

What's What in the Reference Collection

Theology & Philosophy and Ethics

Introduction

This guide is intended to aid those seeking reference works dealing with theology, ethics, or philosophy. It is a listing of many of the reference works that are available for finding information regarding topics and issues of these areas.

All works included in this guide are part of the reference collection of the Library at Covenant Theological Seminary. Covenant's call numbers appear to the left of each work.

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J. Oliver Buswell, Jr. Library



B – Philosophy

Cambridge Dictionary of Philosophy

- REF Robert Audi, editor. Cambridge University Press, 1995.
B Containing over 4,000 entries, which are mostly short (one paragraph) though
41 some run to several pages, the Cambridge Dictionary clearly and concisely
.C35 defines both technical terms and crucial concepts. It includes substantial
1995 explanatory articles on all major philosophers as well as hundreds of minor
figures. There are overviews of all the important sub-disciplines such as ethics,
epistemology, metaphysics, philosophy of mind and logic.

Dictionary of Philosophy and Religion: Eastern & Western Thought

- REF William L. Reese. New and Enlarged ed. Atlantic Highlands, NJ:
B Humanities Press, 1996.
41 Contains over 4,000 short entries covering contemporary analytic philosophy,
.R43 Continental and Asian philosophies, and the history of philosophy (including
1996 biographical entries on over 900 philosophers). It contains an extensive and
detailed cross-reference system. A very useful one-volume introduction to
philosophy.

Encyclopedia of Philosophy

- REF Paul Edwards, editor. 8 vols. New York: Macmillan, 1967.
B The major English-language work in the field, this work covers the whole of
51 philosophy. A good starting point when researching a topic in philosophy. The
.C5 over 1,400 articles are generally on broad subject areas – you must use the index
to find specific topics. The long signed articles include bibliographies, many with
annotations. The supplement (put out in 1996) includes additional articles and
a cumulative index for the entire set.

Chronological and Thematic Charts of Philosophies and Philosophers

- REF Milton D. Hunnax. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1986.
BD Intended as a ready-reference aid for those in need of essential information on
21 philosophy, this work covers the problems of philosophy in three general areas
.H725 (knowledge, the world, and values) and includes a separate section on the
1986 theories of representative philosophers. The indexes of names and topics provide a
valuable entrance to the specific philosophers and ideas in the charts.

BJ – Ethics

See also, the sections on Science (p. 11) and Medicine (p. 11) for other works on ethics

Encyclopedia of Applied Ethics

- REF Ruth Chadwick, editor. 4 vols. San Diego: Academic Press, 1998.
BJ *Article length essays (10-15 pages) on topics within twelve subject areas: theories of ethics, ethical concepts, medical ethics, scientific ethics, environmental ethics, .E44 legal ethics, ethics in education, ethics and politics, business and economic ethics, 1998 media ethics, ethics and social services, and social ethics. Each essay contains an outline, glossary, defining statement, cross-references, and a bibliography in addition to the body of the entry.*

Encyclopedia of Ethics

- REF Lawrence G. Becker and Charlotte B. Becker, editors. 3 vols. New York: BJ Routledge, 2001.
63 *Contains articles by distinguished academic philosophers, covering a wide variety of ethical concepts (e.g., theories of the good) as well as ethical questions raised by .E45 contemporary social issues (e.g., capital punishment). Substantial survey articles describe Eastern and Western ethical traditions as well as specialized areas such as environmental ethics. Includes a number of biographies. Each article contains 2001 a bibliography and references to related articles.*

Encyclopedia of Ethics

- REF Susan Neiburg Terkel and R. Shannon Duval, editors. New York: Facts BJ on File, 1999.
63 *Aimed at the general reader (including high school and college students) to give them an introduction into ethics and a working vocabulary for the study of ethics. .E46 This work serves as a basic introduction drawing on the classical line of ethical 1999 inquiry and has a strong interest in contemporary ethical issues.*

Dictionary of Ethics, Theology and Society

- REF Paul Barry Clarke and Andrew Linzey, editors. New York Routledge, BJ 1996.
1199 *This work seeks to offer “a unique synthesis of Judaeo-Christian approaches to .D45 social and political issues of wide concern as well as analysing theological and 1996 secular positions on matters of religious practice and belief.” (cover) Each entry includes a brief definition of the term, a description of the principal ideas behind it, an analysis of its history, development and contemporary relevance, followed by a bibliography.*

The Encyclopedia of Biblical Ethics

- REF R.K. Harrison, editor. New York: Testament Books, 2003.
BJ *Seeking to serve as a textbook for students as well as a practical manual for the*
1199 *average Christian, covers issues from the most current (e.g., cloning and computer*
.E53 *ethics) to age-old issues (e.g., chastity and apartheid) from an explicitly Christian*
2003 *viewpoint. In addition to the articles, a Scripture index and an index of all the*
people cited in the work with the topics on which they spoke.

New Dictionary of Christian Ethics & Pastoral Theology

- REF David J. Atkinson and David H. Field, editors. Downers Grove: IVP,
BJ 1995.
1199 *Combines articles on ethics, psychology, and practical theology. Is formatted in*
.N495 *two parts, the first contains eighteen keynote articles giving a basic introduction*
1995 *to the main themes of Christian ethics and pastoral theology. The second part*
consists of over 700 articles usually including bibliographies and when relevant
referring back to the keynote articles. Includes biographies of ethicists,
theologians, economists, psychologists, and British counselors.

Westminster Dictionary of Christian Ethics

- REF James Childress and John McQuarrie, editors. Philadelphia:
BJ Westminster, 1986.
1199 *It contains 620 entries from a wide range of religious traditions and academic*
.W47 *disciplines that cover the major issues in ethics and morality. Most entries include*
1986 *a bibliography.*

Baker's Dictionary of Christian Ethics

- REF Carl F. H. Henry, editor. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1973.
BJ *Contains moderate length essays and numerous short entries on all aspects of*
1231 *Christian ethics by well-known evangelical scholars.*
.B34

B R – C h r i s t i a n i t y

➤ BR 60–67 Early Christian Literature

Dictionary of Early Christian Beliefs

- REF David Bercot, editor. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson, 1998.
BR *A compilation of excerpts from the ante-Nicene church fathers on more than 700 moral, theological, and historical topics. It offers brief definitions of unfamiliar terms and concepts as well as short biographies of the ante-Nicene church fathers.*
66.5
.D53
1998 *Its inclusion of the relevant biblical texts to the topics allows it to serve as a topical concordance to the Scriptures as well as a topical index to the writings of the ante-Nicene fathers.*

B R – C h r i s t i a n i t y

➤ BR 95 General Reference Works on Christianity

Evangelical Dictionary of Theology

- REF Walter A. Elwell, editor. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 2001
BR *A one-volume reference work that covers historical theology (including important events and people in church history) as well as systematic and philosophical theology and theological ethics.*
95
.E87
2001

Cyclopedia of Biblical, Theological & Ecclesiastical Literature

- REF John McClintock and James Strong. 12 vols. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker,
BR 1981.
95 *Combines breadth of scope with the detail of a specialized encyclopedia. An excellent work originally published in the late 19th century that is still worth exploring. The Cyclopedia covers the Bible (books, manuscripts, themes, issues, etc.), biblical and ecclesiastical geography, biography, theology (doctrines and issues), and ecclesiology.*
.M35
1981

New Dictionary of Theology

- REF Sinclair Ferguson and David F. Wright, editors. Downers Grove, IL:
BR Inter-Varsity Press, 1988.
95 *A one-volume reference that covers historical as well as systematic theology. The articles treat theological themes, thinkers, and movements throughout the history of the church. Students of the Reformed tradition are well served by this work.*
.N38
1988

New Catholic Encyclopedia

- REF 2nd ed. 15 vols. New York: Thomson-Gale, 2003.
BR *This encyclopedia's breadth of scope makes it an excellent Christian encyclopedia, despite its name. It covers many subjects in addition to all aspects of the Catholic Church. Volume 15 is a 600-page index that is necessary for finding specific topics and also includes the list of abbreviations used in the work. Unfortunately, though just updated with the addition of a number of new articles, many of the articles are unchanged from the previous (1967) edition.*
95
.N44
2003

The New Schaff-Herzog Encyclopedia Of Religious Knowledge

- REF Samuel Macauley Jackson, editor. 15 vols. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker,
BR 1977.
95 *The encyclopedia covers the areas of biblical, historical, doctrinal, and practical theology and biblical, theological, and ecclesiastical biography. Volumes 1-13 are a reprint of the original encyclopedia published in 1949 and volumes 14 and 15 are a separate A-Z supplement originally published as the Twentieth Century Encyclopedia Of Religious Knowledge, edited by Lefferts A. Loetscher*
.S23
1977

B R – Christianity

- BR 96.5 Terminology

Westminster Dictionary of Theological Terms

- REF Donald McKim. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 1996.
BR *Includes more than 6,000 terms from theology, biblical studies, church history, ethics, feminist theology, liberation theology, ministry, philosophy, social sciences, spirituality, worship, etc. Definitions are short and easy to understand. Includes some Greek and Latin terms.*
96.5
.M378
1996

Compact Dictionary of Doctrinal Words

- REF Terry L Miethe. Minneapolis: Bethany House, 1988.
BR *Slightly longer entries than most dictionaries dealing with over 550 doctrinal terms. Written for the non-theologian – it is very understandable. Entries range from popular terms to some more technical terms.*
96.5
.M48
1988

Dictionary of Latin and Greek Theological Terms

- REF Richard Muller. Grand Rapids: Baker, 1985.
BR *Articles cover Greek and Latin terms that are meaningful in theology. All entries include a literal definition and, when necessary, a longer expanded definition and explanation is given. Most entries are quite short and include notes on historical usage and origin of term.*
96.5
.M86
1985

BS – Bible

➤ BS 440 – Dictionaries and Encyclopedias

Theological Dictionary of the Old Testament

- REF G. Johannes Botterweck and Helmer Ringgren, editors. 11+ vols.
BS Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, continuing to be released.
440 *A major, multi-volume reference work in which the key Hebrew and Aramaic words of the Old Testament are discussed in depth. With the emphasis on meaning, each word study starts from the narrower everyday senses of the word and builds to an understanding of theologically significant concepts. Included under each keyword is consideration of the larger groups of words related semantically, as well as detailed surveys of a word's occurrences, both in the biblical material and elsewhere.*
.B5713

Evangelical Dictionary of Biblical Theology

- REF Walter A. Elwell, editor. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1996.
BS *The only single volume dictionary of biblical theology from an evangelical perspective. Entries are based upon Greek and Hebrew, but do not require knowledge of the languages. Covers over 500 topics with signed articles by more than 125 contributors. Articles often contain short bibliographies for further research. Includes a Scripture index at the end.*
440
.E78
1996

New International Dictionary of Old Testament Theology and Exegesis

- REF Willem A. VanGemeren, editor. 5 vols. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan,
BS 1997.
440 *This work includes a lexical dictionary similar to the one found in TWOT, preceded by the "Guide to Old Testament Theology and Exegesis" (11 essays covering introductory topics). A topical dictionary in volume four, giving articles of a more standard Bible dictionary scope follows the lexical dictionary. Volume five consists of indexes of semantic fields, Hebrew words, Scripture, subject, and the numbering system (converting Strong's numbers to Goodrick-Kohlenberger – from the NIV Exhaustive Concordance).*
.N438
1997

Theological Lexicon of the Old Testament

- REF Ernst Jeddi and Claus Westermann, editors. 3 vols. Peabody, MA:
BS Hendrickson, 1997.
440 *This translation of a German work is similar to both NIDOTTE and TWOT,*
.T4813 *this work seeks to cover the historical, semantic, and theological meanings of*
1997 *Old Testament concepts. Arranged by root, many words are covered in articles*
under synonyms, antonyms, or derivatives so it is best to look the word up in the
index in volume three of all Hebrew and Aramaic terms covered by the set.

Theological Wordbook of the Old Testament

- REF R. Laird Harris, Gleason Archer, and Bruce Waltke, editors. Chicago:
BS Moody Press, 1980.
440 *Articles discuss every Hebrew word of theological significance in the Old*
.T49 *Testament. Also provides the definitions of all other words. Articles stress*
theological, not linguistic, understanding and include bibliographies. For the
English-only user, a cross-index from the "Hebrew word number" in Strong's
Concordance to entries in this wordbook is appended

BS – Bible

- BS 410 – 680 Works about the Bible

Dictionary of Biblical Theology

- REF Xavier Leon-Dufour, editor. New York: Desclee, 1967.
BS *A translation of a French work, this dictionary was intended primarily for*
543 *Roman Catholic laity and clergy and therefore takes a theological and pastoral*
.A1 *approach. Arranged by broad topics, with extensive discussion and bibliographical*
L43 *references.*

BS – Bible

- BS 1901 – 2970 New Testament

Exegetical Dictionary of the New Testament

- REF Horst Balz and Gerhard Schneider, editors. 3 vols. Grand Rapids, MI:
BS Eerdmans, 1978-1980.
2312 *The standard shorter theological dictionary of New Testament words. A*
.E913 *translation of a German work, it includes definitions of every Greek word in the*
1990 *New Testament. As well as providing a guide to the usage of significant New*
Testament words in different New Testament literary and theological contexts.

Theological Dictionary of the New Testament

- REF Gerhard Kittel. 10 vols. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 1964.
BS *The translation of a German work, TDNT treats more than 2,300 theologically*
2312 *significant New Testament words (arranged by their Greek forms). TDNT*
.K4 *typically discusses the following for each word: its secular Greek background, its role*
in the Old Testament, its use in extrabiblical Jewish literature, and its varied uses
in the New Testament. Some caution is required as many of the articles read
theological meaning into the words themselves, whereas the theology often properly
involves the words as employed in specific contexts.

New International Dictionary of New Testament Theology

- REF Colin Brown, ed. 4 vols. Grand Rapids, MI: Regency Reference Library,
BS 1986.
2312 *Contains discussions on the major theological terms of the New Testament*
.N48 *(arranged by their English form). These discussions cover the use of the term in*
1986 *classical Greek, the Old Testament, rabbinic writings, as well as the New*
Testament. The first volume also incorporates a glossary of technical terms; and
the fourth volume is composed of five indices: a Scripture index; an index of
extrabiblical literature; an index of Hebrew and Aramaic words; an index of
Greek words; and a general index.

Theological Lexicon of the New Testament

- REF Ceslas Spicq. Peabody: Hendrickson, 1994.
BS *Similar to both Kittel and Brown above, this three-volume translation of a*
2312 *French work seeks the religious meaning of the language used in the New*
.S613 *Testament. Though similar in intent to Kittel more than half of the words*
1994 *covered are not included in Kittel. Like Kittel, this work is arranged by the Greek*
form.

BT – Doctrinal Theology

Dictionary of Historical Theology

- REF Trevor A. Hart, editor. Grand Rapids, MI: Eerdmans, 2000.
BT *Covers the key figures, theological movements, and significant texts that have*
21.2 *shaped Christian thought from the early church to the present. The articles treat*
.D53 *the intellectual antecedents and descendents of the figures and movements, as*
2000 *well as their influence on the wider development of the Christian theological*
tradition.

Charts of Christian Theology & Doctrine

- REF H. Wayne House. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1992.
BT Contains 89 charts covering all aspects of theology grouped in 10 categories:
77.3 *prolegomena, bibliology, theology proper, Christology, pneumatology, angelology,*
.H68 *anthropology, soteriology, ecclesiology, and eschatology.*
1992

Taxonomic Charts of Theology & Biblical Studies

- REF M. James Sawyer. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan, 1999.
BT Contains 129 charts that seek to provide a visual tracing of all major areas of
77.3 *theology (e.g., Christology, soteriology, anthropology, etc.) and biblical studies and*
.S29 *their interrelation as well as a glossary giving brief definitions.*
1999

Encyclopedia of Fundamentalism

- REF Brenda E. Brasher, editor. New York: Routledge, 2001.
BT Though it provides information on fundamentalism in all forms (e.g., the
82.2 *Taliban, Hasidic Jews, and the Bharatiya Janata Party in India), the primary*
.E63 *focus of the encyclopedia is on American Protestant fundamentalism. The entries*
2001 *cover six general topics: fundamentalism in its religious context; major events in*
the history of fundamentalism; primary beliefs and institutions; major
movements, denominations, sects, and churches; perspectives on political and
social issues; and individuals who have been central to the rise of fundamentalist
movements.

Dictionary of Feminist Theologies

- REF Letty M. Russell and J. Shannon Clarkson, editors. Louisville, KY:
BT Westminster John Knox, 1996.
83.55 *Providing an entry into the fields of womanist, mujerista, Asian feminist, and*
.D53 *white Euroamerican feminist studies in religion, the articles take a pluralistic*
1996 *approach to feminist theologies. It seeks to cover all areas of theology as they*
relate to feminism. Articles are followed by reference lists referring to the extensive
bibliography at the end of the dictionary.

Dictionary of Premillennial Theology

- REF Mal Couch, editor. Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel, 1996.
BT *A practical guide to the people, viewpoints, and history of prophetic studies. This*
821.2 *dictionary seeks to explain the history, development, and major tents of*
.D53 *dispensationalism. All the articles are written from an overtly premillennial,*
1996 *dispensational perspective. The articles typically include substantial recent*
bibliographies. A good tool for understanding the dispensational viewpoint on a
given subject.

B X – C h r i s t i a n D e n o m i n a t i o n s

➤ BX 8901 – 9255 Presbyterianism

Encyclopedia of the Reformed Faith

- REF Donald McKim, editor. Louisville: Westminster John Knox, 1992.
BX *This work “provides a picture of the major events, persons, and theological*
9406 *understandings of the Reformed Faith... It seeks to provide a circle of knowledge*
.E56 *indicating how events, persons, and concepts have been particularly significant in*
1992 *the Reformed heritage” (preface).*

Q – S c i e n c e

Encyclopedia of Bioethics

- REF Warren T. Reich. Rev. ed. 5 vols. New York: Macmillan, 1995.
QH *A widely acclaimed major work in the field, dealing with the major issues in the*
332 *area as well as specifics. The 300 articles, each with a bibliography, include the*
.E52 *latest scholarship and give thorough coverage to this topic. Fully cross-referenced*
1995 *and indexed. Indispensable when working in bioethics.*

R – M e d i c i n e

Encyclopedia of Medicine in the Bible and Talmud

- REF Rosner, Fred. Northvale, NJ: Jason Aronson, 2000.
R *Written from a Jewish perspective, this work covers medical ethics as well as*
135.5 *medicine itself. To this end a sizeable portion of the articles address ethical issues*
.R663 *– such as, abortion, cohabitation, marriage, sex (incest, adultery, homosexuality,*
2000 *lesbianism, masturbation, etc.), lust, euthanasia, etc. To make it easier to find*
topics, both a large table of contents and an extensive index are included.