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# Second Corinthians: A Select Bibliography

CARL R. HOLLADAY

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Editors' Note: The following bibliography was presented by Carl Holladay as part of his class on 2 Corinthians at the 2002 Pepperdine Bible Lectures. Items marked with an asterisk are particularly recommended for purchase, especially for church libraries or for preachers and teachers; items marked with two asterisks are suggested for purchase if you can buy only one or two of the recommendations.

## COMMENTARIES ON SECOND CORINTHIANS

- Barnett, P. *The Second Epistle to the Corinthians*. NICNT. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1997.
- \*Barrett, C. K. *A Commentary on the Second Epistle to the Corinthians*. HNTC. New York: Harper & Row, 1973. Excellent exposition using historical critical analysis.
- Bassler, J. M. "2 Corinthians." In *The Women's Bible Commentary*, edited by C. A. Newsom and S. H. Ringe, 330-32. Nashville: Abingdon, 1992.
- Belleville, L. L. *2 Corinthians*. IVP NT Commentary Series 8. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1996. Exposition based on NIV aimed at pastors and teachers, combines exegesis with contemporary stories and illustrations thought to make the text relevant.
- \*Best, E. *Second Corinthians*. IBC. Louisville: J. Knox Press, 1987. Nontechnical, thoughtful exposition for preachers and teachers.
- Betz, H. D. *2 Corinthians 8 and 9: A Commentary on Two Administrative Letters of the Apostle Paul*. Hermeneia. Philadelphia: Fortress, 1985. Comprehensive, technical treatment.
- Bultmann, R. *The Second Letter to the Corinthians*. Trans. R. A. Harrisville from the 1976 German edition. Minneapolis: Augsburg, 1985. Based on Bultmann's lectures on 2 Corinthians ca. 1940-1951. Theological exposition informed by extensive use of comparative material from Jewish and pagan sources.
- Fallon, F. T. *2 Corinthians*. New Testament Message 11. Wilmington: M. Glazier, 1980. Compact expositional summary for the nonspecialist.
- \*\*Furnish, Victor Paul. *II Corinthians*. AB 32A. Garden City: Doubleday, 1984. Masterful, comprehensive treatment of literary, historical, and philological issues, informed by theologically insightful exegesis.
- Héring, Jean. *The Second Epistle of Saint Paul to the Corinthians*. Translated by A. W. Heathcote and P. J. Allcock. London: Epworth, 1967. Brief but good.
- Hughes, P. E. *Paul's Second Epistle to the Corinthians: The English Text with Introduction, Exposition and Notes*. NICNT. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1962. Nontechnical exposition.
- Kistemaker, Simon J. *Exposition of the Second Epistle to the Corinthians*. New Testament Commentary. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1997. Written for pastors and teachers with special attention to practical application.
- \*Martin, Ralph P. *2 Corinthians*. WBC 40. Waco: Word Books, 1986. Sound exegesis informed by broad learning. Deals with technical questions but usable for those without Greek. Especially useful excursuses on various topics.

- Matthews, S. "2 Corinthians." In *Searching the Scriptures: A Feminist Commentary*, edited by E. Schüssler Fiorenza, et al. 196-217. Garden City: Hanover House, 1994.
- Plummer, Alfred. *A Critical and Exegetical Commentary on the Second Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians*. ICC. Edinburgh: T. and T. Clark, 1966 (1915). Technical treatment of philological, literary, and historical issues reflecting early 20th-century scholarship.
- Strachan, R. H. *The Second Epistle of Paul to the Corinthians*. MNTC. London: Hodder and Stoughton, 1954 (1935).
- \*\*Thompson, James. *The Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians*. Austin: R. B. Sweet, 1970.
- Thrall, M. E. *A Critical and Exegetical Commentary on the Second Epistle to the Corinthians*. Vol. 1: 2 Cor 1 7. ICC. Edinburgh: T. and T. Clark, 1994. Treatment of technical questions taking into account 20th-century scholarship on 1 & 2 Corinthians.
- Watson, N. *The Second Epistle to the Corinthians*. *Epworth Commentaries*. London: Epworth Press, 1993. Exposition based on REB for general reader; direct readable style especially beneficial for preachers and teachers.

### 1 & 2 CORINTHIANS

- Baird, William. *1 Corinthians. 2 Corinthians*. Knox Preaching Guides. Atlanta: John Knox Press, 1980. General exposition for homiletical use.
- Bray, Gerald. *1-2 Corinthians*. ACCS 7. Downers Grove: InterVarsity Press, 1999. Exposition using selections from ancient Christian writers through the eighth century.
- Bruce, F. F. *1 and 2 Corinthians*. NCB. London/Grand Rapids: Marshall, Morgan & Scott/Eerdmans, 1971. Learned, compact, clear exposition.
- Martin, Ralph P. *1-2 Corinthians*. Word Biblical Themes. Dallas: Word, 1988. Lucid treatment of major theological themes for pastors, teachers, laypersons.
- Talbert, C. H. *Reading Corinthians: A Literary and Theological Commentary on 1 and 2 Corinthians*. New York: Crossroad, 1987.
- \*Thrall, M. E. *The First and Second Letters of Paul to the Corinthians*. CBC. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1965. Exposition based on NEB aimed at general reader.
- Witherington, B. *Conflict and Community in Corinth: A Socio-Rhetorical Commentary on 1 and 2 Corinthians*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1994.

### BOOKS AND ARTICLES

- Barrett, C. K. *Essays on Paul*. Philadelphia: Westminster, 1982. Seven of the nine essays deal with 1 and 2 Corinthians.
- Hay, David M., ed. *Pauline Theology. Volume II: 1 & 2 Corinthians*. Minneapolis: Fortress, 1993. Papers of the Pauline Theology Group of the Society of Biblical Literature from 1989-1991. Important essays exploring how to get at Paul's theology in the letters, also very useful comprehensive bibliographies of both letters.
- Belleville, L. L. *Reflections of Glory: Paul's Polemical Use of the Moses Doxa Tradition in 2 Corinthians 3.1 18*. Vol. 52, JSNTsup. Sheffield: JSOT Press, 1991.
- Bieringer, R., and J. Lambrecht. *Studies on 2 Corinthians*. BETL 112. Louvain: Leuven University Press/Peeters, 1994. Collection of scholarly essays.
- Crafton, J. A. *The Agency of the Apostle: A Dramatistic Analysis of Paul's Responses to Conflict in 2 Corinthians*, JSNTSup 51. Sheffield: JSOT Press, 1991. Analysis based on Kenneth Burke's rhetorical theory.
- Fitzgerald, J. T. *Cracks in an Earthen Vessel: An Examination of the Catalogues of Hardships in the Corinthian Correspondence*, SBLDS 99. Atlanta: Society of Biblical Literature (Scholars Press), 1988.

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- \*Furnish, V. P. "Corinthians, Second Letter to the." In *DBI* (1999) 1.223-27.
- \*\*Furnish, V. P. *The Theology of the First Letter to the Corinthians*. New Testament Theology. Cambridge/New York: Cambridge University Press, 1999. Excellent treatment of theological aspects of 1 Corinthians building on Furnish's extensive scholarship on Paul and the Corinthian correspondence.
- Georgi, D. *The Opponents of Paul in Second Corinthians*. Translation of 1964 German edition. Philadelphia: Fortress, 1986. Highly influential study proposing imaginative reconstruction of the opponents' self-understanding and their understanding of traditions about Moses and Jesus. Especially valuable treatment of religious propaganda in Greco-Roman world. The English edition contains 100+ pages epilogue updating the debate.
- Georgi, D. *Remembering the Poor: The History of Paul's Collection for Jerusalem*. Nashville: Abingdon, 1992. Translation of 1965 German edition, expanded. Pioneering scholarly treatment of the collection.
- Harvey, A. E. *Renewal Through Suffering: A Study of 2 Corinthians*. Studies of the New Testament and Its World. Edinburgh: T and T Clark, 1996.
- Kreitzer, L. *2 Corinthians*, New Testament Guides. Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press, 1996. Useful introduction, especially for beginning students.
- Marshall, P. *Enmity in Corinth: Social Conventions in Paul's Relations with the Corinthians*. WUNT 2nd series, 23. Tübingen: Mohr (Siebeck), 1987. Revised 1980 Ph.D. dissertation at Macquarie University. Analyzes causes and expressions of enmity against Paul in 1 & 2 Corinthians in light of social conventions of friendship and enmity; also explores rhetorical conventions used by Paul, who was trained in rhetoric.
- Murphy O'Connor, J. *St. Paul's Corinth: Texts and Archaeology*. Good News Studies 6. Wilmington: M. Glazier, 1983. Useful collection of primary sources that illuminate 1 & 2 Corinthians.
- \*\*Murphy O'Connor, J. *The Theology of the Second Letter to the Corinthians*. New Testament Theology. Cambridge/New York: Cambridge University Press, 1991. Excellent summary of theological aspects informed by exegetical analysis.
- Savage, Timothy B. *Power Through Weakness: Paul's Understanding of the Christian Ministry in 2 Corinthians*. SNTSMS 86. Cambridge/ New York: Cambridge University Press, 1996.
- Schmithals, W. *Gnosticism in Corinth: An Investigation of the Letters to the Corinthians*. Translated by John E. Steely. Nashville: Abingdon, 1971. Interprets the viewpoint Paul opposes in 1 & 2 Corinthians as a genuine Christian gnosticism that originated in Palestine.
- Sumney, J. L. *Identifying Paul's Opponents: The Question of Method in 2 Corinthians*, JSNTSup 40. Sheffield: JSOT Press, 1990.
- Theissen, G. *The Social Setting of Pauline Christianity: Essays on Corinth*. Edited and translated by John H. Schütz. Philadelphia: Fortress, 1982. Pioneering essays employing sociological analysis.
- \*Young, F. M., and David Ford. *Meaning and Truth in 2 Corinthians*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1988. Highly suggestive collaborative effort between a systematic theologian and biblical exegete.