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Forbes' "First Peter: Exegetical Guide to the Greek New Testament" (Book Review)

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devices and sources that the biblical passage relied on. Next is a comment section which interprets the text paragraph by paragraph relating it to its ancient Near Eastern context and its relationship to other biblical texts. Finally, there is a section entitled explanation which discusses the theological message of the chapter or unit and relates the respective passage under consideration to the New Testament and the church. This last section is useful to the pastor who desires to apply Kings to the local church. Beal interacts with current scholarship citing scholarly literature throughout the commentary. The commentary has an extensive bibliography of 39 pages, citing works that have been published as recent as 2013. The scholar will find this bibliography very useful for further research. This is a commentary every college and seminary library should have in its collection.

First Peter: Exegetical Guide to the Greek New Testament,
by Greg W. Forbes. Nashville: B&H Academic, 2014. 229 pp. \$24.99;
ISBN 9781433676024

Reviewed by Michael Bain, Director of Library Resources, Point University, West Point, GA

A “General Introduction to the Exegetical Guide to the Greek New Testament Series” affirms this is not a traditional commentary, and it is not. The intent is to stand between the Greek text (UBS⁵) and a commentary. The book fulfills that intent.

The table of contents covers five pages and includes the forty-two topics “For Further Study.” The book concludes with an exegetical outline, a grammar index, and a scripture index. The grammar index is particularly helpful as a source of examples of grammatical constructions.

Prefatory materials include discussion of authorship, historical setting, date, outline, and recommended commentaries. Forbes gives considerable and deserved attention to “The Use of the Imperative in 1 Peter” and “Imperative Participles in 1 Peter.” The style and contents of the Greek of 1 Peter make these treatments obligatory and Forbes makes numerous references to this material throughout the text.

Each paragraph of the Greek text is treated with a structural analysis which is almost as detailed as a formal sentence diagram. Each Greek phrase receives discussion including textual variants, vocabulary, parsing of significant verbs, and grammatical analysis. Treatment includes reference to translations of numerous English versions, views of commentators, and where appropriate, various options for how to render a grammatically challenging word or phrase. Forbes also offers bibliographies on topics for further study and homiletical suggestions.

Every page of this book has value; every paragraph, indeed, every line is chock-full of data. This reviewer has seen few, if any, books for Bible study which are so densely packed with information. The extensive use of abbreviations can be challenging.

The reviewer did not verify every bibliographic reference, every parsing of verbs, every scriptural reference, or every entry in every index. Throughout the book there are relatively few typos (both Greek and English) and some abbreviations that do not appear in the ten-page list of abbreviations. On the whole, the book is well produced.

Anyone who has sufficient Greek proficiency to use a Greek-English lexicon can benefit from time spent here. Thorough use of the book requires a more robust proficiency in Greek and the attendant terminology of grammatical analysis. But anyone with the requisite skills, student or teacher, can profit from this excellent tool.

For Such a Time as This: Young Adults on the Future of the Church,

edited by Kathryn Mary Lohre. Valley Forge, PA: Judson Press, 2014. 160 pp.

\$15.99. ISBN 978-0817017415

*Reviewed by Barbara Keller, Professor/Director of Libraries,
Faulkner University, Montgomery, AL*

For Such a Time as This: Young Adults on the Future of the Church is a compilation of contributions from eleven young adults representing the millennial generation. Along with Lohre, the book's editor, contributors discuss concerns about how churches should and must change to accommodate the thoughts and ideals of this generation, as well as how churches, as they have existed in the past, have failed the present population. Lohre states in the preface, "Churches don't need to be about 'hooking' younger generations into the church so that it can return to a past that no longer exists, but about engaging across generations to shape missional goals for the future to which God is calling us" (p. xii). This statement could well serve as a "thesis statement" for the book. Throughout the pages, the ever popular millennial idea of "spiritual but not religious" is asserted. Many topics are covered within the book including multicultural churches, global Christianities, Christian identity and interfaith engagement, and ideas for hospitality for all, such as people with intellectual disabilities, as well as the LBGTQ population. Solutions for resolving existing problems with these and other situations are offered within the pages.

There are briefly stated concerns of identity loss by some of the contributors. Shanta Ready Alonson, who wrote the first chapter, entitled "Hybrid Identities and Today's Multicultural Church," says, "Due to some of the challenges.... Millennials lack a