

EXCELLENT READS
BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS BY CATEGORY
DOUGLAS JACOBY, December 2025

Note: Further titles are added to this document on a regular basis.

Bibles		Evangelism
Bible Study	Evidences	Wealth, Possessions, & Poverty
Commentaries	Creation & Evolution	
New Testament	Debate Series	Theology
Old Testament	Helpful Websites for	Baptism
Bible Study Tools	Christian Evidences	Holy Spirit / Miracles
Biblical Languages & Translation	Leadership / Church Building	Pacifism
Christian Students	Marriage, Parenting, Family, Dating & Singleness, Blended Families, Websites for Parents & Teachers	Women
Newly converted		World Religions / Worldviews
All disciples		Worship
Mature believers	Preaching & Teaching	Miscellaneous
High School students	Publishing a Book	Other Materials
Campus Leaders	Racial Issues	Audio Series
Church History and Doctrine	Religion and Culture in the Broader Biblical World	DVDs
Early Christianity		USB Drives
Protestantism	Spiritual Life	
Restoration Movement		
Counseling & Psychology		

My personal “must-read” items are colored [blue](#).

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For Christian Students

Newly converted

Be Still, My Soul: A Practical Guide to a Deeper Relationship With God, by Sam Laing

Basic Christianity, by John R. W. Stott

The Killer Within: An African Look at Disease, Sin and Keeping Yourself Saved, by Mike Taliaferro

The Lion Never Sleeps: Preparing Those You Love for Satan's Attacks, by Mike Taliaferro

A Quick Overview of the Bible: How All the Pieces Fit Together, by Douglas Jacoby

For all disciples

Caring Beyond the Margins: What Every Christian Needs to Know About Homosexuality, by Guy Hammond

The Disciplined Life: The Mark of Christian Maturity, by Richard S. Taylor

Getting the Most from the Bible: A Guide to In-Depth Study, by G. Steve Kinnard

How to Read a Book: The Classic Guide to Intelligent Reading, by Mortimer J. Adler and Charles Van Dorn

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The Lion Handbook to the Bible

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Set Apart: Calling a Worldly Church to a Godly Life, by R. Kent Hughes

Spiritual Leadership: A Commitment to Excellence for Every Believer, by J. Oswald Sanders

Strong in the Grace: Reclaiming the Heart of the Gospel, by Thomas A. Jones

Will the Real Heretics Please Stand Up: A New Look at Today's Evangelical Church in the Light of Early Christianity, by David W. Bercot

Your Bible Questions Answered, by Douglas Jacoby

For more mature believers

Compelling Evidence, by Douglas Jacoby

The Imitation of Christ, by Thomas à Kempis

The Pilgrim's Progress, by John Bunyan

Serious Call to a Devout and Holy Life, by William Law

High school students

Getting Into College, by Rachel Korn and Jennifer Y. Kabat, eds.

Making the Most of College: Students Speak Their Minds, by Richard J. Light

Preparing for College: Practical Advice for Students and their Families, by John F. Reardon

The Six Most Important Decisions You'll Ever Make: A Guide for Teens, by Sean Covey

Campus leaders

Biblical Preaching: The Development and Delivery of Expository Messages, by Haddon Robinson

Boundaries: When to Say Yes, How to Say No, to Take Control of your Life, by Henry Cloud and John Townsend

Campus Core: How to Have an Impact on Your Campus, Get Good Grades, and Figure Out Your Future, by Douglas Jacoby

The Emotionally Healthy Church, by Peter Scazzero

Dynamic Leadership: Principles, Roles, and Relationships for a Life-Changing Church, by Gordon Ferguson

Friend or Foe? (video), by Douglas Jacoby

Golden Rule Leadership, by Gordon Ferguson and Wyndham Shaw

How to Read the Bible for All Its Worth, by Gordon Fee and Douglas Stuart

Prepared to Answer: Restoring Truth in an Age of Relativism, by Gordon Ferguson

Rejoice Always: A Handbook for Christians Facing Emotional Challenges, by Drs. Michael and Mary Shapiro.

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The True Legacy of Abraham - Debate with Shmuley Boteach and Shabir Ally (2008) (DVD)

Evolution & Creation - 2nd debate with Michael Shermer at the U. of Florida (2009)

Judaism & Christianity: Which is the Religion of Peace? - 2nd debate with Shmuley Boteach and Elie Abadie (2009)

Jesus: Man, Myth, or Messiah? (2010) - debate with Robert Price at Houston Baptist University

Is Christianity Rational? - debate with Robert Brotherus in Helsinki (2011)

Jesus Christ: Apocalyptic Messiah or Failed Prophet? – debate with Richard Carrier in Sacramento

Is Faith Rational? – debate with Michael Shermer at UCLA (2012)

Violence, the Bible & the Qur'an - debate with Sheikh Shabir Ally in Toronto (2017)

Jesus Christ: Prophet or Son of God? – debate with Sheikh Shabir Ally in Atlanta (2018)

Born again in Baptism? – debate with Thomas Ross in Milwaukee (2020)

Once Saved, Always Saved? – debate with Thomas Ross in Milwaukee (2020)

Informal debate with Tom Jump, YouTube atheist (2023)

Helpful Websites for Christian Evidences

Alister E. McGrath—users.ox.ac.uk/~mcgrath

American Scientific Affiliation—www.asa3.org

Ben Witherington—www.benwitherington.com and benwitherington.blogspot.com

Bethinking.org Engage with Culture (UCCF: The Christian Unions) —www.bethinking.org

Beyond the Firmament – Understanding Science and the Theology of Creation (Gordon Glover) —
www.blog.beyondthefirmament.com/welcome/

Bible.org—bible.org

Bible Gateway: A Searchable online Bible in over 100 versions and 50 languages—<http://www.biblegateway.com>

Bible Contradictions—www.kingdavid8.com/Contradictions/Home.html

The BioLogos Foundation (Francis Collins) —www.biologos.org

Brainbank Other Reference–Religion —www.cftech.com/BrainBank/OtherReference/Religion/ReligionIndex.html

Christian Classics Ethereal Library—ccel.wheaton.edu/

Craig Evans—www.craigaevans.com

Dean Overman—www.deanoverman.com

Denis Lamoureux—www.ualberta.ca/~dlamoure/index.htm

Does God Exist? —www.DoesGodExist.org

Dr. Gary R. Habermas: Online Resources for the Resurrection of Jesus Christ—www.garyhabermas.com

The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion—www.st-edmunds.cam.ac.uk/faraday/index.php

Evidence for Christianity (Teaching Ministry of John Oakes) —www.evidenceforChristianity.org

International Teaching Ministry of Douglas Jacoby —www.douglasjacoby.com

Interpreting Ancient Manuscripts —www.stg.brown.edu/projects/mss/overview.html

John Lennox —JohnLennox.org

John Polkinghorne—www.polkinghorne.net

Greg Koukl: STR.org

Larry Hurtado – Devotion to Jesus Course Web site—www.wesleyministrynetwork.com/DJ/Texts.html

N.T. Wright—www.ntwrightpage.com

J. Warner Wallace — ColdCaseChristianity.com

Offline Resources —www.megabaud.fi/~osmosa/index.htm

Outside the Box Blog: Cliff Martin —cliff-martin.blogspot.com

Paul Copan: PaulCopan.com

Putting Jesus in His Place—www.deityofchrist.com

Random Designer (Richard Colling) —www.randomdesigner.com

Reasonable Faith with William Lane Craig—www.reasonablefaith.org

Reasons to Believe —www.reasons.org/index.shtml

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Risen Jesus: The Apologetics Ministry of Mike Licona — www.risenjesus.com

Science and Theology: Exploring the Nexus — sites.google.com/a/drvinson.net/science

Society of Christian Philosophers — www.societyofchristianphilosophers.com/membership/

Theological Texts — www.mcgill.pvt.k12.al.us/jerryd/cm/thltxt.htm

A time to tear down | A Time to Build Up (Peter Enns) — peterennsonline.com

The Veritas Forum — www.veritas.org

Walking Thru the Bible — fly.hiwaay.net/~wgann/walk.htm#nt

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<http://www.aacc.net>. Website of the American Association of Christian Counselors. Applications of biblical counseling principles to family relationships.

<http://www.barna.org>. Homepage for The Barna Group. Well thought through and factually substantiated resources relating to families and much more.

<http://www.family.org>. While you and I may not agree with everything James Dobson teaches, most of our readers will agree with most of it. His website is the official site of Focus on the Family.

<http://familydoctor.org>. From the American Academy of Family Physicians, this site offers health information for the whole family.

www.familydynamics.org/ The website of the Family Dynamics Institute. Changes in the marriage inevitably lead to changes in family dynamics; everyone wins.

<http://www.familylife.com>. Family Life contains a wide array of material on marriage, parenting, singles, and life issues.

<http://www.familyvillage.wisc.edu/index.html>. This is the site of Family Village, which provides information for those parenting children with special needs.

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Silk, Danny. *Keep Your Love On: Connection, Communication & Boundaries*. Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson, 2013.

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OTHER MATERIALS

AUDIO

1-2 Timothy & Titus: Culture, Conformity, or Conviction (2007)

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Chariots of Fire: The Radical Life of the Prophet Elijah (2013)³⁷

Christianity & the Paranormal (ARS Conference) (2011)

Escape: Addictive Behaviors (2016)

Egypt in the Bible (2008 International Teachers' Seminar)

The Faith Unfurled: New Testament Survey (2005)

Foundations for Faith: Old Testament Survey (2004)

How We Got the Bible (2005)

The Lion Has Roared: The Prophet Amos (2016)

The Lost Books of the Bible (2006)

The Muslim Challenge (2007)

New Testament Leadership: Preachers, Teachers, Elders, Servants (2007)

Night of Redemption: A Study of Exodus (2011)

The Problem of Human Suffering (2014)

The Psalms (2005)

Revelation & the End of the World (2006)

Thy Kingdom Come! (2008)

Understanding Islam (2007) (DVD)

What Happens After We Die? (2006)

Who Is My Brother? (2006 International Teachers' Seminar)

The Wisdom Literature (2004)

VIDEO

Baptism: The Water that Divides (2009)

Early Church History (2008)

Friend or Foe? (2007) (DVD)

Science & Faith: Enemies or Allies? (DVD) (2013)

[Athens Institute](#) topics:

- Apologetics
- Christ & Culture
- Church Building (seven 5-hour units)
- Church History
- Family Life
- Holy Spirit
- Homiletics: Preaching & Teaching
- New Testament Interpretation
- New Testament Survey
- NT Interpretation: Hebrews
- Old Testament Interpretation
- Old Testament Survey
- OT Interpretation: Amos
- Sound Doctrine
- Spiritual Life
- World Religions / Worldviews

USB Drives (*available from IPI*)

USB1 – The New Testament (over 70 lessons, including 60 pages of NT Chapter Notes on Revelation + the book *James, Peter, John, Jude: Life to the Full*)

USB2 – Evidences (40 lessons, including the *DVD Science & Faith: Enemies or Allies?* + the book *Jesus & Islam*.)

USB3 – The Afterlife (15 hours of audio + the book *What Happens After We Die?*)