

## Straightforward Books of Teaching and Encouragement

This concise list is designed to identify books which will help ordinary Christians understand their God and the Bible better. I have tried to keep to simple, straightforward and short books, but some are longer works. This should not put people off as some big books are easier to understand than some small ones. Most are widely available, some are easily found in good second-hand bookshops. For assistance try: ICM books: 10 Knightsbridge, Dollingstown, Craigavon, N. Ireland, BT66 7DB, TEL: 028 3832 1488 <<http://www.icmbooks.co.uk/>> or Metropolitan Tabernacle Bookshop: Elephant & Castle, London, SE1 6SD, Tel: 020 7735 7076 <<http://www.tabernaclebookshop.org/>>

DOCTRINAL SUMMARIES	
Berkhof's - <i>Summary of Christian Doctrine</i>	Simple paperback
RC Sproul - <i>Essential Truths of the Christian Faith</i>	Large format paperback
John Calvin - <i>Truth For All Time</i>	Small paperback
John Calvin - <i>Biblical Christianity</i>	Small paperback
Seaton - <i>The Five Points of Calvinism</i>	Booklet
<i>The 1689 Baptist Confession</i> (see below)	Tract or booklet

CONFESSIONS, CREEDS, CATECHISMS	
	All freely available on the internet
<i>The Westminster Confession of Faith</i>	<i>Confession</i> = explanation of Bible theology
<i>The 1689 Baptist Confession</i>	
<i>Westminster Larger and Shorter Catechisms</i>	<i>Catechism</i> = doctrine explained in question and answer format
<i>The Heidelberg Catechism</i>	[Probably the warmest historical doctrinal summary]
<i>The Nicene Creed</i>	<i>Creed</i> = short summary of doctrine believed
<i>The Apostles Creed</i>	
<i>The Athanasian Creed</i>	

Books which cover certain doctrinal subjects in a simple but readable way.

GOD	SALVATION (Election to Redemption)
<i>Great God of Wonders</i> – Peter Jeffrey	<i>The Grand Demonstration</i> – Jay Adams
<i>The Knowledge of the Holy</i> – AW Tozer	<i>Not Guilty</i> – James Buchanan
<i>Knowing God</i> – JI Packer	<i>Five Points of Calvinism</i> – William Parks
<i>The Heart of the Gospel</i> – M Lloyd-Jones	<i>Putting Amazing back into Grace</i> – Michael Horton
<i>Christ Before the Manger</i> – Ron Rhodes	<i>Salvation</i> – EF Kevan
<i>The Glory of Christ</i> – Peter Lewis	<i>What the Scriptures Teach</i> – EF Kevan
<i>When He is Come</i> – AW Tozer	<i>The Grace of God in the Gospel</i> – Various (Banner of Truth)
<i>The Holy Spirit</i> - WE Biederwolf	<i>Right With God</i> – John Blanchard
<i>The Silent Shepherd</i> – John MacArthur	<i>Redemption</i> – John Murray
<i>Life by His Death</i> – John Owen	<i>Chosen For Good</i> – Various (Kingsway)
<i>Jesus Christ</i> – Sir Norman Anderson	<i>By God's Grace Alone</i> – Abraham Booth
<i>Christ Ascended</i> – Brian Donne	<i>Five Points of Calvinism</i> – Steele & Thomas

CHRISTIAN LIVING	CULTS & HERESIES
<i>Holiness</i> – CH Spurgeon	<i>Romanism</i> – Robert Zins
<i>Holiness</i> - JC Ryle	<i>The Kingdom of the Cults</i> – Martin
<i>The Pursuit of Holiness</i> – Jerry Bridges	<i>Cults &amp; Isms</i> – Oswald Sanders
<i>Trusting God</i> – Jerry Bridges	<i>The World's Religions</i> – Lion Handbook
<i>God's Way of Peace</i> – H Bonar	<i>Christianity in Crisis</i> – Hanegraaf
<i>Spiritual Depression</i> – M Lloyd-Jones	
<i>Profiting from the Word</i> – AW Pink	LAST THINGS ( <i>Death / End Times / Second Coming / Judgment / Heaven</i> )
<i>The Life of Faith</i> – AW Pink	<i>The Momentous Event</i> – WJ Grier
<i>Comfort for Christian</i> – AW Pink	<i>The End Times Made Simple</i> – S Waldron
<i>Practical Christianity</i> – AW Pink	<i>After Death</i> – JA Motyer
<i>How to Overcome Evil</i> – Jay Adams	<i>Heaven</i> – Various ed. by Sammy Gordon
<i>The Commandments of Christ</i> – Robert Beasley	<i>The Bible on the Life Hereafter</i> – William Hendriksen
<i>The Normal Christian Life</i> – Watchman Nee	<i>Heaven, the Home of the Redeemed</i> – Pickering (ed)
<i>Discovering God's Will</i> – Sinclair Ferguson	<i>Great prophecies of the Bible</i> - Woodrow
<i>Keeping the Heart</i> – John Flavel	<i>Biblical Studies in Final Things</i> - Cox

TYOLOGY	
	'Types' are figures which picture or symbolise a New Testament truth e.g. animal sacrifices prefiguring the cross. Understanding them helps you to get a grasp of the Old Testament.
<i>Christ in all the Scriptures</i> by Hodgkin	Book broken down into the books of the Bible
<i>The Tabernacle, Priesthood and Offerings</i> by Henry Soltau	Large book but excellent
<i>The Tabernacle</i> by William Brown	Hardback book
<i>These are the Garments</i> by C Slemming	Paperback
<i>The Feasts of Jehovah</i> by John Ritchie	Small paperback
<i>The Law of the Offerings</i> by A Jukes	Small hardback
<i>Christ in Genesis</i> by Henry Law	Paperback, excellent
<i>Study of the Types</i> by Ada Haberson	Large format paperback

BIBLE HISTORY OVERVIEWS	
Davis and Whitcomb - <i>History of Israel</i>	Large paperback.
Merrill - <i>Historical Survey of the OT</i>	Large format paperback
Wood - <i>Survey of Israel's History</i>	Hardback

BIBLE CHARACTERS - THE LORD JESUS	
TV Moore - <i>The Last Days of Jesus</i>	
BB Warfield - <i>The Lord of Glory</i>	Timothy Cross - <i>Scent From Heaven</i>
Krummacher - <i>The Suffering Saviour</i>	Campbell Morgan - <i>The Crises of the Christ</i>
Octavius Winslow - <i>The Glory of the Redeemer</i>	Campbell Morgan - <i>The Great Physician</i>
WS Plumer - <i>Rock of Our Salvation</i>	Herman Hoeksema - <i>When I Survey</i>
WS Plumer - <i>Grace of Christ</i>	Paterson - <i>The Greatness of Christ</i>
Peter Lewis - <i>The Glory of Christ</i>	<i>The Divine Glory of Christ</i> - Charles Brown
Michael Horton - <i>Christ the Lord</i>	<i>Jesus – Power without Measure</i> - J D MacMillan

BIBLE CHARACTERS - PAUL & OTHERS	
Conybeare and Howson - <i>The Life and Letters of Paul</i>	Robert Reymond - <i>John: Beloved Disciple</i>
Robert Reymond - <i>Paul: Missionary &amp; Theologian</i>	FB Meyer on Old Testament characters (various books)
FF Bruce - <i>Paul: Apostle of the Free Spirit</i>	Hugh Martin - <i>Jonah</i>
John Pollock - <i>The Apostle</i>	Hugh Martin – <i>Peter</i>
Alexander Whyte – <i>Bible Characters</i>	AW Pink - <i>Elijah</i>
George Lawson - <i>History of Joseph</i>	AW Pink - <i>Life of David</i>

CHURCH HISTORY	
Lion Publishing: <i>Church History</i>	Foxe - <i>Book of Martyrs</i>
Bishop JC Ryle - <i>Five English Reformers</i>	JH Broadbent - <i>The Pilgrim Church</i>
Bishop JC Ryle - <i>Christian Leaders of the 18<sup>th</sup> Century</i>	Nick Needham - <i>2,000 Years of Christ's Power</i>
FF Bruce - <i>The Dawn of Christianity</i>	Thomson - <i>A Cloud of Witnesses</i>
FF Bruce - <i>Light in the West</i>	Smellie - <i>Men of the Covenant</i>
FF Bruce - <i>The Growing Day</i>	Howie - <i>The Scots Worthies</i>
Martyn Lloyd Jones - <i>The Puritans</i>	Jock Purves - <i>Fair Sunshine</i>
Beza - <i>Life of John Calvin</i>	Barker - <i>Puritan Profiles</i>
Boer - <i>Short History of the Early Church</i>	Cook - <i>Samuel Rutherford &amp; His Friends</i>
JI Packer - <i>A Quest for Godliness</i>	Haykin - <i>Revivals and Signs &amp; Wonders</i>
Houghton - <i>Sketches from Church History</i>	JA Wylie - <i>The History of Protestantism</i>

SHORT ANTHOLOGIES OF CHARACTERS	Various - <i>Five Pioneer Missionaries</i>
Peter Masters - <i>Men of Purpose</i>	Tallach - <i>They Shall Be Mine</i>
Peter Masters - <i>Men of Destiny</i>	Hasler - <i>David Brainerd</i>
Tallach - <i>God Made Them Great</i>	Miller - <i>Hudson Taylor</i>

## DEVOTIONAL WORKS

SERMONS, SERMON COLLECTIONS	
<i>Sermons of CH Spurgeon (wide choice here)</i>	<i>The Words of Christ – Geikie</i>
<i>The Sermons of Thomas Watson</i>	<i>Sermons of Martin Luther</i>
<i>Christmas Evans Sermons and Memoirs</i>	<i>Expository Thoughts of the Gospel – JC Ryle</i>
<i>Hall's Contemplations</i>	<i>Faith &amp; Life – BB Warfield</i>
<i>Sermons of George Whitefield</i>	<i>The Saviour – BB Warfield</i>
<i>Revival Sermons – WC Burns</i>	<i>Anything by Martyn Lloyd-Jones</i>

DAILY THOUGHTS	
<i>Cheque Book on the Bank of Faith - CH Spurgeon</i>	<i>Puritan Daily Devotional Chronicles - I Thomas</i>
<i>Morning and Evening - CH Spurgeon</i>	<i>Streams in the Desert - Mrs Cowman</i>
<i>Evening By Evening - CH Spurgeon</i>	<i>My Utmost for His Highest - Oswald Chambers</i>

PRACTICAL APPLICATION	
<i>Pilgrim's Progress – John Bunyan</i>	<i>Practical Christianity – Pink</i>
<i>Holy War – John Bunyan</i>	<i>The Life of Faith – Pink</i>
<i>Letters of John Newton</i>	<i>Letters of Samuel Rutherford</i>
<i>The 'I Wills' of the Psalms – Power</i>	<i>Letters of CH Spurgeon</i>
<i>The 'I Wills' of Christ – Power</i>	<i>Joni – Joni Eareckson Tada</i>

SPECIFIC SUBJECTS	
<i>The Shadow of Calvary – Hugh Martin</i>	<i>The Inner Sanctuary – Charles Ross</i>
<i>The Shepherd Psalm – FB Meyer</i>	<i>Book of Comfort – PB Power</i>
<i>Communion With God – John Owen (abridged by Law)</i>	<i>Classic Sermons on the Names of God – Warren Wiersbe</i>
<i>Great Themes of the Bible – M. Henry</i>	<i>The Sympathy of Christ – O. Winslow</i>
<i>The Secret of Communion with God – Matthew Henry</i>	<i>Precious Remedies against Satan's Devices - Thomas Brooks</i>
<i>The Shadow of Calvary – Hugh Martin</i>	<i>Out of the Depths – John Newton</i>
<i>Classic Sermons on the Love of God – Warren Wiersbe</i>	<i>No Condemnation in Christ Jesus – Octavius Winslow</i>
<i>All things for Good – Thomas Watson</i>	<i>How to Overcome Evil – Jay Adams</i>
<i>The Fruit of the Spirit – Sanderson</i>	<i>Prayer – John Bunyan</i>
<i>Sit, Walk, Stand – Watchman Nee</i>	<i>The Bible Tells Us So – RB Kuiper</i>
<i>Profiting from the Word – AW Pink</i>	<i>When God's Children Suffer - H. Bonar</i>
<i>The Lord Our Shepherd – J. Douglas MacMillan</i>	<i>The Christian's Great Interest – Thomas Guthrie</i>
<i>Lifting Up for the Downcast – William Bridge</i>	<i>Last Words of Saints and Sinners – Lockyer</i>

APOLOGETICS	This is the word given to books which vindicate the Bible [Greek <i>apologia</i> , a 'defence'].
<i>Evidence that Demands a Verdict</i> (Vol 1) by Josh McDowell	On the authority of the Bible
<i>Who Moved the Stone</i> by Frank Morison	On the resurrection
<i>Many Infallible Proofs</i> by Henry Morris	On various subjects
<i>The Complete Book of Bible Answers</i> by Ron Rhodes	Bible difficulties
<i>Alleged Discrepancies of the Bible</i> by Haley	Bible difficulties
<i>The Answers Book</i> by Ken Ham	Evolution mainly
<i>The Collapse of Evolution</i> by Scott Huse	Evolution

A young believer should get a grasp of these subjects fairly quickly to be able to answer questions on his faith. Just Morris's book alone would give a good basis to answer most questions. There are also many readable booklets, pamphlets and tracts which cover these subjects.

## BIOGRAPHIES

The example of others who have given their lives in service to the Lord is of great value and stimulation to us. There are huge choices of books here which are being added to every day. I can only give a small list of a few well known characters. Remember that a man's life may be inspiring in his work but unhelpful in his some aspects of his theology (such as John Wesley or William Booth).

### MISSIONARY BIOGRAPHIES

Hudson Taylor (China)  
 CT Studd (China/Africa)  
 Adoniram Judson (Burma)  
 William Carey (India)  
 David Brainerd (Native Americans)  
 John Paton (South Seas)  
 Gladys Aylward (China)  
 David Livingstone (Africa)  
 Mary Slessor (Africa)  
 Robert Morrison (China)  
 James Gilmour (Mongolia)  
 J O Fraser (Thibet)  
 James Hannington (Africa)  
 Isobel Kuhn (China)  
 Amy Carmichael (India)  
 John Eliot (India)  
 George Grenfell (Africa)  
 Wilfred Grenfel (Labrador)  
 WC Burns (China)  
 Henry Martyn (India)

### PREACHERS

CH Spurgeon (London)  
 George Whitefield (US & UK)  
 JC Ryle (Liverpool)  
 John Wesley (UK)  
 John Calvin (Geneva)  
 Martin Luther (Germany)  
 R. Murray M'Cheyne (Dundee)  
 Alexander Peden (Scotland)  
 DL Moody (US & UK campaigns)  
 William Booth (Salvation Army)  
 Jan Hus (Prague)  
 John Bunyan (Bedford)  
 George Muller (Bristol)  
 Martyn Lloyd-Jones (London)  
 William Bagshawe (UK)  
 Christmas Evans (Wales)  
 William Grimshaw (Haworth)  
 John Wycliffe (UK)  
 Daniel Rowland (Wales)  
 John Newton (Olney, UK)  
 Samuel Rutherford (Scotland)  
 Thomas Chalmers (Scotland)  
 Billy Bray (Cornwall)

WHOLE BIBLE COMMENTARIES	
<i>Jamieson, Fausset &amp; Brown</i>	Solid, pithy, wholesome (also unabridged in 3 vols).
<i>Matthew Henry</i>	Devotional yet thorough; popular for many years.
<i>Matthew Poole</i>	Practical, succinct (in 3 volumes only).
<i>Ellicot's Bible Commentary</i>	Once very popular, useful back up.
<i>Tyndale Commentary Series</i>	Short volumes, vary greatly, some good.
<i>Hard Sayings of the Bible IVP</i>	Helpful notes on key texts. Not a full commentary.
<i>IVP Bible Commentary</i>	Editions vary, some liberalised comments.

WHOLE NEW TESTAMENT	[Straightforward, not complex books.]
<i>Barnes Notes</i>	Very thorough and succinct. Highly useful.
<i>Trapp NT Commentary</i>	Pithy concise comments in one volume.
<i>NT Intro - Hendricksen</i>	Thorough & comprehensive.
<i>NT Survey - Gromacki</i>	Thorough & comprehensive.
<i>The IVP Bible Background (NT)</i>	Does what it says, book by book.

COMMENTARY SERIES	[Straightforward, not complex books.]
<i>The Evangelical Press Series</i>	Cheap, evangelical, useful, reverent.
<i>The Bible Speaks Today (IVP)</i>	Items vary, some very good.
<i>Geoff Wilson's NT Series (Banner of Truth)</i>	Evangelical, concise, helpful and short.
<i>Expository Thoughts on the Gospels - Ryle</i>	Justly popular still. Devotional / instructive.

SOME BIBLE STUDY BOOKS	[Straightforward, not complex books.]
<i>Types in Genesis - Jukes</i>	<i>Practical Truths From Judges - Wiseman</i>
<i>Gospel in Genesis - Henry Law</i>	<i>Practical Truths From Jonah - Excell</i>
<i>Devotional Comm on Exodus - FB Meyer</i>	<i>Discovering Christ in Ruth - Fortner</i>
<i>10 Commandments - Pink</i>	<i>The Beatitudes &amp; The Lord's Prayer - Pink</i>
<i>Numbers - Jensen</i>	<i>Sermon on the Mount - Lloyd-Jones</i>
<i>Joshua - Jensen</i>	<i>Parables of Our Lord - Arnot</i>
<i>Israel from Conquest to Exile - Davis &amp; Whitcomb</i>	<i>Philippians - FB Meyer</i>
<i>David - Krummacher</i>	<i>John - FB Meyer</i>
<i>Elijah the Tishbite - Krummacher</i>	<i>More Than Conquerors (Rev) - Hendriksen</i>
<i>Elijah - Pink</i>	<i>The Test of Faith (James) - JA Motyer</i>
<i>David - Pink</i>	<i>Ephesians - Kent</i>
<i>Job - Zuck</i>	<i>Titus &amp; Philemon - Hiebert</i>
<i>Psalms - Horne</i>	<i>1st Timothy - Hiebert</i>
<i>Psalms - Dickson</i>	<i>2nd Timothy - Hiebert</i>
<i>Christ in Isaiah - FB Meyer</i>	<i>Jude - Coder</i>
<i>The Song of Songs - Watchman Nee</i>	<i>Romans - RC Sproul</i>
<i>Jeremiah &amp; Lamentations - Jensen</i>	<i>Wrestling With God - J Douglas MacMillan</i>
<i>The Day of the Lion (Amos) - JA Motyer</i>	<i>The Shadow of Calvary - Martin</i>
	<i>Four Views of Christ - Jukes</i>