon in same volume: a clear exegesis of these letters
3	*	A. Lincoln, WBC: an excellent technical commentary, though he rejects Pauline authorship.
4		M. Barth, AB, 2 vols.: a massive commentary that is more of a Pauline theology than a commentary, but there is good material if you dip in here and there
5	*	E. Best, ICC: a technical commentary that should be consulted, though he rejects Pauline authorship
6	*	H. Hoehner: a massive and technical commentary that defends Pauline authorship
<b>Philippians</b>		
1	*	M. Silva, BECNT: an insightful brief exposition
2	*	P. O'Brien, NIGTC: a technical but enormously useful commentary
3		G. Fee, NICNT: a clear and excellent commentary from this well-known scholar
4	*	G. Hawthorne, rev. by R. P. Martin, WBC: helpful Greek exegesis
5		F. Thielman, NIVAC: an outstanding exposition for pastors
6		M. Bockmuehl (BNTC): a helpful exposition
<b>Colossians &amp; Philemon</b>		
1	*	P. O'Brien, WBC: an outstanding exposition of the Greek text
2	*	J. D. G. Dunn, NIGTC: a technical but very helpful interpretation of the letter
3		N. T. Wright, TNTC: a brief and insightful commentary from a famous British scholar
4	*	M. J. Harris, EGGNT: a commentary to help students with the Greek text
5	*	E. Lohse, HERM: a technical commentary from a German NT scholar
6		D. Garland, NIVAC: an excellent exposition for pastors
7		D. Moo, PNTC: an outstanding exposition for pastors
8		M. Barth and H. Blank, AB: a helpful exposition

<b>1 &amp; 2 Thessalonians</b>		
1		I. H. Marshall, NCB: a brief and insightful exposition of the letters
2	*	C. Wanamaker, NIGTC: a technical and helpful exposition
3		E. Best, Harper/BNTC: a thorough investigation of various exegetical options
4	*	F. F. Bruce, WBC: a solid commentary based on the Greek text
5		G. Fee, NICNT: a sparkling and clear exposition of the letters
6		G. Green, PNTC: an useful exposition of the letters
7		G. K. Beale, NTC: the best non-technical commentary for pastors
8		A. Malherbe, AB: a fine commentary by an expert in Hellenistic literature
<b>Pastoral Epistles</b>		
1	*	G. Knight, NIGTC: a technical commentary of the pastorals from a defender of Pauline authorship.
2		G. Fee, NIBC: a brief commentary for the busy pastor.
3		J. N. D. Kelly, BNTC: a bit longer than Fee, with many insights.
4	*	W. Mounce, WBC: a technical and conservative exposition of the pastorals.
5	*	I. H. Marshall, ICC: a massive and technical commentary that is very learned, though he rejects Pauline authorship
6		L. T. Johnson, AB: a helpful commentary from this Roman Catholic scholar who accepts Pauline authorship
7		A. Köstenberger, EBC: a clear exposition of the text
8		P. Towner, NICNT: a useful exposition by a scholar who has devoted his career to the pastorals
<b>Hebrews</b>		
1	*	W. Lane, WBC, 2 vols.: a technical but enormously helpful commentary on Hebrews—the best in my judgment
2		F. F. Bruce, NICNT: a clear exposition of the letter
3	*	P. Ellingworth, NIGTC: technical detail is supplied, but it is hard to see the big picture
4		P. Hughes: a theologically astute exposition
5	*	H. Attridge, HERM: a technical and very helpful exposition of the letter
6		D. A. Hagner, NIBC: a brief and insightful interpretation for the busy pastor
7		G. Guthrie, NIVAC: lucid exposition with application to today's world
8		D. DeSilva, Eerdmans: a social scientific commentary
<b>James</b>		
1	*	P. Davids, NIGTC: a technical but very helpful interpretation of James
2	*	R. Martin, WBC: a technical and clear exposition of the letter
3		S. Laws, Harper: a lucid exegesis of the letter
4		D. Moo, PNTC and TNTC: a careful interpretation with attention to the theology of the letter
5	*	D. McCartney, BECNT: a very fine exposition of the Greek text
6		L. T. Johnson, AB: an insightful commentary from a Roman Catholic scholar
<b>1 Peter</b>		
1		P. Davids, NICNT: a brief but lucid exposition of 1 Peter
2	*	J. R. Michaels, WBC: a technical and interesting interpretation of the letter
3		W. Grudem, TNTC: a helpful brief exposition for busy pastors
4		P. Davids, NICNT: useful exposition of the letter
5	*	P. Achtemeier, HERM: an outstanding technical interpretation of the letter—the best commentary in my judgment
6		L. Goppelt: an insightful and theologically deep commentary
7		J. Elliott, AB: a massive but clear and lucid commentary

8		T. R. Schreiner, NAC: preferred by many in my family
9	*	K. Jobes, BECNT: an exposition of the Greek text
<b>2 Peter/Jude</b>		
1	*	R. Bauckham, WBC: a technical but enormously useful commentary—the best on 2 Peter and Jude
2		J. N. D. Kelly, Harper: a very helpful and clear exposition
3		M. Green, TNTC: a good commentary for the busy pastor
4		D. J. Moo, NIVAC: solid exegesis and theology, with application for today
5		T. R. Schreiner, NAC: another one of my favorites
6		P. Davids, PNTC: exposition of the English text
7	*	G. Green, BECNT: an interpretation of the Greek text
<b>Johannine Epistles</b>		
1	*	S. S. Smalley, WBC: an insightful exposition of the Greek text
2		R. E. Brown, AB: a massive commentary by a famous Roman Catholic scholar—for technical research
3		I. H. Marshall, NICNT: a clear and brief exposition for the busy pastor
4		J. Stott, TNTC: reliable as always and accessible to the busy pastor
5		C. Kruse, PNTC: a very helpful exposition of the letters
6	*	R. Yarbrough: a very fine exposition of the Greek text
<b>Revelation</b>		
1		R. Mounce, NICNT: an excellent and lucid interpretation of the book
2	*	G. Beale, NIGTC: a massive and learned commentary from an amillennial perspective
3		S. Smalley, Eerdmans: a helpful English commentary
4		G. Ladd, Eerdmans: a lucid interpretation from the historical premillennial viewpoint.
5		G. B. Caird, Harper: a provocative and helpful interpretation
6	*	D. Aune, WBC, 3 vols.: excellent on background, but lacking theologically
7		D. Johnson, Presbyterian and Reformed: a helpful and clear exposition for busy pastors from an amillennial perspective
8		R. Thomas, WEC, 2 vols.: a thorough commentary from the dispensational premillennial viewpoint
9	*	G. Osborne, BECNT: a clear exposition from the premillennial perspective

The following text may be helpful to you as well in choosing a commentary:

D.A. Carson, *New Testament Commentary Survey*, 6th ed. (Baker, 2007)