

# 1 John 4 Resources

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## CRITIQUE OF ONLINE RESOURCES ON 1 JOHN

- Critique of Online Resources for 1 John - Be a Berean! Acts 17:11+
- [Does the Book of 1 John Present Tests of Fellowship or Signs of Life?](#)
- Johnny V. Miller - [Book Review of the unusual interpretations of 1 John in Zane Hodges' book The Gospel Under Siege](#)
- [Paul Apple's](#) critique of interpretative approach of Zane Hodges
- [Loving the Brethren - Teachings of Zane Hodges](#) - Middletown Bible
- [How 'Free Grace' Theology Diminishes the Gospel](#) - Critique of Wayne Grudem's [Free Grace Theology - 5 Ways It Diminishes the Gospel](#)
- [The Unusual Teachings of Zane Hodges](#) - George Zeller
- [1 John 3:10 Children of God and Children of the Devil](#) - Middletown Bible
- Multi-part discussion of [the unusual teachings of Zane Hodges, et al click Index](#) (>100 pages)
- Sam Storms' Discussion of [Zane Hodges' Interpretation of Fellowship](#);
- John Piper discusses Zane Hodges in his letter [Who Am I Talking About?](#)
- [The Teachings of Zane Hodges, Joseph Dillow, Robert Wilkin](#)

## COMMENTARIES AND OTHER RESOURCES ON 1 JOHN ARCHIVE.ORG

**Explanation** - The following list includes not only commentaries but other Christian works by well known evangelical writers. Most of

the resources below are newer works (written after 1970) which previously were available only for purchase in book form or in a Bible computer program. The resources are made freely available by archive.org but have several caveats - (1) most do not allow copy and paste, (2) they can only be checked out for one hour (but can be checked out immediately when your hour expires giving you time to read or take notes on a lengthy section) and (3) they require creating an account which allows you to check out the books free of charge. To set up an account click [archive.org](http://archive.org) and then click the picture of the person in right upper corner and enter email and a password. That's all you have to do. Then you can read these more modern resources free of charge! I have read or used many of these resources but not all of them so ultimately you will need to be a Berean (Acts 17:11<sup>+</sup>) as you use them. I have also selected works that are conservative and Biblically sound. If you find one that you think does not meet those criteria please send an email at <https://www.preceptaustin.org/contact>. The resources are listed in alphabetical order by the author's last name and some include reviews of the particular resource.

## COMMENTARIES ON 1 JOHN

**Note: Not in any particular order.**

[The Preacher's Outline & Sermon Bible : New Testament, King James Version](#) 1 Thessalonians, 2 Thessalonians, 1 Timothy, 2 Timothy, Titus, Philemon, Hebrews, James, 1 Peter, 2 Peter, 1 John, 2 John, 3 John, Jude, Revelation. - Helpful notes.

[The Letters of John : an Introduction and Commentary \(Tyndale New Testament Commentaries\)](#) by Stott, John R. W (1988) 244 pages. [89 ratings](#)

[Tim Challies](#) - John Stott is always an able commentator and his volume in the TNTC is no exception. Carson praises it as "one of the most useful conservative commentaries on these epistles, so far as the preacher is concerned" and says "it is packed with both exegetical comments and thoughtful application." The TNTC is targeted squarely at a general audience, so both pastors and interesting general readers will find it tremendously beneficial. If you are looking for a commentary to guide you as you read John's epistles devotionally, this is probably the one you want.

Robert Yost - This volume, which was revised in 1988, is one of the finest offerings in the TNTC series. Stott, an Anglican and one of the elder statesmen of the evangelical world in the twentieth century has written an outstanding commentary that, in spite of its age, has continued to hold its own alongside other more recent works. Any book written by Stott is worth obtaining. Age has not tarnished its luster. This is a nontechnical work that can be used by both pastors and laypersons. "A beautiful blending of Bible teaching and practical theology" (Barber, 182). "One of the most useful conservative commentaries on these epistles, so far as the preacher is concerned" (Carson, 154).

James Rosscup - Here is a recent lucid, stimulating work by a gifted writer who has served as rector of the All Souls (Anglican) Church, Langham Place, London. Several New Testament scholars have hailed it as an outstanding commentary from the standpoint of exegesis, exposition and warm application. It was listed among 22 "Choice Evangelical Books of 1964" in Christianity Today (February 12, 1965, p. 16). Stott displays a vast breadth of reading in the best conservative works on the Johannine epistles. This 1988 version updates the 1964 original.

[Sam Storms review](#) - This is far and away the best commentary that Stott has written on any NT book. It is also the first commentary that I would recommend for the student to purchase. It was revised and expanded in 1988 to take into account more recent studies of the Johannine literature. Although he interacts with the Greek text, this commentary is accessible to students of the English Bible as well. Get it!\*\*

[The Epistles of John in The New International Commentary on the New Testament](#) - I Howard Marshall

[Sam Storms](#) - 1978. Marshall writes from an Arminian perspective. His commentary is second only to Stott for evangelical readers. It is thorough and always fair in its treatment of controversial issues. Highly recommended.\*

[John Cereghin \(Baptist Pastor\)](#) - Simply written and ably brings together a good deal of previous scholarship without getting bogged down in minutiae. This is a very good commentary.

Robert Yost - This commentary is a very fine treatment of these epistles by the senior lecturer in NT exegesis at the University of Aberdeen, Scotland, and one of the finest NT scholars of the twentieth century. Marshall's

approach is scholarly, but also accessible to the nonspecialist. An excellent effort! "Keen ability to follow the thought of a book and articulate it with clarity" (Rosscup, 331). "Much ... value to the preacher. The book is simply written and ably brings together a good deal of previous scholarship without getting bogged down in minutiae.... A very good commentary" (Carson, 153). "Characterized by careful augmentation, balanced judgment, and clear and understandable presentation of current scholarly discussions and of complex exegetical issues" (Bauer, 387). Arminian.

[Cyril Barber](#) (page 62) - New International Commentary on the New Testament. Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1978. An extensive introduction that adequately surveys the historical and textual background of these letters is followed by a careful exposition of John's epistles in the order in which they were written. Provides interested readers with a complete and satisfying treatment.

James Rosscup - Like Ryrie and Stott, Marshall has keen ability to follow the thought of a book and articulate it with clarity. He often is helpful on stating views gleaned from the literature and is up-to-date. His use of the Greek, good footnotes, and detail on many of the problem verses make this a very good evangelical commentary by one of the best New Testament scholars in the British Isles (ca. 2001 he retired from being head of the New Testament Department at King's College, University of Aberdeen, Scotland).

[Epistles of John & Jude : a self-study guide](#) by Jensen, Irving

[The Gospel and epistles of John](#) 160 pages, 1970. F F Bruce

[John Cereghin \(Baptist Pastor\)](#) - A brief, popular exposition. Defends apostolic authorship (15); gives a short introduction (25-33); holds that the words "world" and "life" are key words of John (36); stresses the role of Christ as Advocate (49); teaches the coming of a future Antichrist (67ff); has a note rejecting the authenticity of the passage on the three heavenly witnesses (129-130).

[Sam Storms](#) - This is one of the first commentaries on John's letters that I read. As always, Bruce is precise in his explanation of issues. It is brief but worthy of your study.

[The Epistles of John : \[an expositional commentary\]](#) - Boice, James Montgomery. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1979.

[Sam Storms review](#) - This commentary is based on Boice's sermons. Although not a detailed interaction with the text, it is theologically and homiletically helpful.

Robert Yost - This well-written and informative volume is a popular compilation of expositions of the text by a noted Presbyterian pastor. This commentary is very helpful for the pastor or general reader. Reformed.

[The Johannine Epistles : based on the Revised Standard version](#) by Grayston, Kenneth

Cyril Barber - New Century Bible Commentary. Grand Rapids: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1984. Following a brief but adequate introduction, Grayson reappraises Johannine scholarship, and though some of his views differ from those of others who have written on these epistles, readers are nevertheless treated to a discussion that is spiritually stimulating and culturally apropos.

[Sam Storms review](#) - Like most volumes in this series, this one is brief but helpful.

[The Expositor's Bible Commentary](#) - 1994 edition - Abridged - New Testament

[Sam Storms review](#) - Barker, G. W. *1 John, 2 John, 3 John*. The Expositor's Bible Commentary, vol. 12. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1981. This is an evangelical and conservative treatment of the Johannine epistles that is designed for those without a knowledge of Greek. It tends to be too brief at times.

[Life in Christ : studies in 1 John](#) (volume 2) D Martyn Lloyd-Jones

[Life in God: 1 John \(volume 5\)](#) D Martyn Lloyd-Jones

[The Interpretation of the Epistles of St. Peter, St. John and St. Jude](#) - R C H Lenski (excellent Lutheran commentator)

Robert Yost - "Aims to force the student to think through the Greek text and stimulate exegetical rigor, but his grasp of Greek is mechanical, amateurish, and without respect for the fluidity of Greek in the Hellenistic period. The series is marred by a militant or even angry tone in defense of orthodox Lutheranism" (Carson, 24). To be fair, I purchased this set and used it extensively during my seminary years and found it quite useful and of great help in exegesis. It was my shield at my right hand during my years of Greek study. Lutheran. Amillennial.

[1-3 John](#) by Thompson, Marianne Meye -- [see below](#)

James Rosscup - A lucid 168-pp., crisp exposition with some application in a flow for popular, general use. In a number of verses the book helps, at others it frustrates due to passing by views and reasons, or lacks sufficient comments. Much generalizing leaves an impression that in order to be seen as saved one must live an ideally perfect life (cf. 43), yet at other points one reads that Christians sin (45). The work has a healthy clarity that real grace, distinct from cheap so-called (but not genuine) grace (51) elicits confession of sin and seeking obedience to God. Such a life with God helps one's assurance to be a properly experienced reality, as in 2:3 (51), even this by grace. Some statements are quite helpful, as "righteous conduct does not make us God's children. Rather, such conduct is the consequence or expression of a relationship that already exists" after rebirth (87). Many issues are left in a blur, for instance "God's seed remains" (3:9).

[Sam Storms review](#) - Although brief and non-technical, Thompson has helpful insights. It is not as good, however, as Stott or Marshall.

[The Epistles of John](#) by Hobbs, Herschel H

[The Bible Exposition Commentary](#) or [Bible Exposition Commentary](#) - Ephesians through Revelation - Warren Wiersbe

**Rosscup** - One of America's most appreciated staunchly evangelical Bible conference teachers gives diligent, refreshing expositions. These are all of his 23 separate, earlier books in the "Be" series on the New Testament. He strikes a particular appeal with lay people as he crystallizes sections, deals with some of the verses, handles certain problems and backgrounds and applies principles. He is premillennial.

[The letters of John the Apostle : an in-depth commentary](#) by Burdick, Donald W

James Rosscup - This is far more detailed in getting at issues than his Everyman's Commentary effort of 1970. It is a diligent conservative product on Greek syntax, word meaning and theology, and follows the line of thought through the epistles well. The introduction (pp. 3-92) takes up the background, authorship, date, place, recipients, occasion, purpose, character and content of I John. Later, he also has introductions to II and III John. He believes that I John gives grounds for assurance, tests of practice that can provide valid assurance (cf. pp. 81-82). Though copious in aspects of grammar that open up the books, Burdick is more lucid than Westcott's helpful exegetical work of the past, and certainly one of the best now on the Greek. At some points one ought to go to longer discussions of views and issues in Brown, and also consult Brooke, Marshall, Plummer, Smalley, and Strecker etc. on technical matters, Marshall and Smalley also for more on studies of recent years.

Cyril Barber - Written for lay people. This work is designed to lay bare the meaning of John's letters for his own time and ours as well. Clear and cogent.

[The Epistles of John](#) by Burdick, Donald W

James Rosscup - A part of the Everyman's Bible Commentary series, this work by a careful evangelical New Testament scholar from Denver Seminary is quite perceptive on problems and good as a brief commentary.

[Sam Storms review](#) - This volume is similar in approach and perspective to Hiebert. Very helpful.

[John Cereghin \(Baptist pastor\)](#) - A careful exposition with an analysis of the ascending stages, or spiral, in John's thought. The writer sees John's basic purpose in writing as being to develop a correct view of Christ will result in a life of love and righteousness. Good for Bible study classes. ! 1985 (different than above). Not to be overlooked although not always to be trusted. Almost 500 pages, it attempts to offer exegesis of the Greek text, theological comment, present-day application and some comment on structure. But beware: its approach to Greek somehow manages to be simultaneously painstaking and mechanical, partly because the work is linguistically uninformed. The style is a bit stodgy.

[1, 2, 3 John : Bible study commentary](#) by Vaughan, Curtis

[The Epistles of John](#) by Marshall, I. Howard, author

James Rosscup - Like Ryrie and Stott, Marshall has keen ability to follow the thought of a book and articulate it with clarity. He often is helpful on stating views gleaned from the literature and is up-to-date. His use of the Greek, good footnotes, and detail on many of the problem verses make this a very good evangelical commentary by one of the best New Testament scholars in the British Isles (ca. 2001 he retired from being head of the New Testament Department at King's College, University of Aberdeen, Scotland).

[Sam Storms review](#) - Marshall writes from an Arminian perspective. His commentary is second only to Stott for evangelical readers. It is thorough and always fair in its treatment of controversial issues. Highly recommended.\*

Cyril Barber - An extensive introduction that adequately surveys the historical and textual background of these letters is followed by a careful exposition of John's epistles in the order in which they were written. Provides interested readers with a complete and satisfying treatment.

[1, 2, 3 John - Morris, Leon. "New Bible Commentary Revised](#), ed. D. Guthrie et al. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1970.

[The Gospel according to St. John : Schnackenburg, Rudolf](#)

[Sam Storms review](#) - Translated by Reginald and Ilse Fuller. New York: Crossroad, 1992. Schnackenburg is deep and technical, somewhat liberal, but worth digging into for detailed exegetical insights on the Greek text and theologically important matters.

[1, 2, and 3 John](#) by Johnson, Thomas Floyd - New International Biblical Commentary

James Rosscup - Johnson identifies the writer of the Gospel of John as "The disciple whom Jesus loved" (20:20, 24), but sees these epistles as by an "elder," a different man (2). The concise verse comments are usually clear and well-reasoned, showing the idea of the Greek with Greek words transliterated, and with explanations of word meaning and grammar. Sections of added notes in smaller print take up some details. Some problems receive discussion, some are bypassed, in the latter category limited or unlimited atonement in I John 2:2, or interpretations of 2:12–14, or 5:16 (where much is not explained or not explained well). True, the commentary quite often is helpful, but uneven, and not one of the better all-around works one can more consistently count on.

[Sam Storms review](#) - This series is generally evangelical but brief in scope.

[The message of John's letters : living in the love of God](#) by Jackman, David

Cyril Barber - Relates the message of these letters to the moral issues and theological climate of John's day. Builds upon Stott's cyclical (or spiral) theme of the content of the first letter, and treats the other letters as emphasizing truth and love. A noteworthy contribution.

[Sam Storms review](#) - Although I have not used this commentary much, most in the BST series are evangelical in theology and quite helpful.

[The Epistles of John : Strauss, Lehman](#) - devotional commentary

[1, 2, 3 John](#) by Smalley, Stephen S - Word Biblical Commentary

James Rosscup - This ranks high with Brown, Burdick and Marshall in recent years. Smalley is excellent in helping the reader be up on views and arguments from recent years, drawn from massive research, and is second only to Brown in this regard. He is usually quite full in discussing issues so that he offers much help on verses, and does so with clarity, directness and confidence. He delves into changes in tense, many of the syntactical aspects, and doctrine. He sees the author of II and III John as John the presbyter, a Christian in the Johannine circle, and this same man may also have written I John, all in the A. D. 90's. Smalley often makes good choices on views, and tends to give definite reasons for them. He sees charisma (2:20, 27) as both the Spirit and the Word; 3:4–10 relates to a potential state without sin, but in practice Christians do sin (1:8–2:2). Sin in 5:16–17 is apostasy, willful disobedience, etc. He is not clear on whether the saved can lose salvation.

Robert Yost - This volume is a moderately conservative offering in the uneven WBC series by the Canon Residentiary and Precentor of Coventry Cathedral in England. Smalley is a Johannine scholar who has provided particularly good bibliographies at the beginning of each major section according to the series' protocol. This commentary was revised in 2007. "At his best when he is summarizing and interacting with the positions of others" (Carson, 152).

Cyril Barber - This is a scholarly work that is well deserving of careful reading. Following a thorough introduction (pp. xvii-xxxiv), Smalley treats his readers to a word-by-word or phrase-by-phrase exposition. His comments are judicious as well as insightful. This volume, for all its merit, shares the limitations of the series. It is well researched and exegetically helpful but manifests a weakness in treating the theme of these letters and fails to complete what has been begun by applying the teaching of the passage to the life of the reader

[Sam Storms review](#) - Smalley's volume is excellent and is designed for those with a working knowledge of Greek. It is generally evangelical in approach and is especially helpful in presenting detailed arguments both pro and con on controversial issues.\*

[Exploring 1, 2, 3 John](#) by Vines, Jerry

Cyril Barber - This work will be warmly received by Bible students of all persuasions. Vines deals admirably with the theme of each of John's letters. The way in which he has outlined, illustrated, and expounded each section makes his application of the truth to life easy to grasp. Recommended.

[The Epistles of John](#) by Brown, Raymond Edward

James Rosscup - Many rate this as the best work on these epistles in view of its extensive discussion of issues and the skill in which the famous Roman Catholic scholar handles so many aspects. He is highly-informed exegetically, full in consideration of views and lines of reasoning, and has a tone of respect for the truthfulness and relevance of the message. If the expositor, teacher or lay person wants a commentary that looks at just about every side of a matter in a readable manner and with authoritative grasp of the literature, he will consult this work. The same is true of Brown's detailed commentary on the Gospel of John. Brown, however, will not always agree with a reader's convictions, as when he favors John the Presbyter as the author. The sheer length will not please some, but the diligent and serious will find the source very useful.

Robert Yost - The author, like Schnackenburg, is a highly respected Roman Catholic Johannine scholar who has produced a major work on John's gospel. This work shows that he has leaned a bit to the left since publishing the gospel commentary over a decade earlier. "The exegetical comments are often incisive" (Carson, 152).

[Cyril Barber](#) - Meticulous in detail, exhaustive in analysis, persuasive in argument, this study provides the best answers available to questions and controversies that have troubled scholars and non-scholars alike ever since these epistles first saw the light of day. In addition to the superb analysis, Brown also brings to life those to whom these letters were sent, reminding us that the epistles were written by a person for real people of the first century A.D. A model of biblical study

[Sam Storms](#) - This volume is by one of the leading Catholic scholars of our day. It is deep and detailed and has become the standard by which all other commentaries on John's letters are judged.\*

[Life at its Best](#) 1 John by Roy I. Laurin

Cyril Barber - First published in 1957, this work provides lay readers with a commendable application of the text to the needs of Christians today. Practical.

[Open letter to Evangelicals](#) by R.E.O. White

James Rosscup - A Baptist minister presents both a commentary with occasional deep insight and some penetrating applications to spiritual life, ethics, and other particulars. It is a verse-by-verse devotional and homiletical exposition which sometimes deals with problems including the difficult passage in 1 Jn 3:4-10.

## STUDY BIBLES, ETC.

[KJV Bible Commentary](#) - Hindson, Edward E; Kroll, Woodrow Michael. Over 3000 pages of the entire OT/NT. Well done conservative commentary that interprets Scripture from a literal perspective. Pre-millennial. [User reviews](#) - it generally gets 4/5 stars from users. - [372 ratings](#)

Very well done conservative commentary that interprets Scripture from a literal perspective [user reviews](#)

The King James Version Bible Commentary is a complete verse-by-verse commentary. It is comprehensive in scope, reliable in scholarship, and easy to use. Its authors are leading evangelical theologians who provide practical truths and biblical principles. Any Bible student will gain new insights through this one-volume commentary based on the timeless King James Version of the Bible.

[The King James Study Bible Second Edition](#) 2240 pages (2013) (Thomas Nelson) General Editor - Edward Hindson with multiple contributing editors. . [3,194 ratings](#). Pre-millennial. See [introduction on How to Use this Study Bible](#)



[NKJV Study Bible: New King James Version Study Bible](#) (formerly "The Nelson Study Bible - NKJV") by Earl D Radmacher; Ronald Barclay Allen; Wayne H House. 2345 pages. (1997, 2007). Very helpful notes. Conservative. Pre-millennial. [917 ratings](#)

[The Wycliffe Bible Commentary - only the New Testament](#) (for OT see below to borrow) - 1126 pages. (1971) Everett F Harrison - Editor of New Testament. Uses the KJV. Strictly speaking not a study Bible, but short notes are similar. KJV text in left column, commentary notes in right column. The comments are generally verse by verse, short, conservative and to the point. Pre-millennial.

[Zondervan NIV Study Bible](#) - (2011) 2570 pages - Use this one if available as it has more notes than edition below. One hour limit

[NIV Study Bible](#) by Barker, Kenneth L; Burdick, Donald W (1995) 2250 pages. This is the first edition. This resource has been fully revised in 2020. One hour limit

[Believer's Bible Commentary](#) - OT and NT - MacDonald, William (1995) 2480 pages. Conservative. Literal. Often has very insightful comments. John MacArthur, says "Concise yet comprehensive - the most complete single-volume commentary I have seen." Warren Wiersbe adds "For the student who is serious about seeing Christ in the Word." One hour limit.

Rosscup - This work, originally issued in 1983, is conservative and premillennial, written to help teachers, preachers and people in every walk of life with different views, explanation and application. The 2-column format runs verse by verse for the most part, usually in a helpfully knowledgeable manner, and there are several special sections such as "Prayer" in Acts and "Legalism" in Galatians. The premillennial view is evident on [Acts 1:6](#), [3:20](#), [Romans 11:26](#), [Galatians 6:16](#), Revelation 20, etc.

[HCSB Study Bible : Holman Christian Standard Bible](#) - General Editor Jeremy Royal Howard (2010) 2360 pages. Conservative. Good notes. Include Holmans excellent maps. One hour limit

[Life Application Study Bible: Old Testament and New Testament](#) New Living Translation. Has some very helpful notes especially with application of texts. [4,445 ratings](#) One hour limit

[The MacArthur Study Bible](#) - John MacArthur. Brief but well done notes for conservative, literal perspective. [1,275 ratings](#)

[ESV study Bible](#) - Excellent resource but not always literal in eschatology and the nation of Israel [6,004 ratings](#)

[The David Jeremiah Study Bible](#) - (2013) 2208 pages. [2,272 ratings Logos.com](#) - "Drawing on more than 40 years of study, Dr. David Jeremiah has compiled a legacy resource that will make an eternal impact on generations to come. 8,000 study notes. Hundreds of enriching word studies"50+ Essentials of the Christian Faith" articles."

[Wycliffe Bible Commentary](#) - Charles Pfeiffer - 1560 pages (1962). [214 ratings](#) Less detailed than the KJV Bible Commentary. Conservative. Notes are generally verse by verse but brief.

Rosscup - Conservative and premillennial scholars here have been experts in their fields. The work contains brief introductions and attempts to give a verse-by-verse exposition, though it does skip over some verses. The treatments vary with the authors, but as a whole it is a fine one-volume commentary for pastors and students to use or give to a layman. Outstanding sections include, for example: Whitcomb on Ezra-Nehemiah-Esther; Culver on Daniel; Ladd on Acts; Harrison on Galatians; Johnson on I Corinthians; and Ryrie on the Johannine Epistles.

[The Defender's Study Bible : King James Version](#) by Morris, Henry M. Excellent notes by well known creationist. [45 ratings](#)

[New Bible Commentary](#) - (1994) [See user reviews](#)

[Compact Bible commentary](#) by Radmacher, Earl D; Allen, Ronald Barclay; House, H Wayne, et al - 954 pages. [424 ratings](#) Multiple contributors to the comments which are often verse by verse. The comments are brief but meaty and can really help your study through a given book. A sleeper in my opinion.

[The Experiencing God Study Bible: the Bible for knowing and doing the will of God](#) - Blackaby, Henry (1996) 1968 pages - CHECK THIS ONE! Each chapter begins with several questions under the title "PREPARE TO MEET GOD." Then you will interesting symbols before many of the passages. The chapter ends with a "DID YOU NOTICE?" question. This might make a "dry chapter" jump off the page! Read some of the [48 ratings](#)

[Disciple's study Bible: New international version](#) [54 ratings](#) Not that helpful for verse by verse study. Focuses on application of Christian doctrines. 10,000 annotations; doctrinal summaries, "Life Helps" section relate doctrine to everyday discipleship.

[The Living Insights Study Bible : New International Version](#) - Charles Swindoll. Notes are good but somewhat sparse and not verse by verse.

[The Apologetics Study Bible Understand Why You Believe](#) by Norman Geisler

[NIV archaeological study Bible](#) (2005) 2360 pages [950 ratings](#) (See also [Archaeology and the Bible - OT and NT](#))

[NIV Cultural Backgrounds Study Bible. Bringing to Life the Ancient World of Scripture](#) Keener, Craig and Walton, John. Editors (2017)

[The Holman illustrated study Bible 120 ratings](#) Includes the excellent Holman maps but otherwise of little help in serious study.

[Zondervan King James Version commentary](#) - New Testament

[NIV Celebrate Recovery Study Bible](#)

[Daily Study Bible for Women : New Living Translation](#)

[The Woman's Study Bible : the New King James Version](#)

[The Study Bible for Women : Holman Christian Standard Bible](#)

[Daily Study Bible for Men : New Living Translation](#)

[NIV Topical Study Bible : New International Version](#)

[The Ryrie Study Bible](#) - Charles Ryrie (1978) 2142 pages. Conservative. [216 ratings](#)

[The Hebrew-Greek key study Bible : New American standard study](#) by Strong, James, 1822-1894; Zodhiates, Spiros

[The New Inductive Study Bible : updated New American Standard Bible](#) - Introductions of each book give suggestions how to perform an inductive study on that specific book. Not strictly speaking a "study Bible" with notes but a Bible to help you study inductively. Has wide margins for making notes. This is one that works best in "paper," not digitally.

[With the Word](#) - Devotional Commentary - Warren Wiersbe - [428 ratings](#)

[Evangelical Commentary on the Bible](#) - Judges by Andrew Boling (20 pages); editor Walter Elwell (1989) 1239 pages. [User reviews](#). (See also Boling's [380 page commentary on Judges](#) the Anchor Bible Series)

[Halley's Bible Handbook](#) Henry H. Halley - (2000) 2720 pages (much larger than original edition in 1965 and no time limit on use). ([Halley's Bible handbook : an abbreviated Bible commentary - one hour limit](#) 1965 872 pages)

Rosscup - A much-used older evangelical handbook bringing together a brief commentary on Bible books, some key archaeological findings, historical background, maps, quotes, etc. It is helpful to a lay Bible teacher, Sunday School leader, or pastor looking for quick, pertinent information on a Bible book. This is the 72nd printing somewhat revised. Halley packed in much information. Unger's is better overall, but that is not to say that Halley's will not provide much help on basic information.

[The Shaw Pocket Bible Handbook](#) - Editor - Walter Elwell (1984) 408 pages.

"This hardback is small in size but packed full of content: Brief summaries of every book of the bible, cultural, archaeological and historical info, word definitions, pictures, maps and charts." Worth checking!

[The Lion handbook to the Bible](#) - (1999) 822 pages. This resource is absolutely loaded with very nice color pictures and charts.

[Wiersbe's Expository Outlines on the New Testament](#) by Wiersbe, Warren W

[Cyril Barber](#) - This is a book of exceptional merit. Pastors, missionaries, and Christian workers will profit from its use. Wiersbe introduces each book of the NT, provides an outline, and then furnishes his readers with a chapter-by-chapter discussion of the contents. The homiletic style is a "plus." Recommended.

[Harper study Bible : the Holy Bible, Revised Standard Version](#)

[The Jewish Study Bible](#) - Only OT - Interesting Jewish perspective.

[The Student Bible : New International Version](#)

[Hebrew-Greek key word study Bible : New international version](#)

[Key word commentary : thoughts on every chapter of the Bible](#) by Water, Mark



[Eerdmans' Family Encyclopedia of the Bible](#) (1978) 344 pages

[Eerdmans' Handbook to the Bible](#) (1983) 688 pages

[Tyndale Handbook of Bible charts & maps](#) by Wilson, Neil

[Bible Handbook and A-Z bible encyclopedia](#)

[International Children's Bible field guide : answering kids' questions from Genesis to Revelation](#) by Richards, Larry

[The illustrated guide to Bible customs & curiosities](#) by Knight, George W. (George William),

[Today's handbook of Bible times & customs](#) by Coleman, William L

[The new Unger's Bible dictionary](#) by Unger, Merrill Frederick, 1909-

[Nelson's illustrated encyclopedia of Bible facts](#) by Packer, J. I. (James Innell); Tenney, Merrill C.

[Survey of the Bible : introductory insights, background studies, book-by- book survey](#) by Unger, Merrill Frederick

[The parallel New Testament and Unger's Bible handbook : produced for Moody monthly](#) by Unger, Merrill (1975) 744 pages [4 ratings](#)

[The Hodder Bible handbook](#) by Unger, Merrill

[Kregel Bible handbook : a full-color guide to every book of the Bible](#) by Kerr, William [3 ratings](#)

[The new encyclopedia of Christian quotations](#) by Water, Mark

[New Testament words](#) - William Barclay - very interesting resource - covers about 70 NT Greek words in Barclay's unique style

[Zondervan handbook to the Bible](#)

[Dictionary of the later New Testament & its developments](#) [71 ratings](#) IVP Series

The third of IVP's critically acclaimed series of dictionaries of the New Testament provides focused study on the often-neglected portions of the New Testament: Acts, Hebrews, the General Epistles, and Revelation. Furthermore, its scope goes beyond the life of the New Testament church to include the work of the apostolic fathers and early Christianity up through the middle of the second century.

[Dictionary of New Testament background](#) [79 ratings](#) IVP Series

In a time when our knowledge of the ancient Mediterranean world has grown by leaps and bounds, this volume sets out for readers the wealth of Jewish and Greco-Roman background that should inform our reading and understanding of the New Testament and early Christianity. The Dictionary of New Testament Background takes full advantage of the flourishing study of the Dead Sea Scrolls and offers individual articles focused on the most important scrolls. In addition, the Dictionary encompasses the fullness of second-temple Jewish writings, whether pseudepigraphic, rabbinic, parables, proverbs, histories or inscriptions. Articles abound on aspects of Jewish life and thought, including family, purity, liturgy and messianism. The full scope of Greco-Roman culture is displayed in articles ranging across language and rhetoric, literacy and book culture, religion and cults, honor and shame, patronage and benefactors, travel and trade, intellectual movements and ideas, and ancient geographical perspectives. No other reference work presents so much in one place for students of the New Testament. Here an entire library of scholarship is made available in summary form.

[Dictionary of deities and demons in the Bible \(DDD\)](#) - 950 pages (1995) Read some of the [65 ratings](#) (4.8/5 Stars). A definitive in depth resource on this subject. Very expensive to purchase.

## WORD STUDY RESOURCES

### GREEK AND HEBREW

**NOTE** - All of these resources can be borrowed from archive.org. This list also includes resources to help study the Bible.

See also the [list of Word Study Resources](#)

[The Complete Word Study Dictionary: New Testament](#) by Zodhiates, Spiros - This is my "go to" resource for Greek word studies. One of the best lexicons for laymen. Highly Recommended for Greek Word Studies to aid your interpretation of a passage.

[Analytical Lexicon of the Greek New Testament](#) by Friberg, Timothy. Shorter definitions than Zodhiates but does an excellent job in summarizing the various nuances of a specific Greek word. One of my favorites.

[Shorter Lexicon of the Greek New Testament](#) by Gingrich, F. Wilbur. Similar to Friberg but shorter definitions. Gingrich however gives more Scriptures for each nuance, whereas Friberg generally gives only one representative Scripture.

[The New Linguistic and Exegetical Key to the Greek New Testament](#) by Rogers, Cleon - This book is a gold mine of little gems on individual Greek words in any NT passage you are studying. If you have time it is always worth checking out! I use it in my [Greek word studies](#) all the time.

[The New International Dictionary of New Testament Theology](#) (NIDNTT) - Colin Brown, general editor - all three volumes (total 3351 pages) are available and allow copy and paste and all 3 of the volumes below are available at the [same link](#). [See this page for a few instructions on how to most efficiently utilize this incredible resource](#).

1. The New International Dictionary of New Testament Theology (NIDNTT) - Colin Brown, general editor - A-F
2. The New International Dictionary of New Testament Theology (NIDNTT) - Colin Brown, general editor - G-P
3. The New International Dictionary of New Testament Theology (NIDNTT) - Colin Brown, general editor - Pri-Z

[New Testament Words](#) - William Barclay - [59 ratings](#) very interesting resource - covers about 70 NT Greek words in Barclay's unique style. On page 289 there is a helpful index of English words with the corresponding Greek word, in turn followed by the places Barclay described them in [New Testament Words](#) and in his Daily Study Bible series ([see list of DSB commentaries here](#)). E.g., take the Greek word for "Covetousness" which is pleonexia and is found in [New Testament Words](#) on page 61 and pp 233-235 and is also described in the Daily Study Bible entries for : [Mark 7:14-23](#); [Ro 1:28-32](#); [Eph. 4:17-24](#); [Col. 3:5](#). So you can click the [DSB commentary on Mark 7](#) and scroll down to [Mark 7:14](#) to see Barclay's entry for pleonexia which concludes "Pleonexia ( G4124) is that lust for having which is in the heart of the man who sees happiness in things instead of in God." Interesting!

[Greek-English lexicon of the New Testament : based on semantic domains](#) - Louw Nida. Brief but nice definitions. Not easy to use - you need to know some Greek. Classifies Greek words into 93 "semantic domains" (see list on page XXV) and if you can categorize the word you are looking for in one of the domains, it can help find the specific word you are interested in.

Robert Yost - "This lexicon takes a novel approach by outlining NT words into their semantic domains, such as People, Danger, Help, Value, Time, etc. The reader then has quick access to the synonyms of the NT, an important tool in defining words. Knowledge of Greek is necessary, but with concentrated effort, an English reader can learn to use this important resource" (Stout).

[Kittel's Theological Dictionary of the New Testament : abridged in one volume](#) (TDNT) - Classic ("Little Kittel") work summarizing the 10 volume set by Kittel. For most of us the abridged definition is "more than enough!"

[A Greek-English lexicon of the New Testament, and other early Christian literature](#); by Bauer, W., F. Danker, W. Arndt, and F. W. Gingrich. More detailed definitions but need to know Greek. Zodhiates and Friberg much easier to use.

Robert Yost - This essential resource is the standard lexicon for students and scholars of the Greek NT. It is a translation and adaptation of Walter Bauer's Griechisch-Deutsches Wörterbuch zu den Schriften des Neuen Testaments und der übrigen urchristlichen Literatur by Arndt and Gingrich and then updated by Danker. This meticulous work has superseded all previous English lexicons.

[Liddell and Scott's Greek-English lexicon, abridged : the little Liddell](#) by Liddell, Henry George. The abridged version. You need to know Greek to use.

[Exegetical dictionary of the New Testament](#) (Volume 1 - A thru E); [Exegetical dictionary of the New Testament](#) (Volume 3- P thru ...) Volume 2 not available. I do not find this adds much to the easier to use resources like Zodhiates and Friberg.

[A pocket lexicon to the Greek New Testament](#) by Souter, Alexander. Brief definitions. Need to know some Greek. Not that helpful.

[Vine's Expository Dictionary of Old Testament and New Testament Words](#) - pdf. The old standby. You can also borrow [Vine's complete expository dictionary of Old and New Testament words](#)

[Theological wordbook of the Old Testament](#) by Harris, R. Laird - [229 ratings](#) (5/5 Stars) One of the best OT lexicons for laymen.

[Here is another link to the TWOT](#) which has **no time limit on use** and **does allow copy and paste**. Can be downloaded as PDF.

[Hebrew honey : a simple and deep word study of the Old Testament](#) by Novak, Alfons, (332 pages) Indexed by English words. No Strong's numbers to help you determine if you are researching the correct Hebrew word. Here is a "work around" - go to page 289 and see if there is an annotation of the Scripture you are studying. E.g., say you want to see if there is anything for "heart" in [Ezek 11:19](#). In the Scripture list find an entry for [Ezek 11:19](#) with the English word "Heart." Now go look up "Heart" (on page 123). It does take some effort, but you might glean an insight not described in other Hebrew lexicons.

[Nelson's Expository Dictionary of the Old Testament](#) by Unger, Merrill. Indexed by English word and then any related Hebrew nouns or verbs. Definitions are solid and geared to the lay person.

[Zondervan NASB exhaustive concordance](#) - 1589 pages

[Pocket dictionary for the study of New Testament Greek](#) by DeMoss, Matthew S. If you want to dig a little deeper into Greek. [66 ratings](#)

[Analytical concordance to the Holy Bible](#) : containing about 311,000 references, subdivided under the Hebrew and Greek original with the literal meaning and pronunciation of each by Young, Robert,

[The Englishman's Greek concordance of the New Testament](#) by Wigram, George

[Synonyms of the New Testament](#) by Trench, Richard Chenevix - or [click here for list of 108 entries](#)

[Girdlestone's Synonyms of the Old Testament](#) - [click](#) for list of 127 entries

[The Holman guide to interpreting the Bible](#) by Dockery, David S

[Foundations for biblical interpretation : a complete library of tools and resources](#)

[Expository Dictionary of Bible Words](#) by Richards, Larry, [33 ratings](#) It does not go into great depth on the Greek or Hebrew words but does have some excellent insights.

[Basic Bible Interpretation : a Practical Guide to Discovering Biblical Truth](#) by Roy Zuck. Recommended.

[How to Study Your Bible](#) by Arthur, Kay ([CLICK HERE](#) for many other resources from Kay Arthur). The basics of inductive Bible study succinctly described. Recommended. This is the original edition not the new edition.

[Living by the Book](#) by Howard G. Hendricks - A classic. An entertaining and informative read that is guaranteed to invigorate your Bible study. Recommended.

[Teaching to Change Lives](#) by Howard Hendricks, Howard [561 ratings](#)

[The Christian Educator's Handbook on Teaching](#) by Kenneth Gangel and Howard Hendricks [21 ratings](#)

[How can I understand the Bible?](#) by DeHaan, Mart (52 page booklet)

[The New How to Study Your Bible Workbook](#) (2010) by Arthur, Kay, - Note that this workbook is the companion to the [New How to Study Your Bible](#) book (not the same as the one linked above).

[Jensen's Survey of Bible \(online\)](#) by Jensen, Irving [140 ratings](#) (NT) [133 ratings](#) (OT) This is a classic and in conjunction with the following three resources should give you an excellent background to the Bible book you are studying. Jensen has some of the best Book charts available and includes "key words." He also gives you some guidelines as to how to begin your inductive study of each book.

[Discover the Bible for Yourself](#) by Arthur, Kay [93 ratings](#) - Proven methods to read, mark, and study God's Word. Introductions to set the stage for each book of the Bible. Maps and charts to add historic and geographic dimension. Word studies for NASB and NIV translations. Definitions and explanations to simplify interpretation. "Things to Think About" for personal application. This resource will inspire and guide anyone interested in creating a personal study of God's Word.

[What the Bible is all about](#) by Mears, Henrietta. This is a classic and is filled with "pearls" from this godly teacher of God's Word.

[Talk thru the bible](#) by Wilkinson, Bruce [The Wilkinson & Boa Bible handbook : the ultimate guide to help you get more out of the Bible](#)

[How to profit from Bible reading](#) by Jensen, Irving [2 ratings](#)

[Simply understanding the Bible](#) by Jensen, Irving [8 ratings](#)

[Enjoy your Bible](#) by Jensen, Irving [5 ratings](#)

[Independent Bible study](#) by Jensen, Irving [14 ratings](#)

[MacArthur Study Bible - Topic "How to Study the Bible"](#) - John MacArthur

[MacArthur's Introductions to all 66 Books](#) - includes a helpful discussion of "Interpretative Challenges"

[Swindoll's introductions to all 66 Books](#) - Answers the following questions - Who wrote the book? Where are we? Why is this book so important? What's the big idea? How do I apply this? He also includes a helpful Book Overview chart (right upper corner of page).

[How to Get the Most from God's Word](#) by John MacArthur [16 ratings](#)

[Journey of the Bible : the remarkable story of how the Bible came from God to you](#) by Jensen, Irving

## MORE SERMONS AND COMMENTARIES

### DANNY AKIN SERMONS

- [The Marks Of A False Prophet – 1 John 4:1-6](#)
- [Test the Spirits. They Are Not All from God \(John's Letters Series\) – 1 John 4:1-6](#)
- [How's Your Love Life – 1 John 4:7-10](#)
- [God Is Love \(John's Letters Series\) – 1 John 4:7-12](#)
- [The Power of Love – 1 John 4:11-16](#)
- [The Power of Love \(John's Letters Series\) – 1 John 4:13-21](#)
- [God Is Love – 1 John 4:16-21](#)

### HENRY ALFORD

- [1 John 4 Commentary](#)

### DON ANDERSON 1 JOHN STUDY

Note - Anderson feels the key verse is 1 John 1:3 so that the issue is fellowship, not assurance of salvation which is the purpose John describes in 1 John 5:13, a basic premise with which I disagree. So be an Acts 17:11+ Berean.

- [1 John Charts \(studies 1-12\)](#)
- [1 John – Study Guide](#)

### [1 John Lectures - click here](#)

- 1 John – Study 9 53:49
- 1 John – Study 10 38:25

### 1 John Teacher Notes

- [1 John study 9 - 1 John 4:1-6](#)
- [1 John study 10 - 1 John 4:7-21](#)

## 1 John Study Notes

- [1 John study 9 - 1 John 4:1-6](#)
- [1 John study 10 - 1 John 4:7-21](#)

## ANONYMOUS

**Spurgeon** comments: "Upon two chapters only, but thoroughly good, and full of sweetness and light."  
([Commenting and Commentaries](#))

- [Apostolic instruction exemplified in First John](#)

## PAUL APPLE

- [1 John - Tests of Eternal Life - A Devotional Commentary](#)
- [Click for Paul's Apple's introduction](#)

## JACK ARNOLD EXPOSITORY SERMONS EPISTLE OF FIRST JOHN

- [1 John 4:1-6 When Unbelief Is Right](#)
- [1 John 4:7-12 Lord, Teach Me To Love](#)
- [1 John 4:13-21 Belief and Love](#)

## WILLIAM BARCLAY

- [1 John 4 Commentary](#)

## ALBERT BARNES

- [1 John 4 Commentary](#)

## BRIAN BELL

- [1 John 4:1-21 FAITH + LOVE](#)

## CHRIS BENFIELD 1 JOHN SERMONS

- [1 John 4:1-6 The Need for Spiritual Discernment](#)
- [1 John 4:7-10 Defined and Delivered in Love](#)
- [1 John 4:11-16 Love Lifted Me](#)
- [1 John 4:17-21 The Evidence of Godly Love](#)

## JOHANN BENGEL

- [1 John 4 Commentary](#)
- [1 John 4 Commentary](#) The Critical English Testament

## BIBLE.ORG

- [1 John 4:7-10 Love One Another](#)

## BIBLICAL ILLUSTRATOR

- [1 John 4 \(more than 80 pages of resources\)](#)

## HUGH BINNING (1627-1653)

- **Spurgeon** says this is "Milk for babes and meat for men; calls to backsliders and comforts for mourners." [Commenting and commentaries](#))

[1 John - Fellowship with God](#) ([See list of 28 messages](#))

#### BRIAN BILL

- [1 John 4:1-7 Da Vinci Code: Separating fact from fiction](#)
- [1 John 4:1-6 Figuring Out Falsehood](#)
- [1 John 4:7-12 Love One Another](#)

#### JIM BOMKAMP

- [34 Marks of a True Christian in 1 John](#)

#### A E BROOKE

- [1 John 4 Commentary](#)

#### JOHN CALVIN

- [1 John 4 Commentary](#)

**James Rosscup** - Calvin was not only a great theologian but also a great expositor, and his insight into Scripture contributed to his grasp of doctrinal truth. His commentaries are deep in spiritual understanding, usually helpful on problem passages, and refreshing in a devotional sense to the really interested reader. He usually offers good help on a passage.

#### CAMBRIDGE BIBLE

- [1 John 4 Commentary](#)

#### CAMBRIDGE GREEK

- [1 John 4 Commentary](#)

#### ROBERT CANDLISH

- [John 4 Commentary - all below on one page](#)
- 1 John 3:24, 4:1 Our Righteousness Attested by Obedience
- 1 John 3:24, 4:4 Our Righteousness Exercised in Trying the Spirits
- 1 John 4:4-6 The Spirit of Christ in us Greater than the Spirit of the Antichrist
- 1 John 4:7-10 Love is God - God is Love
- 1 John 4:10-12 Love Going Forth Towards What is Seen
- 1 John 4:13-16 Love the Means of Mutual Indwelling
- 1 John 4:17-19 The Boldness of Perfected Love
- 1 John 4:20, 21-5:1-3 The Objects of our Love - The Children of God and God Himself

#### ALAN CARR

- [1 John 4:7-12 What Are The Facts About God's Love?](#)
- [1 John 4:7-12 The Love of God](#)

#### D A CARSON

- [The Difficult Doctrine of the Love of God](#) -93 pages
- [1 John 4:1-5:4a Part 4](#) Mp3's

#### RICH CATHERS - HAS FREQUENT ILLUSTRATIONS



- [1 John 4:1-3](#)
- [1 John 4:3-11](#)
- [1 John 4:12-21](#)

#### JOHN CEREGHIN - Baptist pastor

- [1 John Commentary - 200 pages](#)

#### OSWALD CHAMBERS

- 34 PAGE BOOKLET [GOD IS LOVE - Reflections on the Character of God](#)

#### ADAM CLARKE

- [1 John 3 Commentary](#)

**James Rosscup** - This old, conservative Wesleyan Methodist work is good devotionally and aggressive for righteous living. Laypeople can find it still valuable today. It is Arminian in viewpoint and thus helpful, for example, in showing the reader how this approach deals with texts involving the eternal security question. The work contains much background material from many sources on all books of the Bible.

#### STEVEN COLE

- [1 John 4:1-6 Spiritual Discernment](#)
- [1 John 4:7-11 Why We Must Love](#)
- [1 John 4:12-16 Assurance of Abiding](#)
- [1 John 4:17-21 Facing the Judgment with Confidence](#)

#### THOMAS CONSTABLE

- [1 John 4 Expository Notes](#)

#### W A CRISWELL

- [1 John 4:10 The Love of God](#)
- [1 John 4:7-21 The Love of God](#)
- [1 John 4:14 The Savior of the World](#)
- [1 John 4:14 The Savior of the World - 2](#)

#### RON DANIEL

- [1 John 4:1-6 1 John 4:7-21](#)

#### J N DARBY

- [1 John Brief Exposition](#)

#### GARY W. DERICKSON

- [What is the Message of 1 John \(Bibliotheca Sacra\)](#)

#### DEVOTIONAL WRITINGS EPISTLE OF FIRST JOHN

- [1 John 4:1-6 Theodore Epp](#)
- [1 John 4:7 J C Philpot](#)
- [1 John 4:7-16 Theodore Epp](#)
- [1 John 4:7-21 Theodore Epp](#)

- [1 John 4:8 J C Philpot](#)
- [1 John 4:8 Spurgeon](#)
- [1 John 4:10 Octavius Winslow](#)
- [1 John 4:10 Joe Stowell](#)
- [1 John 4:11 Joe Stowell](#)
- [1 John 4:13 J C Philpot](#)
- [1 John 4:13 Spurgeon](#)
- [1 John 4:14 Spurgeon](#)
- [1 John 4:16 James Smith](#)
- [1 John 4:16 F B Meyer](#)
- [1 John 4:16 J C Philpot](#)
- [1 John 4:16-19 F B Meyer](#)
- [1 John 4:18 Octavius Winslow](#)
- [1 John 4:18 Oswald Chambers](#)
- [1 John 4:18 Joe Stowell](#)
- [1 John 4:19 J C Philpot](#)
- [1 John 4:19 Octavius Winslow](#)
- [1 John 4:19 Spurgeon](#)
- [1 John 4:19 Spurgeon](#)
- [1 John 4:20 Octavius Winslow](#)

#### DICTIONARY OF BIBLE THEMES MARTIN MANSER

**Note: This resource is useful to help you with topics covered by the passage you are studying.** Click the verse for the topics (examples listed for [1 John 4:1](#) - click on [5165 listening](#) . Then you can either click the arrow to advance to the next verse or you can go to the top of the page in the dropdown window and select the specific verse or chapter you would like to study.

- [1 John 4:1](#)
- [5165 listening](#)
- [5175 reading](#)
- [6241 seduction](#)
- [8330 receptiveness](#)
- [8484 spiritual warfare, enemies](#)
- [8832 testing](#)

#### JOHN DUMMELOW

- [1 John 4](#)

#### J LIGON DUNCAN

- [1 John 4:1-6 The Test of Acknowledgment of Jesus the Messiah come in the Flesh](#)
- [1 John 4:7-16 The Source of Love](#)
- [1 John 4:7-19 The Expression of Love](#)
- [1 John 4:20-21 The Inseparable Link Between Divine and Christian Love](#)

#### E-CATENA

- [1 John 4 Early Church Fathers Compiled Comments](#)

#### JUSTIN EDWARDS - FAMILY BIBLE NEW TESTAMENT

- [1 John 4 Commentary](#)

#### CHARLES ELLICOTT

- [1 John 4 Commentary for English Readers](#)

**James Rosscup** - Though often scanty, the work edited by a brilliant scholar is sometimes very helpful. Ellicott was an Anglican bishop. The New Testament part is more valuable. The work dates back to 1897 and is verse by verse, consisting of 2,292 pp. Ellicott was an outstanding Anglican conservative scholar of the 19th century in England.

#### EXPOSITOR'S BIBLE COMMENTARY - William Alexander

- [1 John 4 Commentary](#)
- [1 John 4:17 Boldness in the Day of Judgment](#)
- [1 John 4:2-3 The Polemical Element in the First Epistle of St John](#)

#### EXPOSITOR'S DICTIONARY OF TEXTS

- [1 John 4 Commentary](#)

#### EXPOSITOR'S GREEK - David Smith

- [1 John 4 Commentary](#)

#### GEORGE FINDLAY

- [1 John 4 Commentary - scroll down to page 306](#)

#### A C GAEBELEIN

- [1 John 4 Commentary](#)

**Rosscup** - This dispensationally oriented work is not verse-by-verse, but deals with the exposition on a broader scale, treating blocks of thought within the chapters. The author was a popular evangelical Bible teacher of the first part of the century, much like H. A. Ironside in his diligent but broad, practical expositions of Bible books. Gaebelein was premillennial and dispensational, and editor for many years of Our Hope Magazine.

#### GENE GETZ - short videos discussing principles associated with the respective passages being studied.

- 1 John 3:24-4:6; **The God-Man**: We must never allow ourselves to be influenced by those who fail to teach that Jesus Christ was and is the God-man. [Video](#)
- 1 John 4:7-14; **Our Corporate Witness**: We are to love one another as Christ loved us so that we reveal God's message of love and salvation to the world. [Video](#)
- 1 John 4:15-19; **Our Heavenly Father**: Though God is holy and absolutely righteous, more and more we are to relate to Him without fear as our loving heavenly Father. [Video](#)

#### JOHN GILL

- [1 John 4 Commentary](#)

**Rosscup** - His commentary is evangelical, wrestles with texts, is often wordy and not to the point but with worthy things for the patient who follow the ponderous detail and fish out slowly what his interpretation of a text is.

#### BRUCE GOETTSCHKE

- [1 John 4:1-6 How to Find the Truth](#)
- [1 John 4:7-12 Motivation for Love](#)
- [1 John 4:13-16 The Basis of Our Confidence](#)
- [1 John 4:17-21 No Fear](#)

## GOSPEL COALITION

- [1 John Sermons - most of these are Mp3 but many are highly regarded preachers](#)

## GOTQUESTIONS

- [1 John 4:1 What does it mean to test the spirits?](#)
- [1 John 4:8 What is agape love?](#)

## L M GRANT

- [1 John 4 Commentary](#)

## DAVID GUZIK - Brief well-done comments from a modern expositor

- [1 John 4 Commentary](#)

## W. HALL HARRIS III

- [Exegetical Commentary on 1 John 4:1-6](#)
- [Exegetical Commentary on 1 John 4:7-5:4a](#)

## NORMAN HARRISON

- [1 John 4:11 Loving As He Loved](#)
- [1 John 4:13 Living in the Spirit](#)

## JAMES HASTINGS

- [1 John 4:7 The Bond of Brotherhood](#)
- [1 John 4:8 God \(God is Love\)](#)
- [1 John 4:18 Love Casting Out Fear](#)
- [1 John 4:19 The Ray and the Reflection](#)

## ROBERT HAWKER

- [1 John 4 Commentary](#)

## MATTHEW HENRY

- [1 John 4 Commentary](#)

**Rosscup** - This evangelical work, devotional in character, has been in constant demand for about 280 years. Its insight into human problems is great, but it often does not deal adequately with problems in the text. The one-volume form eliminates the Biblical text and is thus less bulky. It has sold very well. The late Wilbur M. Smith, internationally noted Bible teacher, seminary professor and lover of books, tabbed this "The greatest devotional commentary ever written" (cover, 1 volume edition). Henry was born in a Welch farmhouse, studied law, and became a Presbyterian minister near London. He wrote this commentary in the last 13 years before he died at 52 in 1714. The first of six volumes was published in 1708. He completed through Acts, and the rest of the New Testament was done by 14 clergymen

## D EDMOND HIEBERT

- [1 John 4:1-6 - Excellent](#)
- [1 John 4:7-21 - Excellent](#)

**James Rosscup** has the following note on Hiebert's book [The Epistles of John An Expositional Commentary](#). Note that the links below are to Hiebert's articles in Bibliotheca Sacra which form the basis for

his formal published work. Thus Rosscup writes that Hiebert's work "is one of the best medium-length (here 371-pp.) explanations that is serious and clear to deal with most key matters, not pass them by. Hiebert sees ways to have assurance of real salvation, and 1Jn 5:13 as a key for the whole epistle, not confining its focus to details in 1Jn 5:1-12 or 1Jn 5:11,12 (251-52). He views 1Jn 5:16 as a case of a saved person praying for another saved person who receives "life" in the sense of restoration and promotion of his spiritual welfare (260). He usually takes a stand on what a phrase means, gives reasons, and is plain. His comments in the main body, his extensive bibliography (351-60), and frequent footnote references to good sources all exemplify his earnest attempt to give readers light." ([Commentaries for Biblical Expositors: An Annotated Bibliography of Selected Works](#))

**Cyril Barber** (also referring to the book as does Rosscup) - Hiebert, a Mennonite NT scholar, delves into the letters of John to exact from them the truths that underscore the Christian life and find expression in the kind of walk that pleases the Lord. While he uses the text of the KJV for the benefit of his readers, he works from the original Greek text for his exposition, combining sound exegesis with devotional comments on the text. Here is a volume that is illustrative of the best evangelicalism has to offer. Recommended. (The Minister's Library, Volume 3)

## F B HOLE

- [1 John 4 Commentary](#)

## H A IRONSIDE

- [1 John 4 Commentary](#)

**James Rosscup** - A famous Bible teacher much sought after a few decades back continues to minister after his departure, as A. C. Gaebel, A. W. Pink, W. H. Griffith-Thomas and others. He is staunchly evangelical, showing good broad surveys based on diligent study, practical turns, even choice illustrations. In prophecy he is premillennial dispensational.

## IVP COMMENTARY - Marianne Meye Thompson

### [1 John 4](#)

- [Walking in the Light: Belief and Love](#) (4:1-5:12)
- [Discerning the Spirits](#) (4:1-6)
- [Let Us Love One Another](#) (4:7-12)
- [Abiding in Faith and Love](#) (4:13-5:5)

**James Rosscup** writes "A lucid 168-pp., crisp exposition with some application in a flow for popular, general use. In a number of verses the book helps, at others it frustrates due to passing by views and reasons, or lacks sufficient comments. Much generalizing leaves an impression that in order to be seen as saved one must live an ideally perfect life (cf. 43), yet at other points one reads that Christians sin (45). **The work has a healthy clarity that real grace, distinct from cheap (see [cheap grace](#)) so-called (but not genuine) grace (51) elicits confession of sin and seeking obedience to God.** Such a life with God helps one's assurance to be a properly experienced reality, as in 1Jn 2:3 (51), even this by grace. Some statements are quite helpful, as "righteous conduct does not make us God's children. Rather, such conduct is the consequence or expression of a relationship that already exists" after rebirth (87). Many issues are left in a blur, for instance "God's seed remains" (1Jn 3:9)." ([Commentaries for Biblical Expositors: An Annotated Bibliography of Selected Works](#))

## JAMIESON, FAUSSET, AND BROWN

- [1 John 4 Commentary](#)
- [See also the Unabridged Version](#)

**Rosscup** - This is a helpful old set of 1863 for laypeople and pastors to have because it usually comments at least to some degree on problems. Though terse, it provides something good on almost any passage, phrase by phrase and is to some degree critical in nature. It is evangelical. There is also a 1-volume edition, briefer at some points (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1961). Especially in its multi-volume form this is one of the old evangelical works that offers fairly solid though brief help on many verses. Spurgeon said, "It contains so great

a variety of information that if a man had no other exposition he would find himself at no great loss if he possessed this and used it diligently" (Commenting and Commentaries, p. 3). Things have changed greatly since this assessment! It is primarily of help to pastors and lay people looking for quick, though usually somewhat knowledgeable treatments on verses.

#### **S LEWIS JOHNSON - WELL DONE SERMONS FROM FORMER PROFESSOR AT DALLAS THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY**

- [1 John 4:1-6 The Test of the Spirits](#)
- [1 John 4:7-12 The Divinity of Love](#)
- [1 John 4:13-16 The Marks of an Authentic Believer](#)
- [1 John 4:17-21 Boldness in the Day of Judgment](#)

#### **WILLIAM KELLY**

- [1 John 4 Commentary](#)

[Hiebert's critique](#) - Prints author's new translation. Twenty wordy lectures by a noted Plymouth Brethren scholar of the past century. Provides an important study of the text with numerous comments and illustrations of the religious scene from a perspective of intense loyalty to the Scriptures.

#### **GUY KING**

- [1 John 3:19-4:6 The Proofs of the Fellowship](#)
- [1 John 4:7-21 The Position of the Fellowship](#)

King's writings have a devotional quality but he sees John's main purpose as fellowship.

#### **STEVE KRELOFF - MESSIANIC JEWISH PASTOR**

- [1 John Sermons - Mp3](#)

#### **PAUL KRETZMANN - LUTHERAN PERSPECTIVE**

- [1 John 4 Commentary](#)

#### **LANGE'S COMMENTARY**

- [1 John 3 Commentary](#)

[Hiebert's critique](#) - A full exposition with an abundance of doctrinal, ethical, and homiletical material added.

**Rosscup** - The treatments of books within this evangelical set vary in importance. Generally, one finds a wealth of detailed commentary, background, and some critical and exegetical notes. Often, however, there is much excess verbiage that does not help particularly. On the other hand, it usually has something to assist the expositor on problems and is a good general set for pastors and serious lay people though it is old.

#### **ROBERT LAW**

- [Tests of Life - A Study of First Epistle of St John](#) ([Another source](#)) ([Another source](#))

#### **DAVID LEGGE - SERMONS**

- [1 John 4:1-6 Discerning Christianity](#)
- [1 John 4:7-21 Christian Love: Its Source and Sign](#)

#### **JOHN JAMES LIAS (1887)**

**Cyril Barber** - One of the finest exegetical and expository works for preachers. Provides an excellent basis for a series of sermons. Deserves a place in the library of every minister and lay preacher. (The Minister's Library - Volume 2)



[Hiebert's critique](#) - A full, conservative exposition of 1 John by a British preacher and scholar. **At the bottom of each page, in smaller type, is added a homiletical treatment of the epistle.** (Nice addition!)

- [1 John 4:1-6 Spiritual Influence](#)
- [1 John 4:7-13 Love A Divine Gift](#)
- [1 John 4:14-16 Teaching of Christian Experience](#)
- [1 John 4:17-21 Character of Christian Experience](#)

#### JOHN MACARTHUR - CONSERVATIVE, EVANGELICAL

- [1 John 4:1 A Call to Discernment](#)
- [1 John 4:1-6: Test the Spirits - Study Guide - see link in dropdown](#)
- [1 John 4:1-6: How to Test the Spirits](#)
- [1 John 4:7-12 Manifesting Perfect Love, Pt 1](#)
- [1 John 4:13-21 Manifesting Perfect Love, Pt 2](#)
- [1 John 4:7-21: Why We Should Love One Another - Study Guide - see link in dropdown](#)

#### IAN MACKERVOY

- [1 John: How can I be Sure?](#)

#### ALEXANDER MACLAREN

- 1 John 4:10 Christ's Mission The Revelation Of God's Love
- 1 John 4:17 The Servant As His Lord
- 1 John 4:18 Love And Fear
- 1 John 4:19 The Ray And The Reflection

**Rosscup** - This evangelical work is both homiletical and expository and is often very good homiletically but weaker otherwise. Helpful in discussing Bible characters, it is weak in prophecy at times because of allegorization. It is not really as valuable today as many other sets for the serious Bible student. The expositions are in the form of sermons.

#### BRYN MACPHAIL

- [1 John 4:1-6 Who Should We Listen To?](#)
- [1 John 4:7-21 Where Does Love Come From?](#)

#### HENRY MAHAN SERMONS & COMMENTARY FIRST JOHN

- [1 John 4 Commentary](#)
- [1 John 4:1-6 Jesus Christ Is Come In the Flesh](#)
- [1 John 4:1 What Are We to Believe?](#)
- [1 John 4:7-8 Let Us Love One Another](#)
- [1 John 4:10-12 Love, the Common Bond](#)
- [1 John 5:1-4 What Is It to Be Born of God?](#)
- [1 John 5:7 Questions About the Trinity](#)
- [1 John 5:10-13 Believing God](#)
- [1 John 5:11-12 Life Is In His Son](#)
- [1 John 5:20 Faith or Presumption?](#)
- [1 John 5:20 The Truth of the Gospel](#)

#### P G MATTHEW - well done sermons on 1 John

- [1 John 4:1-6 The Christian Duty of Judging People](#)
- [1 John 4:7-12 The Apostolic Definition of an Authentic Christian](#)
- [1 John 4:13-18 Freedom from Fear, Part One](#)
- [1 John 4:13-18 Freedom from Fear, Part Two](#)

## J VERNON MCGEE

- [1 John 4 Commentary -Thru the Bible](#) Mp3's

## F B MEYER (THROUGH THE BIBLE COMMENTARY)

- [1 John 4](#)

## HEINRICH MEYER - CRITICAL AND EXEGETICAL COMMENTARY ON THE NEW TESTAMENT

- [1 John 4 Commentary](#)

## MONERGISM

- [1 John Mp3 Series - click for list of links](#)

## G CAMPBELL MORGAN

- [1 John 4:15-17 The Life of the Christian - Its Expression](#)
- [1 John 4 Commentary](#)

**James Rosscup** - Morgan deals with the Bible chapter by chapter, with nearly 300 words on each. He devotes 400 pages to the Old Testament, 150 to the New Testament. It is a stimulating broad evangelical coverage of Scripture, if the reader is looking for synthesis rather than detail. Morgan was a master expositor in the early part of this century. Some of the effort is so general it is of little help except to those looking for sketchy treatment. It is evangelical and premillennial. Morgan is better in such works as *The Crises of the Christ*.

## JAMES MORGAN

- [1 John: An Exposition \(Table of Contents\)](#)

**Spurgeon** comments: "Dr. Candlish says that this is a work "of great practical interest and value," and that had it appeared at an earlier date, "he might have abstained from issuing" his own *Lectures on this Epistle*. We are glad to possess both works." ([Commenting and Commentaries](#))

## HENRY MORRIS

- 1 John 4:1 [try the spirits](#) [false prophets](#)
- 1 John 4:2 [come in the flesh](#)
- 1 John 4:3 [spirit of antichrist](#)
- 1 John 4:4 [he that is in you](#)
- 1 John 4:6 [spirit of error](#)
- 1 John 4:8 [God is love](#)
- 1 John 4:9 [only begotten Son](#)
- 1 John 4:10 [propitiation](#)
- 1 John 4:12 [No man hath seen God](#)
- 1 John 4:13 [Hereby know](#)
- 1 John 4:14 [the Saviour](#)
- 1 John 4:18 [no fear in love](#)

## AUGUSTUS NEANDER (1852)

**Spurgeon** says "Mrs. Conant (who translated it from German) in her preface says: "The treasures of genius and learning which enrich his more scientific works, here seem vivified by a new element, and melt, under the fervor of his inner spiritual life, into a glowing stream of eloquent practical instruction." ([Commenting and commentaries](#))[The First Epistle of John, Practically Explained](#)

- [Chap 4](#)

## ROBERT NEIGHBOUR

- [1 John 4 Commentary](#)

## NET BIBLE

- [1 John 4 Notes](#)

## PHIL NEWTON - Pdf manuscripts - well done

- [1 John 4:1–6 Test the Spirits](#)
- [1 John 4:7–14 True Love Sends](#)
- [1 John 4:15–21 Abiding in Love](#)
- [1 John 5:1–4 Born of God](#)
- [1 John 5:5–12 The Testimony of God](#)
- [1 John 5:13–15 Confidence Before God](#)
- [1 John 5:16-21 Distinguishing Marks of Believers](#)

## JAMES NISBET (CHURCH PULPIT COMMENTARY)

- [1 John 4](#)

## OUR DAILY BREAD DEVOTIONALS

- See also 1 John 4 Devotionals
- [1 John 4:1 Bait-And-Switch](#)
- [1 John 4:1 Not What It Seems](#)
- [1 John 4:1-3 Lost Books?](#)
- [1 John 4:4 The Standoff](#)
- [1 John 4:4 He Doesn't Stand A Chance](#)
- [1 John 4:4 Only A Scarecrow](#)
- [1 John 4:4 Sunscreen](#)
- [1 John 4:4 Immeasurably More](#)
- [1 John 4:4 No Match For God](#)
- [1 John 4:4 Jesus Is Greater](#)
- [1 John 4:4 Shrike System](#)
- [1 John 4:4 No Match for God](#)
- [1 John 4:4 Blackbeard](#)
- [1 John 4:4 Flee!](#)
- [1 John 4:4 Satan's Secret](#)
- [1 John 4:7 The Cry for Love](#)
- [1 John 4:7 Learning to Love](#)
- [1 John 4:7 Love The Brothers](#)
- [1 John 4:7 A Church That Cares](#)
- [1 John 4:7-8 Dying for Others](#)
- [1 John 4:7-8 Where Love Comes From](#)
- [1 John 4:7-10 The Power of Love](#)
- [1 John 4:7-11 No Greater Love](#)
- [1 John 4:7-11 Do You Love The World?](#)
- [1 John 4:7-11 There Is Love](#)
- [1 John 4:7-12 Human Chess](#)
- [1 John 4:7-12 The Bus Driver](#)
- [1 John 4:7-12 Love One Another](#)
- [1 John 4:7-12 Fearless Love](#)
- [1 John 4:7-15 Everybody Needs Love](#)
- [1 John 4:7-16 Love Hurts!](#)
- [1 John 4:7-16 Family Trademarks](#)

- [1 John 4:7-19 Written in Red](#)
- [1 John 4:7-21 Where Love Comes Fr](#)
- [1 John 4:7-21 Loving God](#)
- [1 John 4:7-21 Rudeness On The Rise](#)
- [1 John 4:7-21 Well-Loved](#)
- [1 John 4:7-21 The Difference Love Makes](#)
- [1 John 4:7-5:1 Cherished Connections](#)
- [1 John 4:8 God Is Love](#)
- [1 John 4:8 Winds of Love](#)
- [1 John 4:8-10 What's Love?](#)
- [1 John 4:9 What Matters Most](#)
- [1 John 4:9 Love Undeserved](#)
- [1 John 4:9 God Calling](#)
- [1 John 4:9 Love, INC](#)
- [1 John 4:9-16 Love Revealed](#)
- [1 John 4:10 A Parent's Pain](#)
- [1 John 4:10 What's Love?](#)
- [1 John 4:10 TGIF](#)
- [1 John 4:10 Jesus Loves Mayse!](#)
- [1 John 4:10 Does God Love Me?](#)
- [1 John 4:10 The Measure of Love](#)
- [1 John 4:11 O Love That Will Not Let Me Go](#)
- [1 John 4:11 Loving God](#)
- [1 John 4:11 Precious to God](#)
- [1 John 4:11 A Good Neighbor](#)
- [1 John 4:11 A Fragrance](#)
- [1 John 4:11 The Murder Of Love](#)
- [1 John 4:11 Linked Hearts](#)
- [1 John 4:11 The King's Colors](#)
- [1 John 4:11 What Type Are You?](#)
- [1 John 4:11-21 What Fuels You?](#)
- [1 John 4:13-16 Longing for God](#)
- [1 John 4:16 The Lemon Tree](#)
- [1 John 4:16 It's All About The Love](#)
- [1 John 4:15-18 Perfect Love](#)
- [1 John 4:18 The Great Crescendo](#)
- [1 John 4:18 No Fear Factor](#)
- [1 John 4:18 Perfect Love](#)
- [1 John 4:18 Give Voice To Your Love](#)
- [1 John 4:18 Two Kinds of Fear](#)
- [1 John 4:18 Paranoia In Reverse](#)
- [1 John 4:19 Going First](#)
- [1 John 4:19 No Wonder!](#)
- [1 John 4:19 Does God Love Me?](#)
- [1 John 4:19 Fear and Love](#)
- [1 John 4:19 Love Comes First](#)
- [1 John 4:19 The Miracle Of Restraint](#)
- [1 John 4:19 "Daddy, I Found You!"](#)
- [1 John 4:19 Well Loved](#)
- [1 John 4:19 A New Purpose](#)
- [1 John 4:21 The Measure Of Love](#)
- [1 John 4:21 Porcupine People](#)
- [1 John 4:20-5:5 A Multiplied Love](#)

#### PASTOR LIFE SERMONS BY VARIOUS PASTORS 1 JOHN

Sermons from Baptist pastors.

This site has completely changed their links. My suggestion is to do a search for the following titles. Here is an example of what you can try, using the following URL - [site:https://pastorlife.com](https://pastorlife.com) ""-- Now try the first title below in parentheses ("""). Here is what it looks like - [site:https://pastorlife.com](https://pastorlife.com) "fourth love" - put this entire URL in the google search box, click search and you will retrieve that sermon. Try [site:https://pastorlife.com](https://pastorlife.com) "Biggest Little Word in the Bible" and you will retrieve that sermon.

- 1 John 4:1 The Acid Test of Faith Johnny L. Sanders
- 1 John 4:12-16 The Practical Demonstration of God's Love Johnny Hunt
- 1 John 4:13-16 Love Made Perfect Johnny L. Sanders
- 1 John 4:1-6 Test The Spirits Mark Adams
- 1 John 4:1-6 Testing The Spirits Gil McKee
- 1 John 4:16-19 The Love of God and Fear Overcome J. Mike Minnix
- 1 John 4:17-21 No Fear In Love Johnny L. Sanders
- 1 John 4:2-6 Knowledge of the Holy Johnny L. Sanders
- 1 John 4:7-11 The Love of God Johnny Hunt
- 1 John 4:7-11 Biblical Definition of God's Love - Part 3 Johnny Hunt
- 1 John 4:7-11 Biblical Definition of God's Love - Part 2 Johnny Hunt
- 1 John 4:7-11 Biblical Definition of God's Love Johnny Hunt
- 1 John 4:7-13 Proof By Love Johnny L. Sanders
- 1 John 4:7-15 The Love Of God James O. Coldiron
- 1 John 4:7-21 Perfect Love Gil McKee
- 1 John 4:7-21 God Loves Us and Has a Plan for Us Jerry N. Watts
- 1 John 4:9-14 Christmas Through The Eyes Of Calvary Johnny Hunt

#### PETER PETT

- [1 John 4 Commentary](#)

#### SAMUEL EYLES PIERCE (1835)

**Spurgeon** says "This devout author was highly Calvinistic, but withal full of spiritual power and unction. He loved the deep things of God, and wrote upon them in a gracious manner." ([Commenting and commentaries](#))

- [The First Epistle General of John, Practically Explained \(Volume 1 & 2\)](#)

#### JOHN PIPER

- [1 John 3:24b-4:6: Test the Spirits](#)
- [1 John 4: The Greatest of These Is Love](#)
- [1 John 4:7-11: Love One Another for Love Is of God](#)
- [1 John 4:7-21 The New Birth Produces Love](#)
- [1 John 4:13-16: God Abides in the One Who Loves](#)
- [1 John 4:17-19: Perfect Love Casts Out Fear](#)
- [1 John 4:20-5:5: His Commandments Are Not Burdensome](#)

#### MATTHEW POOLE

- [1 John 4 Commentary](#)

#### PRECEPT MINISTRIES

- 1 John [Download lesson 1](#) - published in 2017
- 1 John [Download lesson 1](#) this is the original study no long available to show the changes in the new edition
- [Roadblocks to Love](#)

#### RAY PRITCHARD

- [1 John 4:8 Sense and Nonsense About God's Love](#)

## ALFRED PLUMMER

- [1 John 4 Commentary \(Cambridge Bible Commentary\)](#)

## POPULAR COMMENTARY

- [1 John 4 Commentary](#)

## PREACHER'S HOMILETICAL

- [1 John 4 Expository Notes](#)

## PULPIT COMMENTARY

- [1 John 4 Expository Commentary](#)
- 1 John 4:1-3 Tests of True or False Prophets
- 1 John 4:1-6 The Power of Trying the Spirits
- 1 John 4:1-6 The Spirit of Truth and the Spirit of Error
- 1 John 4:4 The Victory of the Christian over Antichristian Teachers
- 1 John 4:7-12 Love
- 1 John 4:7-21 Threefold Recommendation of the Duty of Loving One Another
- 1 John 4:9-11 The Supreme Manifestation of Love
- 1 John 4:13 God-likeness the Seal of a Divine Indwelling
- 1 John 4:14 The Historic Basis of the Christian Testimony
- 1 John 4:14 The Great Mission of Christ
- 1 John 4:15, 16 Divine Love a Home for the Soul and a Force Within It
- 1 John 4:16 The Love of God
- 1 John 4:17, 18 Love's Boldness in the Day of Judgment
- 1 John 4:17, 18 The Victory of Love Over Fear
- 1 John 4:19 Creed and Life: The Relation Between Them
- 1 John 4:19 God's Love and Ours
- 1 John 4:20, 21 Love to Man the Expression of Love to God

**Rosscup** - Many authors contributed to this work that had the aim of giving preachers material on introduction, verse by verse exposition, a section on homiletics, and a section of collected homilies (outlines, etc.) by various preachers, which can stimulate thought. It moves through one small section of Bible verses after another.

## ROBERT RAYBURN

- [1 John 4:1-6 Acknowledging Jesus Christ](#)
- [1 John 4:7-21 How to Excel in Love](#)

## RBC BOOKLET

- [1 John on The Assurance Of Salvation](#)

## REFORMATION STUDY BIBLE STUDY NOTES - 1 JOHN

- [1 John 4:1–6](#)
- [1 John 4:1](#)
- [1 John 4:2](#)
- [1 John 4:3](#)
- [1 John 4:4](#)
- [1 John 4:6](#)
- [1 John 4:7–12](#)
- [1 John 4:9](#)



- [1 John 4:10](#)
- [1 John 4:14](#)
- [1 John 4:16](#)
- [1 John 4:17](#)
- [1 John 4:18](#)

#### GRANT RICHISON

- [1 John 4 Commentary](#)

**Disclaimer:** I do not agree with a number of Richison's comments. An example of one on 2Ti 2:12 in his First John Notes "***A Christian is still a Christian even though he disowns the Lord***" Read Jesus' words in Mt 10:33 and John's in 1 Jn 2:23-[note](#). Many of Richison's comments and applications are excellent, but just **be sure you read them with a Berean mindset** Acts 17:11-[note](#)!

#### A T ROBERTSON

- [1 John 4 Commentary](#)

#### DON ROBINSON

- [1 John 4:7-10 Knowing the Love of God](#)
- [1 John 4:7-11 Authentic Love](#)
- [1 John 4:1-21 Cautions of Fellowship](#)
- [1 John 4:7-21 Cautions of Fellowship #2](#)
- [1 John 4:7-21 The Key to Loving Others](#)
- [1 John 4:11-16 Five Reasons Jesus Came](#)

#### ROB SALVATO

- [1 John 4:1-6 Testing The Spirits](#)
- [1 John 4:7-16 Loving And Praying](#)
- [1 John 4:17-5:5 Fullness Of Love](#)

#### JOHNNY SANDERS

- [1 John 4-5 Commentary](#)
- [1 John Study Guide](#)

#### HENRY SAWTELLE (1888)

[Hiebert's critique](#) - A conservative interpretation by a Baptist scholar of the past century. Offers a careful unfolding of the original for the English reader. 84 pages but print small so in effect well over 100 pages compared to usual text size. Easy to follow verse by verse and phrase by phrase exposition.

- [1 John 4](#)

#### RAYMOND SAXE - sermons

- 1 John 4:1-6 ([pdf](#))
- 1 John 4:7-10 ([pdf](#))
- 1 John 4:11-21 ([pdf](#))

#### SERMON BIBLE

- [1 John 4 Commentary](#)

#### CHARLES SIMEON

- [1 John 4:4 God and Effectual Help](#)
- [1 John 4:6 The Spirit of Truth and the Spirit of Error](#)
- [1 John 4:9, 10 Love of God in Giving His Son for Us](#)
- [1 John 4:14 Christ the Savior of the World](#)
- [1 John 4:16 Distinctive Character of a Christian](#)
- [1 John 4:16 God is Love](#)
- [1 John 4:16, 17 Believer's Resemblance to God in Love \(scroll down\)](#)
- [1 John 4:18 Influence and Importance of Love](#)
- [1 John 4:19 God's Love the Source of Ours](#)

#### HAMILTON SMITH

- [1 John Commentary - Hamilton Smith](#)

#### CHUCK SMITH

- [1 John 4 Bible Commentary](#)

**Note - On the links below,** first select "**Chuck Smith Sermon Notes.**" Then SELECT "**1 John.**" Then SELECT specific note.

- Sermon Notes for 1 John 4:1 Sermon Notes for 1 John 4:2
- Sermon Notes for 1 John 4:4 Sermon Notes for 1 John 4:5
- Sermon Notes for 1 John 4:7 Sermon Notes for 1 John 4:7, 8
- Sermon Notes for 1 John 4:9, 10 Sermon Notes for 1 John 4:10
- Sermon Notes for 1 John 4:13 Sermon Notes for 1 John 4:14
- Sermon Notes for 1 John 4:16-19 Sermon Notes for 1 John 4:17
- Sermon Notes for 1 John 4:19

#### HAMILTON SMITH

- [1 John Commentary - Hamilton Smith](#)

#### JAMES SMITH HANDFULS OF PURPOSE 1 JOHN

- The Following are Available on [1 John Handfuls of Purpose](#)
- Love's Four Prepositions 1 John 4:16, 1 John 4:9, 1 John 4:12, 1 John 4:17
- The History And Development Of Love 1 John 4:8-9, 1 John 4:17, 1 John 2:5
- Love 1 John 4:7-9, 1 John 4:11
- Why Believers Should Love One Another 1 John 4:19
- God 1 John 4:24, 1 John 1:5, 1 John 4:8, 1 John 4:16
- Sin 1 John
- The New Birth Its Evidences And Result 1 John
- Abiding In Christ 1 John
- Eternal Life 1 John
- Manifested 1 John
- Fear 1 John 4:18

#### DANIEL SNADDON - PLYMOUTH BRETHREN

- [1 John 4](#)
- [1 John 5](#)
- [Abiding in Christ](#)
- [Sanctification](#)
- [The Great Blessing of Eternal Life](#)

#### SPEAKER'S COMMENTARY

- [1 John 4 Commentary](#)

#### R C SPROUL - Devotionals from Tabletalk

- 1 John 4:1 [Test the Spirits](#)
- 1 John 4:2–3 [In the Flesh](#)
- 1 John 4:4 [Greater is He](#)
- 1 John 4:5–6 [Whoever Knows God](#)
- 1 John 4:7–8 [God is Love](#)
- 1 John 4:9–10 [In This Is Love](#)
- 1 John 4:10–12 [The True Love of God](#)
- 1 John 4:11–12 [We Ought To Love](#)
- 1 John 4:13–15 [Confession and the Spirit](#)
- 1 John 4:16 [We Have Come to Know](#)
- 1 John 4:17–18 [Perfect Love](#)
- 1 John 4:19–21 [He First Loved Us](#)

#### C H SPURGEON

- 1 John 4 Exposition
- [1 John 4:10 Herein is Love 2448](#)
- [1 John 4:10 Love's Climax](#)
- [1 John 4:10, 11 Herein Is Love 1707](#)
- [1 John 4:14 Seeing and Testifying](#)
- [1 John 4:16: A Psalm of Remembrance](#)
- [1 John 4:19 Love](#)
- [1 John 4:19 Love's Birth and Parentage](#)
- 1 John 4:19 Love's Great Reason
- [1 John 4:19: The Secret of Love to God](#)
- [1 John 4:19: Love's Logic](#)
- [1 John 4:19: Love's Birth and Parentage](#)
- 1 John 4:8 - Devotional
- 1 John 4:13 - Devotional
- 1 John 4:14 - Devotional
- 1 John 4:19 - Devotional
- 1 John 4:19 - Devotional

#### RAY STEDMAN

- [1 John 4:1-3: When Unbelief Is Right](#)
- [1 John 4:4-6: God Is Greater](#)
- [1 John 4:7-12: Love Made Visible](#)
- [1 John 4:13-21: Love's Accomplishments](#)
- 23rd [When Unbelief Is Right \(1 John 4:1-3\)](#) — No one will dispute the fact of the existence of chaos and anarchy in the world. Have we in our intellectual pride rejected the existence of evil spirits as irrelevant fantasy?
- 24th [God Is Greater \(1 John 4:4-6\)](#) — Theological debates can be enlightening sources of learning, yet also wellsprings of pride. Have we first drunk deeply of the life of Christ in us?
- 25th [God Is Love \(1 John 4:7-10\)](#) — God showed His love by sending His Son that we might live through Him. Have we learned to recognize the true nature of Love as evidenced in all of God's actions?
- 26th [The Debt Of Love \(1 John 4:11-16\)](#) — Unless we have the life of God, we cannot love one another. Have we grasped and exercised the power of His Presence so as not to find this a surprising truth?
- 27th [Confidence At The Judgment \(1 John 4:17-21\)](#) — What happens when we die? Where do we find the knowledge to confidently answer this question? Are we making ourselves available to Him who loves through us?

#### JOHN STOCK (1865)

- [The First Epistle General of John, An Exposition](#)

**Spurgeon** says "Written by a well-instructed man of God. For spiritual teaching the work is second to none. Dr. Candlish prized it greatly." ([Commenting and commentaries](#))

#### **SAM STORMS**

- [1 John 4:1-6](#)
- [1 John 4:7-21](#)

#### **DAVID THOMPSON - short sermon transcripts**

- [1 John 4:1-6](#)
- [1 John 4:7-12](#)
- [1 John 4:13-16](#)
- [1 John 4:17-21](#)

#### **TODAY IN THE WORD**

- 1 John 4 Devotionals

#### **A W TOZER**

- [1 John 4: How to Test the Spirits Chapter 29 "Man the Dwelling Place of God](#)

#### **JOHN TRAPP**

- [1 John 4 Commentary](#)

**James Rosscup** writes "This work has long been ranked by many as the best older effort on the Greek text. It is detailed, thorough, and very useful for its incisive, definitive statements on problem areas as well as grammatical matters ([Commentaries for Biblical Expositors: An Annotated Bibliography of Selected Works](#))

#### **BOB UTLEY**

- [1 John 4 Commentary](#)

#### **MARVIN VINCENT**

- [1 John 4 Word Studies in the New Testament](#)

#### **B F WESTCOTT**

- [1 John 4 Commentary](#)

**James Rosscup** writes "This work has long been ranked by many as the best older effort on the Greek text. It is detailed, thorough, and very useful for its incisive, definitive statements on problem areas as well as grammatical matters ([Commentaries for Biblical Expositors: An Annotated Bibliography of Selected Works](#))

#### **DANIEL WHEDON**

- [1 John 4 Commentary](#)

#### **STEVE ZEISLER**

- [1 John 3:13-4:6 The Challenge of Love](#)
- [1 John 3:19-4:6: No More Condemnation, No More Lies](#)
- [1 John 4:7-12: The Glories of Love](#)
- [1 John 4:7-21 He First Loved Us](#)
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