

Bible Study Tools Recommendations

Study Bible - The *Scofield Study Bible* followed by the *Ryrie Study Bible* opened the door for an avalanche of study Bibles today targeting every imaginable audience. When selecting a study Bible try to determine the perspective of the author(s) of the notes. Below are some I find helpful.

Ryrie Study Bible. (available in KJV, NASV, ESV or NIV versions)
NIV Study Bible.

Exhaustive Concordance - The concordance you select should be exhaustive, i.e. include all references to all words. Select one keyed to the translation you use (see below). www.blueletterbible.org has search capabilities which make a concordance obsolete, except when your computer isn't available.

NASV [*NAS Exhaustive Concordance*](#).
NIV [*NIV Exhaustive Concordance*](#).
KJV [*Strong's Exhaustive Concordance / Young's Analytical Concordance*](#).

Bible Dictionary or Encyclopedia - Contains articles on biblical subjects which provide helpful background for answering interpreting questions. An encyclopedia simply is an expanded, multi volume dictionary. Again watch for the author(s) perspective when selecting a dictionary or encyclopedia.

Unger, Harrison, ed. [*New Unger's Bible Dictionary*](#)
Butler, ed. [*Holman Bible Dictionary*](#).
www.biblestudytools.com/dictionaries

Bible Handbook or Bible Introduction - Gives background on each book of the Bible as well a suggested outline and other material. A good study Bible will contain most of this information. A Bible Introduction (usually either Old Testament or New Testament) provides far more information than practical for a study Bible to contain and is a good tool.

Unger. [*New Unger's Bible Handbook*](#)
Archer. [*A Survey of Old Testament Introduction*](#).
Tenney. [*Survey of the New Testament*](#), revised.

Bible Atlas - Most Bibles today contain some maps. An atlas expands this by giving maps that clarify geographical issues for many more of the events of the Bible. A good Bible atlas can yield significant insight.

Beitzel. [*Moody Atlas of Bible Lands*](#).
Brisco. [*Holman Bible Atlas*](#).
www.bibleatlas.org

Commentaries - Usually commentaries are classified as one volume, multi-volume or individual book depending on the scope of material being treated. A one volume commentary is helpful to a beginning Bible student but often is too limited in it's content. Multi volume commentaries provide more discussion but sometimes are better on certain books of the Bible than on others. When studying a particular book of the Bible it is wiser to select a commentary for that book. To aid your selection you should either ask a pastor for a recommendation or look up the key texts and read the sections to see if the level and contents are suitable. Some commentaries are technical, some are devotional and others blend the two.

Walvoord, Zuck, eds. [*Bible Knowledge Commentary of the Old Testament*](#) (Authors are Dallas Seminary Faculty)
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www.biblestudytools.com/commentaries

Bible Software - With the advent of the personal computer Bible software has grown in popularity. You must select software that will run on your computer. Of the packages available for the PC (Windows) the two most used are listed below. Pricing varies with the level of features, number of translations, etc.

www.blueletterbible.org
www.biblestudytools.com
<http://www.laprecept.com/StudyHelps.htm>