



Dictionary of the Old Testament: Wisdom, Poetry & Writings (The IVP Bible Dictionary Series)

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Editorial Review

Review

"Every student serious about pursuing biblical studies and every pastor committed to solid exegetical work should keep a copy of this indispensable volume within arm's reach." (Luke Lin, Koinonia)

"Editors Longman and Enns have assembled a truly outstanding team of both senior and junior scholars who present up-to-date research with current bibliographies on all the major issues confronting the interpreter of these important books. If you are only going to buy one encyclopedic dictionary on the Bible, this is the one I would recommend." (Paul J. Kissling, SCJ, Spring 2009)

"Authors and editors have taken great care to make the articles both scholarly and readable, and one can say that they have succeeded in producing a work that supplements all existing biblical reference works." (International Review of Biblical Studies, 2008-2009)

"This useful addition to this series of dictionaries provides an excellent resource for students and others who require an accessible overview of the study of biblical books and general topics in the wisdom and poetry category." (J. McKeown, Journal for the Study of the Old Testament, 2009)

"Students and professors of Scripture have, in this volume, a precious and incredibly up-to-date resource." (James Chukwuma Okoye, Catholic Library World, March 2010)

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"A beautiful accession to the series, and its price is unbelievable!" (P.C. Beentjes, International Journal in Philosophy and Theology, 70, 2009)

"The volume covers much ground and covers it well. Well worth the price for any layperson, student, or scholar who wishes to engage the varied corpus that this dictionary covers." (Scott C. Jones, The Catholic Biblical Quarterly, 71, 2009)

"An excellent resource for students and others who require accessible overview of the study of biblical books and general topics in the wisdom and poetry category." (J. McKeow, Journal for the Study of the Old Testament, 33.5, 2009)

"This *Dictionary* should be in the collection of any library covering Biblical studies regardless of religious affiliation. Once again IVP has done the scholarly community a great service." (Philosophy and Religion, Vol. 23, No. 5, 2009)

"Worth a read as it is up to date and gives a flavour of recent studies in wisdom literature." (The Revd Dr Derek J Fraser, The Baptist Times, March 26, 2009)

"This useful addition to this series of dictionaries provides an excellent resource for students and others who require an accessible overview of the study of biblical books and general topics in the wisdom and poetry category." (J. McKeown, Journal for the Study of the Old Testament, 33.5, 2009)

"As in preceding volumes, a long article is devoted to each biblical book; this dictionary, however, also contains an article focusing on each book's ancient Near Eastern background and history of interpretation. An impressive work of reference." (Margaret Daniels, Methodist Recorder, July 2, 2009)

"A compendium of contemporary biblical scholarship with the inclusion of the contributed effort of the best scholars and critics in their respected fields. A great achievement, comprehensive in scope and provides substantial insights in understanding the text and world of the Old Testament. This is an outstanding text, an indispensable reference for individuals working in the discipline of Biblical Studies. It is unimaginable that students and scholars, and even interested laymen of the Hebrew Bible would defer the purchase of a reference copy of this volume." (Celucien Joseph, Christ, My Righteousness (christmyrighteousness9587.wordpress.com), May 18, 2009)

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"[A] must have for anyone who wishes to do in-depth Bible study." (Johnny Cisneros, Bible Study Magazine, November/December 2008)

"Whatever your academic standpoint, at 1,000 pages this volume will need to be a to-hand resource for anybody working on the field of Wisdom, Poetry or Writings. I am very glad to have [this book] on my shelf and I will make regular use of it." (Chris Tilling, Chrisendom (christilling.de/blog/ctblog.html), September 20, 2008)

"Not only is this a very attractive dictionary, but it is also chock-full of the technical data a researcher requires. Each article is clearly outlined, long enough to adequately cover the subject, and short enough to be read in one sitting. It must also be mentioned that these articles are not limited to either lexical, exegetical, historical or theological matters; but rather to all of these matters." (Jason Button, Sharper Iron (sharperiron.org), September 11, 2008)

"The contributors have done a fine job of presenting a balanced and scholarly overview of the various topics, although there is a slant toward a Christian interpretation. This dictionary is an excellent choice for just about any public, church, or academic library, as well as for specialty theological collections." (Library Journal, October 2008)

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poetry and writings of the Old Testament. This volume is comprehensive and up to date as, for example, the articles on history of interpretation and intertextuality indicate. This volume will be an invaluable resource for students, pastors and scholars as they seek to hear God's address through these biblical books. The Wisdom and poetic books have not always received the attention they deserve, and this volume will play a significant role in addressing that imbalance. Highly recommended!" (Craig Bartholomew, H. Evan Runner Professor of Philosophy and Professor of Religion, Redeemer University College, Ontario, Canada)

"At last, a fully comprehensive, fascinating compendium of information about Psalms, Wisdom literature and other writings of the Old Testament! From characters such as Ruth to major Wisdom books such as Job, from scholarly method to major theological themes, this volume gives us articles of real depth and substance. Its broad and thorough remit includes contributions on Jewish and Christian tradition, festival worship, ancient Near Eastern background and Hebrew language from a range of highly qualified experts in the field. An essential reference book for all serious-minded students of the Hebrew Scriptures." (Katharine J. Dell, Senior Lecturer in Old Testament Studies, University of Cambridge)

"A stellar cast of younger and senior scholars has put together a handbook for the study of the writings of the Old Testament. While one will find easy access to the expected and necessary basic information on the various books of wisdom and poetry, there will be some interesting surprises for readers as the authors take up theological, rhetorical, metaphorical and sociological dimensions of this literature. An important sign of the times is the fact that for each biblical book, major attention is given to the history of its interpretation." (Patrick D. Miller, Professor of Old Testament Theology Emeritus, Princeton Theological Seminary)

From the Publisher

- * Third Old Testament volume in InterVarsity Press's celebrated Black Dictionary series
- * 148 articles covering all aspects of Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Songs, Lamentations, Ruth and Esther
- * Over 90 contributors, many of them experts in this literature
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- * Full coverage of literary dimensions of poetry and prose
- * Well-rounded treatments of Israelite wisdom and Wisdom literature
- * Up-to-date bibliographies

About the Author

Tremper Longman III (PhD, Yale University) is Robert H. Gundry Professor of Biblical Studies at Westmont College in Santa Barbara, California. He is also visiting professor of Old Testament at Seattle School of Theology and Psychology and adjunct of Old Testament at Fuller Theological Seminary. He lectures regularly at Regent College in Vancouver and the Canadian Theological Seminary in Calgary. Longman is the author or coauthor of over twenty books, including *How to Read Genesis*, *How to Read the Psalms*, *How to Read Proverbs*, *Literary Approaches to Biblical Interpretation*, *Old Testament Essentials* and coeditor of *A Complete Literary Guide to the Bible*. He and Dan Allender have coauthored *Bold Love*, *Cry of the Soul*, *Intimate Allies*, *The Intimate Mystery* and the Intimate Marriage Bible studies.

Peter Enns is professor of Biblical Studies at Eastern University (St. Davids, PA). He is the author of numerous books including *Inspiration and Incarnation: Evangelicals and the Problem of the Old Testament* and *The Evolution of Adam: What the Bible Does and Doesn't Say about Human Origins*.

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