

THE MINISTER'S LIBRARY

Don L. Meredith
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2016/17

BOOK SELECTION HELPS

R.R.016.2/B692/2003. Stewart, David R. *The Literature of Theology: A Guide for Students and Pastors*. Rev. & updated ed. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 2003.

A revision of John Bollier's work published in 1979. An annotated list of over 500 reference works arranged under the following headings: books about the Bible, Bible commentaries, church history, Christian theology, world Christianity & world religions, Christian denominations, practical theology, Christian spirituality, and Christianity & literature. The first chapter is a list of a core collection of 22 books. One of the appendixes is a classified list of "The Literature of Theology on the Web." Contains author and title indexes.

R.R.016.23/T522. Thorsen, Donald A. D. *Theological Resources for Ministry: A Bibliography of Works in Theological Studies*. Nappanee, IN: Evangel Pub. House, 1996.

A list of over 2,000 English language titles for ministers or those preparing for the ministry. Books were chosen because of "their usefulness for theological understanding within the broad context of the faith of the church, their significance in the history of Christian theology, and their evangelical scholarship." Arranged under the following headings: theological reference works, types of theology, notable theologians, doctrines (arranged alphabetically by topic), theological traditions, and contemporary theological issues. Most titles are relatively recent although classic works are also included. Includes author index. Recommended titles are marked with an asterisk.

R.R.016.22/B344. Bauer, David R. *An Annotated Guide to Biblical Resources for Ministry*. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, 2003.

A selective bibliography of approximately 2,200 titles arranged under the following headings: whole Bible, Old Testament, early Judaism, and New Testament. Prepared primarily for the seminary student and minister. Annotations are provided for about 600 that he thinks are the most helpful. Contains lists of commentary recommendations for each biblical book. Includes author index.

R.R.016.22/G568/2007. Glynn, John. *Commentary & Reference Survey: A Comprehensive Guide to Biblical and Theological Resources*. 10th ed. Grand Rapids: Kregel Publications, 2007.

A list of basic resources (about 900 Bible commentaries & 1600 other volumes) arranged under the following subjects: commentaries; O.T. & N.T. introductions, surveys, theologies, and backgrounds; Judaica; Bible dictionaries & encyclopedias; Hebrew & Greek resources; hermeneutics; theology, church history; exegetical and Bible study computer programs; computer resources & Internet Web sites. The emphasis is on commentaries (about 40% of titles listed), which are listed by biblical book in three categories: technical or semitechnical; exposition; & special studies. Each commentary is classified based on the following orientations: evangelical, evangelical/critical, conservative/moderate, or liberal/critical. Highly recommended commentaries are in bold print, and he provides an "Ultimate Commentary Collection" of the best commentaries for each book of the Bible. Chapter one discusses "Building a 'Must-Have' Personal Reference Library."

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Specializes in the Ancient Near East, but also supplies scholarly biblical works from Europe and the U.S. Good discounts on U.S. books; smaller discounts on foreign items. Also maintains a stock of used books. Publishes print catalogs regularly of new books he provides.

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The following are good used book websites: <http://www.abebooks.com>; <http://www.bookfinder.com>; <http://www.alibris.com>)

Christian Book Distributors, P.O. Box 6000, Peabody, MA 01961-6000 (website: <http://www.Christianbook.com>)

CATALOGING AND CLASSIFICATION

Curley, Arthur & Varlejs, Jana. *Aker's Simple Library Cataloging*. 7th ed., completely rev. & rewritten. Metuchen: Scarecrow Press, 1984.

Dewey, Melvil. *Abridged Dewey Decimal Classification*. 15th ed. Dublin, OH: OCLC Online Computer Library Center, 2012.

Dewey, Melvil. *Dewey Decimal Classification: 200 Religion Class*. Dublin, OH: OCLC Online Computer Library Center, 2012.

Sears, Minnie Earl. *Sears List of Subject Headings*. 21st ed. New York: H. W. Wilson, 2014.

McMichael, Betty. *The Church Librarian's Handbook: A Complete Guide for the Library and Resource Center in Christian Education*, 3rd ed. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1998.

LENDING SERVICES FOR MINISTERS

Kesler Library (<http://www.library.vanderbilt.edu/divinity/visitors/kesler/>)

A service of Vanderbilt University Library for any person engaged in ministry in the U.S or Canada without access to theological resources through other means. Provides materials held by the Vanderbilt Divinity library. Limited to four books at one time. The only charge is return postage. Will copy articles and chapters from books at .10 per page. "The intent. . . is to provide materials for continuing education and ministry preparation, not to support academic progress toward a degree." "By agreeing to become a Kesler member, you are affirming that the library's resources will be used primarily to support your ministry, rather than your academic work."