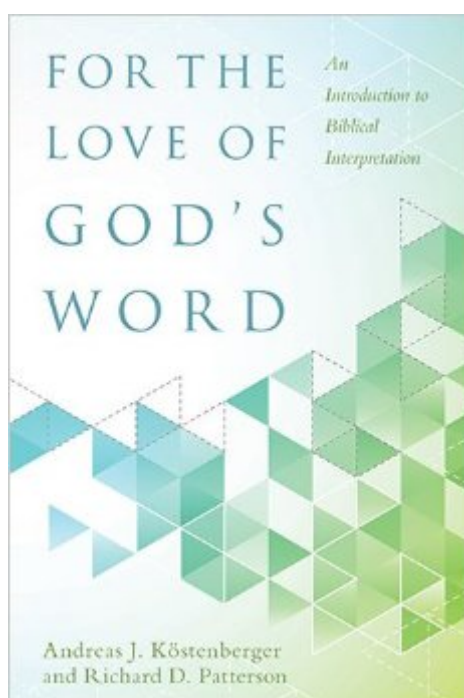


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# For The Love Of God's Word: An Introduction To Biblical Interpretation



## Synopsis

An introduction to a clear method of biblical interpretation For the Love of God's Word is an abridged, less technical version of Kästner and Patterson's acclaimed Invitation to Biblical Interpretation. Students, teachers, and pastors alike will find this introduction to biblical hermeneutics to be an accessible resource with both breadth and substance. Built on the premise that every passage requires careful scrutiny of its historical setting, literary dimension, and theological message, this volume teaches a simple threefold method that is applicable to every passage of Scripture regardless of genre. In addition, the book sets forth specific strategies for interpreting the various genres of Scripture, from poetry to epistle to prophecy. A final chapter is devoted to helpful Bible study resources that will equip the reader to apply Scripture to life. This book will serve as a standard text for interpreting Scripture that is both academically responsible and accessible for pastors, teachers, and college students. This volume will enable students of Scripture to grow in love for God's Word as they grow in the disciplines of study and discernment.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Easy to read book on Bible interpretation. A good portion of the book is spent on the different literary genres of the Bible and how this affects interpretation. Each chapter starts off with the chapter objectives and a chapter outline and ends with key resources and key words. There are also lists of things to consider when interpreting a particular genre of the Bible. For the most part, the book was understandable but got a little technical in some parts. A lot of unfamiliar words were introduced, but

there is a glossary in the back of the book to help with definitions. Starting off with an overview of the whole Bible and the importance of history and how the historical context affects interpretation, the majority of the book then discusses the canon of the Bible, then the different types of genre, and finally how language affects meaning. For someone who is just learning how to study the Bible, this book would probably be a bit overwhelming, but for those who have read a book or two on Bible study and the inductive study method and the idea of hermeneutics, this book is excellent to continue understanding how to best interpret the Bible. The basis behind this book is the hermeneutical triad of history, literature and theology. The final section of the book discusses biblical theology and how that is derived from our study of Scripture. The last chapter of the book brings it all together and that the whole idea behind interpreting the Bible is to arrive at application and allow what we've read to change our lives and make us more like Christ. Being able to interpret the Bible correctly is necessary but it is not the end goal, rather, application resulting in a changed life is the goal. "Will you check off reading this book on some list and continue to interpret the Bible exactly the way you did before? Or will you apply what you've learned and let these principles transform your study of Scripture so that Scripture, in turn, will change your life and the lives of those with whom you will share what you've learned?" Various resources are listed for help in studying the Bible, such as concordances, atlases, dictionaries and commentaries. Also included are guidelines for application. Overall, an excellent book and resource for helping to better understand and study the Bible.\*I received a copy of this book free from the publisher Kregel in exchange for my review.

If you're like me then chances are you've not gotten into the discipline of Hermeneutics or Biblical Interpretation. For the Love of God's Word An Introduction to Biblical Interpretation is an excellent place to start when diving into this deep well of knowledge. It introduces the subject in a manner that is less technical than the unabridged version of the same volume, Invitation to Biblical Interpretation, while at the same time continuing to develop the subject so that the reader walks away from this volume with an expanded knowledge of the scriptures. The thing that most stuck out to me in this volume wasn't the scaled down language or the text-book like format, but the fact that this was written with the local Church in mind. Though not surprising, I've come to expect that from Kostenberger, it's nice to see that worked out in a volume of this nature. The authors themselves understand this facet of hermeneutics right from the start in saying, "Biblical interpretation is not an individualistic enterprise. Rather, it takes place in the community of believers, and the failure or success of the interpretive task affects not merely the interpreter but other believers as well." This

volume is laid out in three neat sections. Section One sets the Historical-Cultural background for the literature, giving us a glimpse of context in which we received this Word. Section Two, the most lengthy section, deals with the compilation, types, and linguistics of the biblical texts. Section Three is where the authors do their best writing. Not that the previous sections aren't extremely helpful, but the application helps me to draw a straight line, as it were, through the text. Here they address the application of the texts to our lives and not only that but they also involve a section on creating a biblically rich theology from Scripture. At the end of each chapter they include for the reader a "Guidelines" section which should be well heeded by the reader. They also include Key Words, Assignments (hence the text-book application), and Key Resources for those who want to dive into a more specialist treatment of special aspects of God's revelation to his people. These aspects at the end of each section really help the reader to practice and apply the material they've just digested, which I appreciate myself. If you're looking for a great introductory text for a small study group or are just looking to grow in your knowledge, and I may add love of, God's word then you will definitely benefit from a book like this. For the Love of God's Word does exactly what it claims to, it brings the reader and those in his / her circles into a greater love for the bible. This volume is rich with worshipful tones even as the technical language is employed page after page. Stenberger, Andreas J., and Patterson, Richard D. For the Love of God's Word An Introduction to Biblical Interpretation. Abridged and Revised ed. Grand Rapids: Kregel Academic, 2015. 448. Print.

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