

# Some of My All-Time Favorite Books For Preachers

Mike Vestal

PTP, Monday, 9:30-10:15  
8/22/2016

SEC Food Court  
Preachers

## 15 Basics About a Preacher & His Books

1. Books are TOOLS, NOT CRUTCHES! If books not working for you, they're working against you (Cf. Matt. 12:30).
2. Our books should be about QUALITY, not merely QUANTITY. 50% off garbage is still trash.
3. ALWAYS think with the HEAD of a SCHOLAR, but with the HEART of a PREACHER. Be a life-long learner. The true "advanced degree" is "Well done" (Matt. 25:21).
4. Read & digest great books by brethren; but DON'T just read brethren.
5. Read with the wisdom of discernment (Phil. 1:9-11; Heb. 5:11-14).
6. "1 Timothy 4:15-16 Principle" - Read so progress is obvious.
7. As a general rule, AVOID buying ENTIRE SERIES.
8. As a general rule, AVOID the "star struck author syndrome." While some authors DO consistently put out excellent work, many others are just repeating the same thing with a different title (all at \$20-60 a pop!).
9. Stay current in your reading and study - Become aware of better books by consulting truly knowledgeable and helpful advisors. 1 Chronicles 12:32 applies here.
10. Books ABOUT the the Bible are great; however they are NOT substitutes for the Bible itself. MASTER THE BOOK!!!
11. Only very rarely pay FULL PRICE for a book. Simply too many options now. Digital, paper or HB.
12. AVOID the IMPULSE buy. Too much "Achan Syndrome" in book buying among preachers.
13. Build a great library over time. If done too quickly, it may be more negative than positive as to stewardship (Luke 12:13-21).

14. Give good books to good people, and call it an investment in them.
15. Make proper arrangements for your books should you leave this world.

### **80 Books By Brethren Every Young Preacher Should Own (Eventually)**

1. "Difficult Texts of the New Testament Explained" (Fort Worth Lectures, Winkler, Ed)
2. "Difficult Texts of the Old Testament Explained" (Fort Worth Lectures, Winkler, Ed.)
3. "What Do You Know About the Holy Spirit?" (F.W. Lectures, Winkler, Ed).
4. "Premillennialism - True or False" (F.W. Lectures, Winkler, Ed).
5. "The Holy Scriptures" (F.W. Lectures, Winkler, Ed).
6. Questions & Answers to the Open Forum (Guy Woods, 2 Volumes)
7. "Your Marriage Can Be Great" (Thomas B. Warren, Ed).
8. "Hardeman - Bogard Debate"
9. "Instrumental Music in Worship" (J.D. Bales)
10. "God's Prophetic Word" (Foy E. Wallace, Jr.)
11. "New Testament Commentary on Acts" (J.W. McGarvey-most prefer original Ed).
12. "Gospel Advocate Commentary on James, Peter and John" (Guy N. Woods).
13. "Isaiah" (Homer Hailey)
14. "Revelation" (Homer Hailey)
15. "Ascertaining Bible Authority" (Roy Deaver)
16. "New Testament Commentary" (Wayne Jackson)
17. "Acts" (Jimmy Allen)
18. "Hebrews" (Jimmy Allen)
19. "Know Your Bible" (Frank J. Dunn)
20. "Living Messages of the Old Testament" (Spiritual Sword, Warren & Elkins)
21. "Living Messages of the New Testament (Spiritual Sword, Warren & Elkins, eds).
22. "The Church of Christ - A Biblical Ecclesiology" (Everett Ferguson).
23. "Backgrounds of Early Christianity" (E. Ferguson).
24. "Philippians" (Wayne Jackson).
25. "Gospel Advocate Commentary on John" (Guy N. Woods).

26. "John" (Frank Pack, ACU Press, 2 Vol).
27. "How We Got the Bible" (Neal Lightfoot)
28. "Baptism" (Everett Ferguson)
29. "Why I am a Member of the church of Christ" (Leroy Brownlow).
30. "Koinonia" (Fellowship) - (Jimmy Jividen).
31. "The Timeless Trinity" (Roy Lanier, Sr.).
32. "20 Years of the Problem Page" (Roy Lanier, Sr. 2 vol).
33. "Warren - Flew Debate"
34. "Warren - Ballard Debate on Salvation"
35. "Our God - A Sun and a Shield" (Thomas Warren).
36. "The Holy Spirit" (Gus Nichols).
37. "The Work of the Holy Spirit in Redemption" (Franklin Camp)
38. "Systematic Theology" (Rex Turner, Sr.)
39. "The Heart of the Yale Lectures on Preaching" (Batsell B. Baxter).
40. "Contending for the Faith" (G.C. Brewer).
41. "Let's Go Fishing for Men" (Homer Hailey)
42. "Go Ye Means Go Me" (Ivan Stewart)
43. "Search For the Ancient Order" (Earl I. West, multi volumes).
44. "The Elder and His Work" (Robert R. Taylor).
45. "The Minor Prophets" (Homer Hailey).
46. "The Fall of Unbelief" (Roger Dickson)
47. "Gospel Advocate Commentary on Matthew" (H. Leo Boles)
48. "Romans" (R.L. Whiteside)
49. "The Hub of the Bible" (James D. Bales).
50. "Churches in the Shape of Scripture" (Dan Chambers)
51. "Traditions of Men Versus the Word of God" (Alvin Jennings, Ed).
52. "Denominational Doctrines" (Jerry Moffitt).
53. "Showtime" (Dan Chambers).
54. "The Church, the Falling Away, and the Restoration" (J.W. Shepherd).
55. "Women to the Glory of God" (Spiritual Sword, Jim Laws, Ed).
56. "Job - Why Has All This Happened to Us?" (W.T. Hamilton)
57. "Acts" (David Roper, Truth for Today, 2 vols).
58. "Matthew" (Jack P. Lewis, ACU Press, 2 vols).
59. "Acts" (Wayne Jackson).
60. "Romans" (Spiritual Sword Lectures, Warren & Elkins, eds).
61. "Studies in Colossians" (John Kachelman).
62. "Before I Die" (Studies in Timothy & Titus, Wayne Jackson).
63. "Basic Doctrine" (Jack P. Lewis)

64. "1 & 2 Thessalonians" (ACU Press, Raymond Kelcy).
65. "Revelation" (Spiritual Sword Lectures, Jim Laws, Ed).
66. "Cover to Cover" (Johnny Ramsey).
67. "Bible Treasures" (Johnny Ramsey).
68. "The Bible Doctrine of Final Things" (Robert R. Taylor).
69. "Expositions of the Expositor" (Winfred Clark, 2 Vols).
70. "Great Preachers of Today Series" (George Bailey).
71. "The All-Sufficiency of the Gospel" (Melvin J. Wise).
72. "Leadership" (J.J. Turner).
73. "Evidences of Christianity" (J.W. McGarvey)
74. Various Class Books / Sermon Outlines (Wendell Winkler).
75. "Shall We Know Each Other in Heaven & Other Sermons" (Guy N. Woods).
76. "Rust As a Witness" (V.P. Black).
77. "Questions Answered" (David Lipscomb & E.G. Sewell).
78. "Adrift" or "A Faith Built on Sand" - 2 different works (Phil Sanders)
79. "The Anvil Rings" (Eric Lyons, 2 Vols., Deals with apparent discrepancies in Scripture).
80. "Voyage of Faith" (Frank Chesser).

**PLEASE NOTE:**

- 1. Mention of an author does NOT indicate endorsement of every position they hold or may have held.**
- 2. Mention of a book does NOT indicate agreement or endorsement of every particular they may teach in the book (or elsewhere).**
- 3. There are many, many more good books out there by brethren. This is merely a good beginning place for preachers, especially younger ones.**