

RESOURCES FOR DEEPER STUDY

TRUSTED TOOLS | GREATER UNDERSTANDING | A RICHER JOURNEY

*“Study
to show yourself
approved to God, a
workman who does not
need to be ashamed,
rightly handling the
word of truth.”
2 Timothy 2:15*

These are the key resources we use to research, write, and prepare these Bible studies. Each tool serves a unique purpose, helping us understand the biblical text in its original context, explore its meaning, and trace its connections throughout Scripture. This list is not exhaustive, but it represents the most frequently used and trusted resources in our study process.

A. PRIMARY TEXT & TRANSLATION COMPARISON

Multiple translations help us see the text more clearly.

1  **The Holy Bible**
ESV | NASB 2020 | CSB | NKJV | KJV

Our primary source. We consult multiple translations to compare wording, gain clarity, and understand where translation choices reflect nuances in the original languages.

2  **Bible Gateway**
www.biblegateway.com

A powerful tool for reading, comparing translations, exploring cross-references, searching keywords, and accessing study Bibles and devotional resources.

3  **NET Bible & NET Notes**
www.netbible.org

A highly respected translation with extensive translators' notes that explain key textual decisions and provide insight into Hebrew and Greek word meanings and manuscript evidence.

B. HEBREW & GREEK LANGUAGE STUDY

Going behind the English helps us see more of what the text means.

4  **Blue Letter Bible**
www.blueletterbible.org

Interlinear texts, Strong's references, lexicons, parsing tools, and word searches for in-depth study of Hebrew and Greek.

5  **STEP Bible**
Tyndale House, Cambridge

A robust tool for original language study, including vocabulary, grammatical relationships, manuscript information, and word occurrences across Scripture.

6  **Bible Hub**
www.biblehub.com

Interlinear texts, lexicons, concordances, parallel translations, cross-references, and access to a wide range of commentaries and study tools.

7  **Strong's Exhaustive Concordance**

A classic resource for locating every occurrence of a word in the Bible and identifying the underlying Hebrew or Greek terms.

8  **Brown-Driver-Briggs (BDB)**
Hebrew and English Lexicon

The standard lexicon for Old Testament Hebrew, providing word meanings, usage, and semantic range within the biblical context.

9  **Thayer's Greek-English Lexicon**

A trusted resource for New Testament Greek vocabulary, offering detailed word meanings and usage in biblical literature.

C. HISTORICAL, CULTURAL & BIBLICAL BACKGROUND

Understanding their world helps us understand the text.

10  **IVP Bible Background Commentary**
Old Testament & New Testament

Provides rich insight into the ancient world—customs, culture, politics, geography, and historical setting.

11  **Lexham Bible Dictionary**

A comprehensive resource for people, places, events, archaeology, chronology, and key theological concepts in the Bible.

12  **Dictionary of Biblical Imagery & IVP Bible Dictionaries**

Explores the symbols, images, and themes that run throughout Scripture—such as light, water, wilderness, shepherd, temple, bread, and covenant.

D. COMMENTARY & THEOLOGICAL STUDY

Learning from faithful scholars helps us think more deeply.

13  **New International Commentary on the Old & New Testament**
NICOT / NICNT

A respected scholarly series offering detailed exegetical, historical, linguistic, and theological insights for each biblical book.

14  **New American Commentary (NAC)**

Combines evangelical scholarship with practical application, integrating textual study, historical background, and theology.

15  **Tyndale Old & New Testament Commentaries**
TOTC / TNTC

Accessible yet substantive commentaries that help understand each passage within the larger context of the biblical book and its message.

“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.” Psalm 119:105

HOW TO USE THESE RESOURCES

A THOUGHTFUL APPROACH FOR A DEEPER JOURNEY

"Search the Scriptures to see if these things are so."

Acts 17:11



SAME SCRIPTURE.
A DEEPER JOURNEY.

1

SCRIPTURE FIRST



The Bible is our starting point and final authority. We begin by carefully reading the passage in context—asking what it says, what comes before it, what follows it, and how it fits within the larger story of Scripture.

Let God's Word speak for itself.

2

COMPARE THE TEXT



We use multiple Bible translations to see how different renderings highlight nuances in meaning. Translation differences often point to Hebrew or Greek words, idioms, or textual questions worth exploring further.

Different perspectives can illuminate truth.

3

GO BEHIND THE ENGLISH



Using lexicons, interlinear tools, and language resources, we examine key words in their original Hebrew or Greek. We consider their meaning within the sentence, passage, book, and historical context—rather than relying on a single English definition.

A deeper look at the words opens a richer meaning.

4

ENTER THEIR WORLD



Historical and cultural resources help us understand the people, places, customs, political settings, geography, and everyday life of the biblical world. Understanding the original audience helps us see what they would have understood and why it mattered.

Context brings the text to life.

5

LET SCRIPTURE INTERPRET SCRIPTURE



We trace connections throughout the Bible using cross-references, themes, and patterns. A detail in one passage often sheds light on another, revealing the unity, consistency, and bigger story of God's Word.

The whole Bible tells one story.

6

LOOK FOR THE WHOLE STORY



We pay attention to recurring biblical themes—covenant, redemption, exile and return, sacrifice, temple, kingdom, bread, water, wilderness, garments, shepherding, and more—while distinguishing between direct textual connections and possible typological or thematic parallels.

Every passage fits into God's greater plan.

7

CONSULT TRUSTED SCHOLARSHIP



Commentaries and Bible dictionaries help us test our observations, understand different interpretive views, and gain deeper insight from faithful scholars. Where scholars disagree, we seek to understand the major perspectives and return to the biblical text.

Wisdom grows through faithful dialogue.

8

FOLLOW THE THREAD TO CHRIST



Because Scripture tells one unfolding story of redemption, we look for how passages point to Jesus Christ—whether directly, typologically, or thematically—while being careful not to force a Christological reading where the text does not support it.

All of Scripture points to Him.

9

APPLY WITH PURPOSE



These resources are not just for gaining information, but for transformation. We ask, "What does this teach me about God? How should it shape my life? What is my response?" Each study includes application questions to help us live out what we learn.

Deeper understanding leads to a changed life.

10

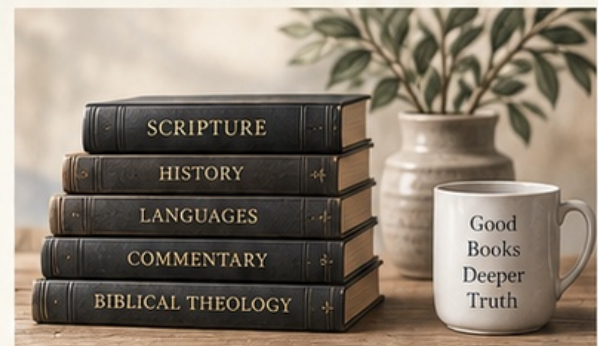


AI-ASSISTED TOOLS & VISUAL DEVELOPMENT

ChatGPT by OpenAI is a supplemental tool in the development of these studies. It assists with organizing research, identifying areas for further investigation, comparing and synthesizing information from reference materials, developing study structure, and creating visual study-guide materials and illustrations.

AI-generated information is not treated as a biblical or scholarly authority. Scripture remains the primary source, and important historical, linguistic, and theological claims are evaluated using established reference works and scholarship. AI-assisted images are created for teaching, illustration, and design purposes and should not be understood as historically exact representations unless specifically identified as such.

Technology can be a tool — Scripture is the foundation.



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