



4-28-2017

## Kostenberger, A., Benjamin M., & Plummer, R.'s "Going deeper with New Testament Greek: An intermediate study of the grammar and syntax of the New Testament" (Book Review)

Scott Lloyd

*The Christian Librarian* is the official publication of the Association of Christian Librarians (ACL). To learn more about ACL and its products and services please visit <http://www.acl.org/>

Follow this and additional works at: <http://digitalcommons.georgefox.edu/tcl>

 Part of the [Biblical Studies Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

Lloyd, Scott (2017) "Kostenberger, A., Benjamin M., & Plummer, R.'s "Going deeper with New Testament Greek: An intermediate study of the grammar and syntax of the New Testament" (Book Review)," *The Christian Librarian*: Vol. 60 : Iss. 1 , Article 45. Available at: <http://digitalcommons.georgefox.edu/tcl/vol60/iss1/45>

This Book Review is brought to you for free and open access by Digital Commons @ George Fox University. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Christian Librarian by an authorized editor of Digital Commons @ George Fox University. For more information, please contact [arolfe@georgefox.edu](mailto:arolfe@georgefox.edu).

complex nuance. Even at points where I wondered if VanDrunen's Calvinism was about to run away with itself, he invariably rescued it with reasoned arguments, biblical insights, and a depth of analysis that I wish were more widespread among Calvinists than it seems to be in actuality.

Also refreshing was VanDrunen's appropriation of scriptural imagery to underscore his exploration of God's glory. Employing Meredith Kline's work on the glory-cloud in Scripture, VanDrunen avoids the caricatured charge of Calvinism's propensity to heady philosophical abstraction in its use of language. Life applications of God's glory – or better, life applications *in light of* God's glory – comprise the final third of the book. In these chapters VanDrunen explores what life lived for God's glory might, could, and should look like in the current postmodern age. Now, more than ever, we need to learn how to live for God's glory alone in an over-complicated world.

### Reviewer

Mark Tubbs, Pacific Life Bible College

---

Kostenberger, A., Benjamin M., & Plummer, R. (2016). *Going deeper with New Testament Greek: An intermediate study of the grammar and syntax of the New Testament*. Nashville, TN: B & H Academic. 550 pp. \$49.99. ISBN 9781433679087

At a time when many are questioning the value of learning Biblical languages, publishers are seemingly ignoring those critical voices and releasing a flurry of new books for the study of New Testament Greek. Among these new titles is *Going Deeper with New Testament Greek*, a collaborative effort by two New Testament professors from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary (Kostenberger and Merkle), and a third from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary (Plummer). Their goal was to design a textbook for a semester-long intermediate Greek course or any class building upon a beginning Greek course.

After presenting a helpful summary of the history of the Greek language and New Testament textual criticism, the authors provide a thorough examination of noun cases, the definite article, adjectives, and verb moods and tenses. Participles and infinitives each receive their own chapters, followed by one chapter covering pronouns, prepositions, conjunctions, adverbs, and particles. They close their study with helpful discussions on performing sentence diagramming, discourse analysis, and word studies, as well as advice for furthering one's study. Name, subject, and scripture indexes are included to aid readers who use the book as a reference guide.

Several characteristics make *Going Deeper* an attractive, student-friendly textbook selection. Each chapter begins with a brief exegetical study that provides practical application of the lesson for that chapter. The authors clearly state the learning objectives for the chapter and present the lesson itself, including abundant illustrative scriptural citations. Exercises and readings are integrated into the textbook, making the purchase of a separate workbook unnecessary. Finally, in addition to presenting their own original research, the authors have closely interacted with other grammars and have provided helpful summaries of other scholars' insights.

Kostenberger, Merkle, and Plummer have succeeded in their goal of producing a user-friendly textbook. It will also serve as a helpful reference for students who are conducting exegetical research. *Going Deeper* is highly recommended for all academic libraries supporting biblical language courses.

**Reviewer**

Scott Lloyd, Cincinnati Christian University

---

Hauerwas, S., & Willimon, W. H. (2015). *The Holy Spirit*. Nashville, TN: Abingdon Press. 67 pp. \$19.50. ISBN 9781426778636

This was an informative read of the distinct role that the Holy Spirit has in the Trinity. Written by two prominent and respected scholars, it is a cause for celebration reminding us of the importance and vitality of the Spirit. The authors discuss and illustrate the vital role played by the Spirit in the life of the church. This work also serves as an invitation to fresh learning, to repentance, and renewal in our mission to tell the good news of a God who in love sacrificed His only son so that humankind could once again have a relationship with their Creator.

For too long the Holy Spirit has been neglected or feared. Hauerwas and Willimon challenge us to rediscover the Spirit as the comforter, the advocate for the renewal of the Christian church and the world. This book is short but I would consider it a must have for any library.

**Reviewer**

Deborah McConkey, Horizon College & Seminary