

Reading list to accompany the course “Aspects of Biblical Theology”

Many of the books used as sources for the course are difficult to find, so they are not included in the list. However, the following might well provide an interesting return visit to some of the ground we covered.

The New Jerome Biblical Commentary is nearly 17 years old, but is still, I think, the best single-volume commentary, not only for its treatment of each of the books of the Bible, but for its articles on a range of related subjects – Church pronouncements, Biblical Inspiration, New Testament theology, the history of Israel, and many others:-
Brown, R.E., Fitzmyer, J.A., Murphy, R. E., (editors) The New Jerome Biblical Commentary, Geoffrey Chapman, London, 1997

Commentaries on individual books come in many shapes and sizes – and prices!

Fitzmyer, J. A., The Gospel According to Luke, Volumes I and II, The Anchor Bible, Doubleday, New York, 1983 (Classic work on Luke)

Brown, R.E., The Gospel According to John, Volumes I and II, G. Chapman, London, 1975 (Classic work on John). Also to be mentioned is:

Brown, R.E., An Introduction to The Gospel of John, Anchor Bible Reference Library, Doubleday, New York, 2003 (the Introduction to Brown’s revision of the commentary on John, which we had almost completed when he died in 1998), and:

Brown, R.E., An Introduction to The New Testament, Anchor Bible Reference Library, Doubleday, New York, 1997 (Raymond Brown’s last completed work).

Brown, R.E., The Death of the Messiah, Vols. I and II Anchor Bible Reference Library, Doubleday, New York, 1998 (brilliant study of the four Passion Narratives)

Moloney, F. J., The Gospel of John, Sacra Pagina Series, Vol 4, The Liturgical Press, Minnesota, 1998 (excellent)

Donahue, J. R., and Harrington, D. J., The Gospel of Mark, Sacra Pagina Series, Vol 2, The Liturgical Press, Minnesota, 2002 (useful, but I think, not as good as Moloney on John).

Hooker, M. D, A Commentary on The Gospel According to St. Mark, A & C Black, London, 1991 (excellent, accessible, and inexpensive)

Stanton G. N., The Gospels and Jesus, Oxford University Press, Oxford, 1989 (very useful and readable introduction to the gospels, their origins, and their theologies)

Stanton, G. N., A Gospel for a New People: Studies in Matthew, T & T Clark, Edinburgh, 1992 (a range of articles on aspects of Matthew’s gospel: very good)

Burridge, R. A., Four Gospels, One Jesus? A Symbolic Reading, Revised edition, SPCK, London, 2005 (a very worthwhile book to have, with many insights into the nature of each of the four gospels, which I don’t think are always convincing, but which are still well worth considering. He includes useful information about contemporary Gospel scholarship)

Raymond Brown also wrote 6 short, easily-accessible guides to the lectionary: A Coming Christ in Advent, An Adult Christ at Christmas, A Crucified Christ in Holy Week, A Risen Christ at Easter, A Once-And-Coming Spirit at Pentecost, and Christ in the Gospels of the Ordinary Sundays. These were all published by The Liturgical Press, Minnesota, between 1978-1998.