



Zondervan Handbook to the Bible

David Alexander (Editor) , Pat Alexander (Editor)

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Continuously in print since 1973, this fifth edition of the classic *Zondervan Handbook to the Bible* has been updated with new imagery. From the history and design of the temple in Jerusalem to God's relationship with the universe, you'll find it here. The land, culture, battles, feast days, heroes, and villains of Scripture come alive through spectacular color-filled articles and images of meticulous clarity and detail.

Special features include:

A four color guide to all the books of the Bible

Over 120 articles by an international team of experts

More than 700 color photographs, many of them new

68 maps and 20 charts

Complete with a comprehensive "Rapid Fact-Finder to the Bible" section, the *Zondervan Handbook to the Bible* remains the best book to have next to your Bible.

Zondervan Handbook to the Bible Details

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Download and Read Free Online Zondervan Handbook to the Bible David Alexander (Editor) , Pat Alexander (Editor)

From Reader Review Zondervan Handbook to the Bible for online ebook

John says

At over three million copies sold, the Zondervan Handbook to the Bible edited by David and Pat Alexander is arguably the most widely used study tool since it was originally published in 1973. Now, in a newly revised and updated fifth edition, Pat Alexander has built upon the great legacy of the previous four editions with updated visuals, new and revised articles, and more.

The feature list of the Zondervan Handbook to the Bible is quite astounding, and the presentation is even more attractive. Over 800 full-color pages, packed with valuable illustrations and reliable insight. In fact, there are over 700 full-color photographs and illustrations that vividly illuminate a world of characters and events known to many through the biblical narrative. Beyond the photos and illustrations, there are a countless number of vibrant, full-color maps and charts of historical background information.

The content of the Zondervan Handbook to the Bible is equally as pleasant as the visual appeal. The contributors to the volume include Richard Bauckham, John Goldingay, R.T. France, Ben Witherington III, Gordon Wenham, I. Howard Marshall, Richard Hess, Michael Green, Walter Wangerin Jr., and many more. The format and organization of the volume is a section-by-section guide to the Bible, including explanatory notes and insights into the biblical world. The volume opens with a sizable introductory section (95 pages) that is devoted to orienting readers towards the Bible and biblical interpretation. There follows a canonical guide through the Old Testament (~ 430 pages) and the New (~ 250 pages), as well as a “Rapid Factfinder” (~ 34 pages) section that serves as an A to Z directory to both the book and the Bible.

The design of the Zondervan Handbook to the Bible is to offer readers a supplemental resource to be used alongside the Bible. This is not necessarily a reference work or textbook, as some might imagine. It is a resource that has been intentionally organized and presented to bring the reader into the biblical world by gathering together information only otherwise found in a number of different reference works. In this sense, the Zondervan Handbook to the Bible functions as a supercharged Study Bible that is divorced, or separated from the biblical text. This affords the room necessary to illuminate the biblical world in a way not possible in the space provided by a standard Study Bible, and this to the benefit of the reader.

The Zondervan Handbook to the Bible is a classic by any count. There is a reason so many have found this volume to be a blessing to their personal Bible study. It's clear and concise, readable and informative, and attractively presented. It truly is the best book to have next to your Bible. I would recommend getting the Zondervan Handbook to the Bible over all major Study Bibles on the market. The content and visual appeal are attractively paired, and the list of contributors is as good as one could ask. Skip the Study Bible and grab the Handbook! It will offer more to your personal study than you think. Trust me!

Jamie says

I liked this guidebook very much. Its layout and design is well suited for a quick reference and study guide. Also, it treats the Bible in a nondenominational way, and looks at it as literature, instead of religious text, which is much appreciated.

Rachel Fontenot Studio says

AMAZING book! Gives so much insight and understanding to the whole Bible and his inception and history. Good for all peoples... no matter what you believe!

Sharon says

This is an excellent guide to the Bible. You can read a passage in the Bible and then look in this guide to see what it has to say about it. You will learn how it applied in the culture in which it was written. You can learn about the history of the time, the plants and animals of the area, etc. It also explains the meaning and how to apply that meaning into your own life. This book has helped me understand the Bible better.

Silvia says

Very useful for understanding the Bible better. It has lots of beautiful pictures and historical context background explanations, and it's very nice that so many different authors contributed their insights and opinions. But especially useful are the chapter-by-chapter notes and explanations of difficult verses. It also helps to keep the big picture and the central themes of the Bible in mind by referring to similar (or seemingly opposite) verses throughout the Bible, and trying to explain the meaning of it all together. I think this is very important, since people often are too tempted to quote some verses out of context and come up with an interpretation that does not fit the bigger story of the Bible, or the teachings in other verses.

Another thing I really liked is that the authors stay close to explaining the actual text of the Bible, without imposing too many dogmas or specific teachings. It's very refreshing to see that they don't pretend to know and understand everything. In difficult passages or when it comes to contented interpretations (e.g. in Revelations), they will often simply admit that we don't know for sure, or that the exact meaning is contented, 'but whatever these details may mean, in any case the general message is that...' They do mention some of the available interpretations, so the reader can think about them for himself/herself. At the same time they do make it clear what is wrong with some of the more obviously false doctrines (e.g. prosperity gospels).

All in all, a wonderful book to read side by side with the Bible! I think that it is especially helpful to get you through those Bible books and chapters that may seem difficult or boring, and still feel like you learned something interesting from reading them.

John says

If your not an archeologist, historian, theologian, etc... this is an excellent book (companion) to have along side your Bible during your studying.

R. Fox says

If someone at church asks, "Is there a book that will help me read the Bible," get them this. If you have theological training, however, this won't be much more than a source of good and helpful pics.

Casa C?r?ii says

Semnalez cu v?dit? pl?cere apari?ia Manualului biblic, pentru c? e, a?a cum îl tr?deaz? numele, un instrument deosebit de util pentru studiul individual sau de grup. Con?ine o seam? întreag? de informa?ii sistematizate ?i prezентate succint, esen?ializat. Fiecare dintre subiectele mai fierbin?i (din punct de vedere istoric, dogmatic, filosofic sau apologetic) beneficiaz? de un spa?iu aparte, f?r? a se intra îns? în toate am?nuntele ?i nuan?ele pe care le înregistreaz? bibliografile de strict? specialitate.

Cititorul de rând are prilejul s? cunoasc? ?i chestiunile controversate, dar ?i o bun? m?sur? de date contextuale care adaug? la informa?iile consemnate în Biblie (via?a popoarelor str?vechi, scrierile lor, legile dup? care tr?iau, zeii c?rora li se încchinau etc). Extinderea orizontului teologic, istoric ?i cultural este de bun augur, fiindc?, la urma urmei, orice element suplimentar care vine s? completeze ceea ce ?tim despre Biblie ?i despre cre?tinism e bine-venit.

Uitarea ?i ignoran?a pot fi boli grele pentru Biseric?. A?adar, e absolut necesar s? existe ni?te antidoturi. ?i cred c? acest Manual biblic are poten?ial de antidot. În plus, furnizeaz? puncte de plecare c?tre alte lecturi ce îmbog??esc ?i mai mult perspectiva celui ce vrea s? studieze Cartea C?r?ilor.

În zilele noastre, se mizeaz? foarte mult pe imagine. F?r? s? se supun? neap?rat modei, Manualul confer? cititorului posibilitatea de a-?i reprezenta vizual locuri de referin?? (Ierusalimul, Templul, Marea Galilee?i ?i împrejurimile, Babilonul etc.) ?i contextele istorice ale diferitelor evenimente (robia asirian?, confrunt?rile din Judec?torii, r?stignirea, c?l?toriile lui Pavel etc.).

Nu e deloc pu?in lucru ca înr-o singur? carte s? aduni date istorice, demografice, geo-politice, geografice, literare, ?tiin?ifice, arheologice, comentarii biblice aplicate, exegez?, hermeneutic?. Fire?te c? spa?iul limitat nu permite abord?ri exhaustive, dar permite sistematizarea unor puncte de vedere reprezentative pentru fiecare tem? important? luat? în discu?ie.

Prezentarea complet?, aici: <http://edituracasacartii.wordpress.co...>

Teri Pizza says

A must have for every serious Bible student.

Jimmy Reagan says

This handbook that is the favorite of many has garnered a fifth addition. I'm told that there are over 3 million copies in print in many languages for the first four editions. Even the earliest editions, edited by David and Pat Alexander, were colorful and more eye appealing than most on the market. That tradition is extended in this latest edition. It's beautiful, colorful, full of helpful articles, and contains wonderful maps, charts, diagrams, and photographs.

Section 1 introduces the Bible with broad discussion, helps put the Bible in its proper setting, explains keys to understanding, looks at the unity of the Bible, and surveys the challenges of reading the Bible today. The next section covers the Old Testament, breaking it down by looking at the four genres found there. Each book of the Bible is given an overview and a synopsis of its contents. There's many articles of special features found in the book as well as lavish illustrations. The New Testament is approached in the same helpful way.

You will enjoy the final section too that they call the "rapid factfinder". I describe it as a brief Bible dictionary as well as a reference on where to find further discussion in the book itself.

The book is beautiful and well done. The paperback cover is sturdier than most and actually works well in this case. Many of the contributors are well-known scholars. I imagine any Bible student would crave this book. It's a winner.

I received this book free from the publisher. I was not required to write a positive review. The opinions I have expressed are my own. I am disclosing this in accordance with the Federal Trade Commission's 16 CFR, Part 255.

Tung says

A lot of people like USA Today because it has more color than most mainstream newspapers, and colorful graphs and charts to simplify information for the average people (read: people who don't read real newspapers). This Zondervan book is the USA Today version of real Bible handbooks – that statement is every bit the backhanded compliment it sounds like. This book walks the reader through every book of Scripture, with quick, easy-to-digest summaries of the author, audience, and intended purpose. It provides bullet points of major themes in each chapter within each book. The pages are glossy, with tons of pictures and sidebars that provide interesting contextual information. The language is easy to understand. I can see why the average person would find this book a valuable resource. My big criticism, however, is that for graduate theology courses, this textbook is the equivalent of "The Bible for Dummies." This book is academically shallow, and doesn't provide the theological depth needed for seminary papers. It's a good resource for people who don't know anything about the Bible, but not for those of us who leave the USA Today in the hallway when we stay at a hotel.

David Tensmeyer says

My study of the Bible has become much deeper, more heartfelt, and more meaningful since I found the Lion Handbook in 2009. Not only does it offer the reader insight into the historical and historiographical context

of each book, it also strives to emphasize the unity of the Bible narrative between the widely varying texts that make up the book.

The Handbook touches on all the major theological issues that the Bible raises, offering different interpretations for the reader's consideration without promoting one sectarian reading over another. Although the commentary is probably most relevant to a Protestant audience, Christians of all denominations will gain from using the Handbook as a Bible companion.

Rosa says

I just looked this up on Amazon.com. I did not know that this book is a really good reference tool to use during your quiet times and bible studies. I like how this book is designed and is very user friendly. I like the photos in this book. This book is excellent to have in companion to your Protestant Bible.

Julie says

I used this as my devotions book as I read through the Bible. Although it had great pictures and some information, I don't feel like it added enough to ever read again or recommend to anyone.

Dave Jones says

Received this as a Christmas book from Sue. It's a sort of on-again, off-again devotional of sorts. Actually, it is a survey of the Bible that also includes study helps, history, and essays. Richly illustrated with color photos and illustrations.

Good reference material.
