BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS BY CATEGORY
DOUGLAS JACOBY, 23 NOVEMBER 2018

Note: Further titles are added to this document on a regular basis.

Bibles

Bible Study
- Commentaries
- New Testament
- Old Testament
- Bible Study Tools

Biblical Languages & Translation

Christian Students
- Newly converted
- All disciples
- Mature believers
- High School students
- Campus Leaders

Church History and Doctrine
- Early Christianity
- Protestantism
- Restoration Movement

Counseling & Psychology

Evidences
- Creation & Evolution
- Debate Series
- Helpful Websites for Christian Evidences

Leadership / Church Building

Marriage, Parenting, Family, Dating & Singleness
- Blended Families
- Websites for Parents and Teachers

Preaching & Teaching

Publishing a Book

Religion and Culture in the Broader Biblical World

Spiritual Life
- Evangelism
- Wealth, Possessions, & Poverty

Theology
- Baptism
- Holy Spirit / Miracles
- Pacifism / Non-resistance

World Religions / Worldviews

Worship

Miscellaneous

Other Materials
- Audio Series
- DVDs
- USB Drives

Must-read items are colored blue.

BIBLES

English Standard Version


Holman Christian Standard Bible

Koester, Craig. The Apocrypha (24 audio lectures and book), in The Great Courses (The Teaching Company)


New American Standard Bible

BIBLE STUDY

Commentaries

www.bestcommentaries.com


Barclay, William. The Daily Study Bible Series (Old Testament). Very readable. The N.T. series is interesting, though Barclay tends to explain away the miraculous, and there are many digressions from the text.


New Testament


Gundry, Robert. *A Survey of the New Testament*


*Word Biblical Commentary*. Assumes familiarity with the original Greek. Excellent.

**Hebrews**


**Old Testament**


Koterski, Joseph. *Biblical Wisdom Literature* (36 audio lectures and book), in The Great Courses (The Teaching Company)


Levine, Amy-Jill. *The Old Testament* (24 audio lectures and book), in The Great Courses (The Teaching Company)


*Word Biblical Commentary*. Assumes familiarity with the original Hebrew and Aramaic. Excellent.


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**Bible Study Tools**


*BibleWorks 8 on DVD*, Bibleworks, 2009. Note: This is an excellent Bible study suite, although after 26 years, the company is going out of business.

**Building a Bible Study Library**, by Joey Harris (click on the hyperlink)

**Bible Software** (click on the hyperlink)


**BIBLICAL LANGUAGES & TRANSLATION**


Kautzsch, E. *Gesenius’ Hebrew Grammar* (Dover Language Guides), 2006.


**For Christian Students**

**Newly converted**

*Be Still, My Soul: A Practical Guide to a Deeper Relationship With God*, by Sam Laing  
*Basic Christianity*, by John R. W. Stott  
*The Lion Never Sleeps: Preparing Those You Love for Satan’s Attacks*, by Mike Taliaferro  
*A Quick Overview of the Bible: How All the Pieces Fit Together*, by Douglas Jacoby

**For all disciples**

*Caring Beyond the Margins: What Every Christian Needs to Know About Homosexuality*, by Guy Hammond  
*The Disciplined Life: The Mark of Christian Maturity*, by Richard S. Taylor  
*Getting the Most from the Bible: A Guide to In-Depth Study*, by G. Steve Kinnard  
*How to Read a Book: The Classic Guide to Intelligent Reading*, by Mortimer J. Adler and Charles Van Dorn  
*Humility: The Beauty of Holiness*, by Andrew Murray  
*The Lion Handbook to the Bible*  
*The Prideful Soul’s Guide to Humility*, by Thomas A. Jones and Michael Fontenot  
*Romans: The Heart Set Free*, by Gordon Ferguson  
*The Screwtape Letters*, by C.S. Lewis  
*Set Apart: Calling a Worldly Church to a Godly Life*, by R. Kent Hughes  
*Till the Nets Are Full: An Evangelism Handbook*, by Douglas Jacoby  
*Spiritual Leadership: A Commitment to Excellence for Every Believer*, by J. Oswald Sanders  
*Strong in the Grace: Reclaiming the Heart of the Gospel*, by Thomas A. Jones  
*Will the Real Heretics Please Stand Up: A New Look at Today’s Evangelical Church in the Light of Early Christianity*, by David W. Bercot  
*Your Bible Questions Answered*, by Douglas Jacoby

**For mature believers**

*Compelling Evidence*, by Douglas Jacoby  
*The Imitation of Christ*, by Thomas à Kempis
The Pilgrim’s Progress, by John Bunyan
Serious Call to a Devout and Holy Life, by William Law

**High school students**

*Getting Into College*, by Rachel Korn and Jennifer Y. Kabat, eds.
Making the Most of College: Students Speak Their Minds, by Richard J. Light
Preparing for College: Practical Advice for Students and their Families, by John F. Reardon
*The Six Most Important Decisions You’ll Ever Make: A Guide for Teens*, by Sean Covey

**Campus leaders**

*Biblical Preaching: The Development and Delivery of Expository Messages*, by Haddon Robinson
*Boundaries: When to Say Yes, How to Say No, to Take Control of your Life*, by Henry Cloud and John Townsend
*The Emotionally Healthy Church*, by Peter Scazzero
*Dynamic Leadership: Principles, Roles, and Relationships for a Life-Changing Church*, by Gordon Ferguson
*Friend or Foe?* (video), by Douglas Jacoby
*Golden Rule Leadership*, by Gordon Ferguson and Wyndham Shaw
*How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth*, by Gordon Fee and Douglas Stuart
*Prepared to Answer: Restoring Truth in an Age of Relativism*, by Gordon Ferguson
*The Spirit: Presence, Power, Sense, Nonsense*, by Douglas Jacoby

**CHURCH HISTORY & DOCTRINE**

Brakke, David. *Gnosticism* (24 audio lectures and book), in The Great Courses (The Teaching Company)
Cary, Phillip. *Augustine: Philosopher and Saint* (12 audio lectures and book), in The Great Courses (The Teaching Company)

Daileader, Philip. *How the Crusades Changed History* (24 audio lectures and book), in The Great Courses (The Teaching Company)


Markos, Louis. *The Life and World of C. S. Lewis* (12 audio lectures and book), in The Great Courses (The Teaching Company)


*Early Church*


_____.* Will the Real Heretics Please Stand Up?* Scroll, 1994.


**Protestantism**


**Restoration Movement**


**COUNSELING & PSYCHOLOGY**


Hammond, Guy. Caring Beyond the Margins (What Every Christian Needs to Know About Homosexuality).


_____ *The Strong and the Weak*, 2013

**EVIDENCES (APOLOGETICS)**


Copan, Paul. *Is Everything Really Relative?*


Campus Core: How to Have an Impact on Your Campus, Get Good Grades, and Figure Out Your Future. Spring, Texas: Illumination Publishers, 2018.


Does God Exist? (DVD) Debate with Michael Shermer. (Many other debates are also accessible.)

_____. From Facts to Faith II. Spring, Texas: IPI, 2011.
_____. How the Bible Came to Be (5 podcasts), at www.douglasjacoby.com. 2015.

McDowell, Josh. More than a Carpenter.


Creation & Evolution


Falk, Darrel R. Coming to Peace with Science: Bridging the Worlds Between Faith and Biology.


Gonzalez, Guillermo and Jay Richards. *The Privileged Planet: How Our Place in the Cosmos is Designed for Discovery*. 


_____. Lessons on evolution at www.douglasjacoby.com


**Debate series**


Evolution & Creation - 2nd debate with Michael Shermer at the U. of Florida (2009)


Jesus: Man, Myth, or Messiah? (2010) - debate with Robert Price at Houston Baptist University
Jesus Christ: Apocalyptic Messiah or Failed Prophet? – debate with Richard Carrier in Sacramento
Violence, the Bible & the Qur'an - debate with Sheikh Shabir Ally in Toronto (2017)

Helpful Websites for Christian Evidences
Alister E. McGrath—users.ox.ac.uk/~mcgrath
American Scientific Affiliation—www.asa3.org
Ben Witherington—www.benwitherington.com and benwitherington.blogspot.com
Bethinking.org Engage with Culture (UCCF: The Christian Unions) —www.bethinking.org
Beyond the Firmament – Understanding Science and the Theology of Creation (Gordon Glover) —
www.blog.beyondthefirmament.com/welcome/
Bible.org—bible.org
Bible Gateway: A Searchable online Bible in over 100 versions and 50 languages—http://www.biblegateway.com
Bible Contradictions—www.kingdavid8.com/Contradictions/Home.html
The BioLogos Foundation (Francis Collins) —www.biologos.org
Christian Classics Ethereal Library—ccel.wheaton.edu/
Craig Evans—www.craigaevans.com
Dean Overman—www.deanoverman.com
Denis Lamoureux—www.ualberta.ca/~dlamoure/index.htm
Dr. Gary R. Habermas: Online Resources for the Resurrection of Jesus Christ—www.garyhabermas.com
Evidence for Christianity (Teaching Ministry of John Oakes) —www.evidenceforChristianity.org
Interpreting Ancient Manuscripts —www.stg.brown.edu/projects/mss/overview.html
John Lennox —John Lennox.org
John Polkinghorne—www.polkinghorne.net
Greg Koukl: STR.org
Larry Hurtado — Devotion to Jesus Course Web site—www.wesleyministrynetwork.com/DJ/Texts.html
N.T. Wright—www.ntwrightpage.com
J. Warner Wallace — ColdCaseChristianity.com
Offline Resources —www.megabaud.fi/~osmosa/index.htm
Outside the Box Blog: Cliff Martin —cliff-martin.blogspot.com
Paul Copan: Paul Copan.com
Putting Jesus in His Place—www.deityofchrist.com
Random Designer (Richard Colling) —www.randomdesigner.com
LEADERSHIP / CHURCH BUILDING


*Covey, Stephen R. The Speed of Trust: the One Thing that Changes Everything*

Davis, F. Barton, *Closer Than a Brother: Unlocking the One Another Way*


Friedman, Edwin. *A Failure of Nerve: Leadership in the Age of the Quick Fix*


MARRIAGE, PARENTING, FAMILY, DATING, & SINGleness


_____., *Boundaries in Marriage*.


Harley, Willard F. *His Needs, Her Needs*.


**Instone-Brewer, David.** *Divorce and Remarriage in the Church: Biblical Solutions for Pastoral Realities*, 2006.


**Blended families**


**Useful Websites for Parents and Teachers**

http://www.whatchristianswanttoknow.com/christian-advice-for-blended-families-7-helpful-tips/

https://www.gotquestions.org/blended-families.html

http://www.whatchristianswanttoknow.com/does-the-bible-discuss-blended-families-a-christian-study/


https://www.2equal1.com/advice/biblical-foundations-for-blended-families/

http://www.aacc.net
Website of the American Association of Christian Counselors. Applications of biblical counseling principles to family relationships.

http://www.barna.org
Homepage for The Barna Group. Well thought through and factually substantiated resources relating to families and much more.

http://www.family.org
While you and I may not agree with everything James Dobson teaches, most of our readers will agree with most of it. His website is the official site of Focus on the Family.

http://familydoctor.org
From the American Academy of Family Physicians, this site offers health information for the whole family.

www.familydynamics.org
The website of the Family Dynamics Institute. Changes in the marriage inevitably lead to changes in family dynamics; everyone wins.

http://www.familylife.com
Family Life contains a wide array of material on marriage, parenting, singles, and life issues.

http://www.familyvillage.wisc.edu/index.htmlx
This is the site of Family Village, which provides information for those parenting children with special needs.
Morality in Media, Inc. is a nonprofit organization that works through constitutional means to curb illegal traffic in obscenity and uphold standards of decency in media.

This is the Ohio State University Extension Fact Sheet (Family and Consumer Sciences) on Quality Family Time, HYG-5285-95, by Treva Williams.

A helpful website for reviewing movies and music, new or old. Categories rated include alcohol/drugs, blood/gore, disrespect/bad attitude, frightening/tense scenes, guns/weapons, music, profanity, sex/nudity, smoking, and violence.

Susquehanna Valley Parent Magazine. Excellent site, covering every aspect of childhood and parenting.

One of the most extensive sources on the web for parents, teachers, and anyone involved with character education for children.

**PREACHING & TEACHING**


**PUBLISHING A BOOK**


RELIGION AND CULTURE IN THE BROADER BIBLICAL WORLD
Brier, Bob. The History of Ancient Egypt (48 audio lectures and book), in The Great Courses (The Teaching Company)
Gafni, Isaiah. The Beginnings of Judaism (24 audio lectures and book), in The Great Courses (The Teaching Company)
Holland, Glenn. Religion in the Ancient Mediterranean World (48 audio lectures and book), in The Great Courses (The Teaching Company)

SPIRITUAL LIFE
Augustine, The Confessions
Kelly, Thomas. A Testament of Devotion
Taliaferro, Mike. The Killer Within. DPI, 1997.

Evangelism
Jacob, Douglas. Campus Core: How to Have an Impact on Your Campus, Get Good Grades, and Figure Our Your Future. Spring, Texas: Illumination Publishers, 2018.
Wealth, Possessions, & Poverty


______. *The Scandal of the Evangelical Conscience: Why are Christians living just like the rest of the world?* Grand Rapids: Baker Publishing Group, 2005.


THEOLOGY


Dodd, Brian J. *The Problem with Paul*, 1996.


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_____.
Troubling Questions for Calvinists.

Baptism
_____.
Enter the Water, Come to the Table: Baptism and the Lord’s Supper in Scripture’s Story of New Creation. Abilene, TX: Abilene University Press, 2014.

Holy Spirit / Miracles


**Pacifism / Non-Resistance**


**Women**


**WORLD RELIGIONS / WORLDVIEWS**

Al Ghazoli, Mohammed. *Christ, Muhammad and I*


Brier, Bob. *The History of Ancient Egypt* (48 audio lectures and book), in The Great Courses (The Teaching Company)


Confucius. *The Analects*

Donin, Hayim J., ed. *To Be a Jew: A Guide To Jewish Observance In Contemporary Life (Revised ed.)*


Gardner, Jane F. *Roman Myths (Legendary Past)*

Gearon, Eamonn. *The Islamic Golden Age* (24 audio lectures and book), in *The Great Courses (The Teaching Company)*


Hardy, Grant. *Great Minds of the East* (36 audio lectures and book), in *The Great Courses (The Teaching Company)*

Hart, George. *Aztec and Maya Myths (Legendary Past)*, 1997.


Jacoby, Douglas. 12 podcasts on world religions at https://www.douglasjacoby.com/category/podcasts/various/world-religions/


Masood, Steven. *Into the Light*


Taube, Karl. *Aztec and Maya Myths (Legendary Past)*, 1993.

Taylor, Aaron D. *Alone With a Jihadist: A Biblical Response to Holy War*

Yousef, Mosan Hassan. *Son of Hamas*

WORSHIP

MISCELLANEOUS
Healey, John F. *The Early Alphabet (Reading the Past)*, 1990
Jones, Thomas A. *No One Like Him: Jesus and His Message*. Billerica, MA: DPI, 2002
Shermer, Michael. *Skepticism 101* (24 audio lectures and book), in The Great Courses (The Teaching Company)


**OTHER MATERIALS**

**AUDIO CDs**

1-2 Timothy & Titus: Culture, Conformity, or Conviction (2007)
*Chariots of Fire: The Radical Life of the Prophet Elijah* (2013)
Christianity & the Paranormal (ARS Conference) (2011)
Escape: Addictive Behaviors (2016)
Egypt in the Bible (2008 International Teachers' Seminar)
How We Got the Bible (2005)
The Lion Has Roared: *The Prophet Amos* (2016)
The Lost Books of the Bible (2006)
The Muslim Challenge (2007)
Night of Redemption: A Study of Exodus (2011)
The Problem of Human Suffering (2014)
The Psalms (2005)
Thy Kingdom Come! (2008)
Understanding Islam (2007) (DVD)
What Happens After We Die? (2006)

**DVDs**

Baptism: The Water that Divides (2009)
Early Church History (2008)
Friend or Foe? (2007) (DVD)
Take AIM! (DVD set, 180 hours). Topics:
  • Apologetics
• Christ & Culture
• Church Building (seven 5-hour units)
• Church History
• Family Life
• Holy Spirit
• Homiletics: Preaching & Teaching
• New Testament Interpretation
• New Testament Survey
• NT Interpretation: Hebrews
• Old Testament Interpretation
• Old Testament Survey
• OT Interpretation: Amos
• Sound Doctrine
• Spiritual Life
• World Religions

**USB Drives (available from IPI)**

USB1 – The New Testament (over 70 lessons, including 60 pages of NT Chapter Notes on Revelation + the book *James, Peter, John, Jude: Life to the Full*)

USB2 – Evidences (40 lessons, including the *DVD Science & Faith: Enemies or Allies?* + the book *Jesus & Islam*).

USB3 – The Afterlife (15 hours of audio + the book *What Happens After We Die?*)