



The New Testament: A Student's Introduction, 9th edition

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Changes in the New Edition

Global Changes:

- While the revision of the eighth edition of *The New Testament* focused on thoroughly reorganizing the text, the main thrust of the ninth edition was to incorporate the latest scholarship and make content updates throughout. Virtually every chapter has been modified to reflect current scholarly advances.
- In addition to updates based on scholarly advances, the author also made changes based on data from the SmartBook version of the text (available within McGraw-Hill Education's Connect platform). The author was able to review areas where students struggled with online practice questions and make targeted revisions to those areas to improve clarity.
- Several of the "Key Topics/Themes" chapter introductions have been rewritten to be more vivid and concise.
- Recommended Readings and references have been updated throughout.

Chapter-by-Chapter Changes:

Chapter 2: How the New Testament Was Formed and Handed Down to Us

Discussion of latest publications regarding the New Testament canon, emphasizing the importance of Jewish scholars' contributions. The second, expanded edition of *The Jewish Annotated New Testament* (2017) and a vivid new translation of the Christian Scriptures by David Hart (2017) are among the additions to the Recommended Readings.

Chapter 6: The Gospels: Form and Purpose

Current scholarly analyses of the “Synoptic Problem”—including new theories about the origin of the Gospels—are introduced. The “two-document” (Mark and Q) hypothesis is still held by the majority of scholars, but alternative theories are also examined.

Chapter 7: Mark’s Portrait of Jesus

More extended coverage of Mark’s strangely negative attitude toward Jesus’ family, the original disciples, and the church at Jerusalem. Because Mark favored the Gentile church, is Mark's skeptical attitude toward the Jerusalem church the result of Peter and James (Jesus' "brother") being both observant Jews?

Chapter 8: Matthew’s Portrait of Jesus

Matthew, the most Jewish of the Gospels, regards the disciples as understanding Jesus’ message and generally manifests a better attitude toward Jesus’ original followers. Is Matthew’s more positive outlook a result of his more favorable attitude toward Torah-keeping? A growing number of scholars think so.

Chapter 9: Luke’s Portrait of Jesus

Revised to demonstrate exactly how the author of Luke’s Gospel revises Mark, in certain sections offering a different order of events, particularly in the scene of Jesus’ arrest in Gethsemane.

Chapter 10: John’s Portrait of Jesus

The “Key Themes” section has been rewritten and the absence of a prophecy of Jerusalem’s destruction is now analyzed to show the possibility that the Johannine author thought that the Second Coming (given great weight in the Synoptic Gospels) was a misunderstanding or misconception of Jesus’ words.

Chapter 11: The Continuing Quest for the Historical Jesus

Scholars have devised more relevant criteria to recover the historical Jesus. These are enumerated and explained in this chapter.

Chapter 13: Paul, Apostle to the Nations

Extensive rewriting to incorporate the “new perspective” on Paul, showing that despite being the “apostle to the Gentiles” and justifying a Torah-free gospel for non-Jews, he remained a practicing Jew all his life. Paul’s thought is very complex and, although he advocated a policy of justification by faith for Gentiles, a doctrine of grace, he did not once suggest that Jews abandon their Torah-keeping or their covenant obligations.

Chapter 14: Unity, Freedom, and Christ’s Return

A new Box 14.1 has been added on “Women’s Roles of Leadership in the Church.”

Chapter 15: Freedom from Law and Justification by Faith

The presentation of the letters to the Galatians and to the Romans, which deal with believers’ relation to Mosaic Law, has been extensively modified to include the latest scholarly analyses.

Chapter 16: Letters from Prison

New headings on the role of slavery and the particular case of Onesimus and his owner, Philemon.

Chapter 18: General Letters on Faith and Behavior: Hebrews and the Catholic Epistles

New revisions of James and 2 Peter.

Chapter 19: Continuing the Apocalyptic Hope: The Book of Revelation and Other Jewish/Christian Apocalyptic Works

Revisions and updates in discussions of Revelation and 1 Enoch.

Chapter 20: Beyond the Canon: Other Early Christian Literature

The New Testament Apocrypha updated.