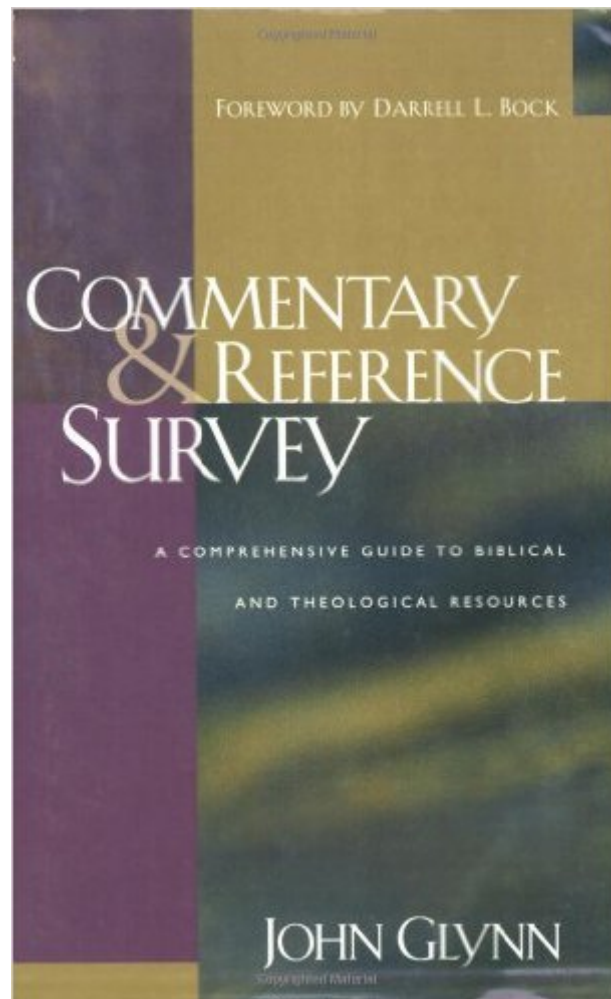


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Commentary And Reference Survey: A Comprehensive Guide To Biblical And Theological Resources



Synopsis

(Foreword by Darrell L. Bock) This reliable guide lists and ranks approximately 800 commentaries and 1,200 volumes related to biblical interpretation, theology, church history, and computer resources.

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Customer Reviews

I must begin by saying that everyone should buy this book as it is only \$14 bucks. If it saves you from buying one commentary then it has paid for itself. Whether or not you ultimately agree with all his recommendations only time will tell, but it is always helpful to have one more voice for advice and a respected one at that. This survey has some strong points and weak points and I will list both. A lot of my comparisons will be made with D.A. Carson's "New Testament Commentary Survey" and Longman's "Old Testament Commentary Survey". Strengths: 1) He has a conservative bias. This is generally listed as a weakness below but for us conservative people this is exactly what we are looking for. It is true that less-conservative commentaries are often helpful and indeed, Glynn recommends some. Nevertheless, it is for this very reason that we are buying this survey, so we can be steered in direction we find orthodox. 2) He lists the author's bias. Glynn lists authors as Evangelical (E), Evangelical yet slightly critical (E/cr), Conservative/Moderate (C/M) or liberal critical (L/cr). This is very helpful when choosing commentaries and is not listed in either Carson's or Longman's commentaries. True, it is often spelled out in their descriptions but not always(!) 3) He covers both the new and old testament, as well as a whole host of other fields such as systematic

theology, end times, church history, NT/OT/Biblical theology; all of which we may also seek recommendations.⁴) He gives some information on future volumes which is often interesting.⁵) He often gives a one liner that may help categorize the position on controversial subjects (for example, post-trib: Revelation, complementarian: Pastorals, charismatic: 1 Corinthians, etc.

This book is a money saver! I hate buying a book, only to find out that it is not worth the paper it is printed on. What a waste of money!! Glynn's book prevents me from making these ill-advised purchases. However, the biggest problem with a book of this type is that it becomes obsolete as soon as it is published. The publisher needs to arrange for quarterly online updates for all who have purchased the book. Otherwise, this is a very helpful survey, in that it tells you the theological bent of the author by classifying each book in one of the following categories: Evangelical, Evangelical/Critical, Conservative/Moderate, and Liberal/Critical. Glynn defines each of these categories. A previous reviewer criticized Glynn's recommendations as being biased towards conservative commentaries and not recommending any of the Interpretation series in the Old Testament. This is NOT TRUE. Glynn oftentimes recommends a liberal commentary over a conservative one (for example, Houtman on Exodus, Japhet on Chronicles, Fox on Esther, Clines on Job, Clifford on Proverbs, Fox on Proverbs, Seow on Ecclesiastes, etc.). He also recommends a couple of volumes from the Interpretation series; for example, Mays on Psalms and Dobbs-Allsopp on Lamentations. I find that Glynn is even-handed in his recommendations. Sometimes he will recommend a liberal commentary; other times, he will recommend moderate or conservative commentaries. In Glynn's earlier editions of this wonderful guide, he listed the commentaries in order of quality; the best first and the worst last. Now, however, he lists them alphabetically, with the recommended commentaries in bold. The problem is that the reader has no way to know which books "just missed" getting a recommendation.

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