BIBLICAL TEXTS – ORIGINAL LANGUAGES


The Hebrew text of the OT with each word or phrase translated into English immediately below the Hebrew. Those with a sufficient knowledge of Hebrew should use the standard critical text of the OT, *Biblia hebraica stuttgartensia* (St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – BS 715 1997).

**A Hebrew English Bible.** [Available online: http://www.mechon-mamre.org/p/pt/pt0.htm]

Parallel texts of the Hebrew text of the OT and the 1917 Jewish Publication Society English translation. Appropriate for quick reference, but not for scholarly use.


A verse-by-verse guide providing a translation and grammatical analysis of every word in the OT.


The Greek text of the NT with each word or phrase translated into English immediately below the Greek. Those with a sufficient knowledge of Greek should use the standard critical text of the NT, *Greek New Testament* (St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – BS 1965 1994).


Links to various online versions of the Greek NT.

Illustration in title box: Michelangelo Buonarotti, *The Creation of Adam* (1510), Sistine Chapel, Vatican City.
**BIBLICAL TEXTS – ENGLISH-LANGUAGE TRANSLATIONS**

*The New Oxford Annotated Bible with the Apocrypha (Revised Standard Version).*  

The Revised Standard Version (RSV) is an English-language text appropriate for critical Bible study by both Catholics and Protestants. The New Oxford edition is renowned for its annotations.

*The New Oxford Annotated Bible with the Apocrypha (New Revised Standard Version).*  

The New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) is a more recent translation which uses some gender-inclusive language. The New Oxford edition is renowned for its annotations.

*Bible Gateway.*  
[Available online: http://www.biblegateway.com]

Searchable texts of many Bible translations (Revised Standard, New Revised Standard, and other English versions as well as German, Swedish, Latin, French, Spanish, and Tagalog translations).

**SYNOPSISES**

A synopsis compares similar texts by printing them in columns side by side allowing the student to see what passages in one text have parallels in another. For example, one can compare the account of a story in the Gospel of Matthew with the account of the same story in the Gospel of Mark.

[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – BS 2560 .A58 1982]

Uses the English text of the Revised Standard Version. A critical apparatus shows variant translations in other major English versions.

[PIMS Library – BS2555.52 .G667 2014]

A synopsis using the Greek text.

[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – BS 2560 .S93 1982]

Based upon the Griesbach Two-Gospel Hypothesis that Matthew was the first gospel written, and that Mark is based on Matthew and Luke.
[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – BS 2560 .T48 1992]

Uses the English text of the New Revised Standard Version. Also includes parallels from the Gospel of Thomas and other apocryphal and patristic works.

[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – BS 2560.F84 1985]

Uses each gospel in turn as its primary text. Includes parallels from the Gospel of Thomas and other apocryphal works.

[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – BS 2643.F7 1992]

An English translation of each of the Pauline epistles showing parallel passages from the other Pauline epistles.

**CONCORDANCES**

A biblical concordance is an alphabetical list of all the words in the Bible. It can be used to locate a known biblical passage or to learn how a particular word is used in the Scriptures. Each Bible version or translation has its own concordance. If you are using the RSV translation then you should use a concordance to the RSV; if you are using the NRSV translation then you should use a concordance to the NRSV. Some concordances also show what Hebrew or Greek word is used in the original text.

[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – BS 425.W48 1988]

[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – BS 425.K645 1991]

[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – BS 421.M3]

The standard scholarly concordance to the Hebrew and Aramaic text of the OT.

[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – BS 2301.K65 1987]

A slightly abridged edition of the most important concordance to the Greek NT (the *Vollstaendige Konkordanz*). With the exception of 29 very common words, it lists all Greek words in their context, supplying variants from the most important modern critical editions.

**Synoptic Concordance.** Berlin: Walter de Gruyter, 1999. 4 volumes. 
[St. Michael's 3rd Floor – BS 2555.5.H64 1999]

A Greek concordance to the first three gospels in synoptic arrangement.
MULTI-VOLUME BIBLE ENCYCLOPEDIAS

Each of these works includes articles about Biblical persons, places, events, concepts, and institutions. The articles are normally longer than those found in Bible dictionaries and usually include bibliographies.

**Oxford Biblical Studies Online.** Includes the Oxford Encyclopedias of the Bible, as well as other dictionaries.

[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – BS 440 .N443 2006]

The standard scholarly bible encyclopedia from a moderate to liberal perspective.

[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – BS 440 .A54 1992]

The standard bible encyclopedia until publication of The New Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible.

[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – BS 440 .I6 1979]

Written from an evangelical perspective.

BIBLE DICTIONARIES

Each of these works includes articles about Biblical persons, places, events, concepts, and institutions. The articles are normally brief; they note the most relevant Scriptural passages, but usually do not include any bibliographies.

[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – BS 440 .H235 2011]

[St. Michael’s 1st Floor Reference Area – BS 440 .E44 2000]

[St. Michael's – BS440 .H23 2009] (Catholic)


[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – BS 440 .M434 1993]
**DICTIONARIES OF SPECIFIC PARTS OF THE BIBLE**

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<tr>
<td>Dictionary of the Old Testament - Prophets.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dictionary of Jesus and the Gospels.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dictionary of Paul and His Letters.</td>
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**DICTIONARIES OF BIBLICAL CRITICISM**

These works deal not with the content of the Bible but with critical methods of interpretation. Each includes articles which define these methods and articles on important biblical scholars.

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**THEOLOGICAL WORD DICTIONARIES – HEBREW**

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<th>Title</th>
<th>Editor/Author(s)</th>
<th>Publisher/Location</th>
<th>Reference Area</th>
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"Brown, Driver, Briggs" provides brief English definitions for Hebrew words and cites the major places in Scripture where a particular word is used. Use another work for more detailed word studies.

In-depth discussions of the key Hebrew and Aramaic words of the OT. Each article includes an examination of the secular use of a term and an extensive examination of its theological significance.

Similar to the Theological Dictionary of the Old Testament (above), but written from a more evangelical perspective.

Articles on 330 Hebrew words.

Articles on 1400 Hebrew words, stressing their theological, not linguistic, understanding.
THEOLOGICAL WORD DICTIONARIES – GREEK


"Bauer-Arndt-Gingrich" is the standard one-volume lexicon to NT Greek; it is most useful for quick reference. It gives the history of a Greek word, indicating its use in classical and Hellenistic Greek literature, the Septuagint (the Greek version of the OT), and later Greek, as well as the NT occurrences themselves. Another work should be used for more detailed word studies.


"Kittel" is the standard work for biblical-Greek word studies. More than 2300 theologically significant NT words are examined. Each article includes a discussion of the etymology of the word, its usage in classical and Hellenistic Greek, in the Septuagint, and in the NT. When a word has a Hebrew parallel in the OT, a brief treatment of the Hebrew word is given.


Page or more length articles on each of the major theological terms of the NT. Each articles shows how the term and other related words are used in classical and secular Greek, the OT, the Dead Sea Scrolls, Rabbinic writings, and the NT. This work does not assume any knowledge of Hebrew or Greek. It is arranged in alphabetical order by the English (not Greek) word, and all Hebrew and Greek words are transliterated.


Includes many words not treated in Kittel (above).


Multi-page length articles examining the theological meaning of significant NT words. Arranged in alphabetical order by the Greek word, but with all Greek words transliterated. Extensive bibliographic footnotes.
### THEOLOGICAL WORD DICTIONARIES – GENERAL

The articles in each of these works emphasise the *theological* aspects of a word rather than the etymological or semantic aspects. All three of these works were edited by Catholics and therefore consider how a particular word has been interpreted by the Church.

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### COMMENTARIES ON THE WHOLE BIBLE

Among the standard Catholic biblical commentaries are the following:

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Among the standard mainline Protestant biblical commentaries are the following:

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COMMENTARIES ON SPECIFIC BIBLICAL BOOKS

A commentary on a specific book of the Bible goes through that book and comments on each chapter and each verse in order. The vast majority of the Library's commentaries are shelved on the Third Floor and can be taken out. Using the library online catalogue, do a "Browse Search" by Subject as follows:

*bible <name of book> commentaries*

E.g.:  *bible amos commentaries*        OR *bible matthew commentaries*

The following two works list the major commentaries on specific books of the Bible, clearly stating the particular perspective of individual commentaries. In both cases, the writer of the commentary survey comes from an evangelical perspective.

**Old Testament Commentary Survey.**
[St. Michael’s 1st Floor Reference Area – BS 1151.52 .L66 2013]

**New Testament Commentary Survey.**
[St. Michael’s 1st Floor Reference Area – BS 2341.2 .C37 2013]

ATLASES

In addition to maps of the Biblical world at particular points in history, Bible atlases often include essays on the history and geography of the Biblical world, chronological charts, and other illustrations.

**Atlas of the Biblical World.**
[Available online for UofT use: http://www.library.utoronto.ca]

**Oxford Bible Atlas.**
[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – BS 630 .O96 2007]

[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – BS 630 .R6 1985]

STYLE GUIDE

[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – PN 147 .S26 2014]

A style guide specially designed for biblical studies and related disciplines. Includes sections on general formatting of a paper, bibliographical citation, transliterating, indexes, and abbreviations.
FINDING MORE RESOURCES

Resource Pages for Biblical Studies. [http://www.torreys.org/bible/]

Huge well-organized collection of links to biblical and other ancient texts, biblical studies electronic journals, bibliographies and other research, bible-related software and more.

[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – BS 511.2 .D355 2003]

A guide showing how a student would use different biblical texts and versions, lexica, grammars, concordances, dictionaries, commentaries, and bibliographies.

[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – BS 511.2 .F57 1990]

An annotated list of over 700 of the most important biblical texts and versions, lexica, grammars, concordances, dictionaries, commentaries, and bibliographies. Very useful for the graduate student who wishes to become familiar with the reference literature.

FINDING JOURNAL ARTICLES

Old Testament Abstracts. (1979 – present) Online UofT


Old Testament Abstracts and New Testament Abstracts are the major English-language indexes to journal articles and books on Biblical topics. Each lists far more items than the ATLA Religion Database. OTA and NTA include paragraph-length summaries of the journal articles and books they index.

Atla Religion Database with AtlaSerials. (1949 – present) Online UofT

Over one million bibliographic citations to journal articles, essays in books, and book reviews in the field of religion. Includes all the post-1980 content of the Catholic Periodical and Literature Index. Includes a “Scripture Reference” search which enables one to look for materials on a particular scriptural passage.

[St. Michael's 1st Floor Reference Area – BS 410 .E4]

The most complete index of journal articles and books on Biblical topics. Items are listed in broad subject categories, with author and scripture passage indexes. There are no summaries. Publication of each annual volume is usually delayed by several years; the most recent volume is for 2008. Before 1968 this index was part of the journal Biblica.
USE OF THE BIBLE IN THE CHURCH


This 33 volume set provides English translations of biblical commentaries written by the Fathers of the Church from the second to the eighth century.

To see how particular passages of Scripture have been interpreted by the Fathers or used in the major doctrinal or spiritual writings of the Catholic Church, look in the Scripture Index at the back of the following volumes:


This work is an index to all the passages in the writings of the Fathers where they quote from Scripture. Even for those with a knowledge of Greek and Latin, it is a difficult work to use.


Aquinas’ compilation of patristic exegesis on the gospels. A verse or short passage of scripture is presented, followed by excerpts from the writings of the Fathers.


The bibliographies list which Fathers wrote about which books of the Bible.

This research guide is maintained by Noel S. McFerran (noel.mcferran@utoronto.ca). It was last updated May 2020. The most recent version can be found online: http://guides.library.utoronto.ca/kellybible