

# Matthew and the Scholars

## Two sets of Tools

<b>Church of Christ</b>	<b>Other</b>
<b>J. W. McGarvey</b> - Commentary on Matthew and the Harmony of the Gospels	<b>R. T. France</b> The Gospel of Matthew (NICNT Series) Matthew (TNTC Series) Matthew Evangelist and Teacher
<b>Mike Criswell</b> – Commentary on Matthew (CFTF Series)	<b>D. A. Carson</b> Commentary on Matthew (Expositor’s Bible Commentary Set) God With Us
<b>Kyle Pope</b> – Commentary on Matthew (Truth Commentary Series)	<b>Charles L. Quarles</b> – A Theology of Matthew
<b>Harold Fowler</b> – Commentary on Matthew (College Press BSTS)	<b>David L. Turner</b> – Matthew (Baker Exegetical Commentary of the N.T.)
<b>R. C. H. Lenski</b> – Commentary on Matthew	<b>W. D. Davies and Dale C. Allison Jr.</b> Matthew: A Shorter Commentary or 3 Volume Set by ICC Dale C. Allison Jr. – Studies in Matthew and The New Moses
<b>Adam Clarke</b> – Commentary on Matthew	<b>Craig S. Keener</b> – Commentary on the Gospel of Matthew
<b>John Broadus</b> – Commentary on Matthew (American Commentary of the N.T.)	<b>Craig L. Blomberg</b> – Matthew (NAC Commentary Series)
<b>James MacKnight</b> – Harmony of the Gospels	<b>Jack Dean Kingsbury</b> Matthew as Story Matthew: Structure, Christology, Kingdom

If I had to choose one commentary, I could not do it. If I had to choose one from each group, I would go with Criswell and France. Having said that, I believe *God With Us* by D. A. Carson is a must read as well as *A Theology of Matthew* by Charles L. Quarles.

## Strengths and Weaknesses

<b>Church of Christ</b>	<b>Other</b>
<b>Strength:</b> Conservative scholarship and believes in a full inspiration of Scripture.	<b>Weakness:</b> Wrestle with Q and Markan Priority (with the exception of Quarles). <b>Strength:</b> Maintains a high view of Scripture.
<b>Weakness:</b> Does not interact with much of modern scholarship and as a result has a limited scope.	<b>Weakness:</b> Does not interact with Church of Christ sources.
<b>Weakness:</b> Does not wrestle with the structure of Matthew, nor the Big Picture.	<b>Strengths:</b> Wrestles with the structure and provides some helpful Gig Picture views. Carson and Quarles nail the big picture.
<b>Strength:</b> Gets the big issues right. I.E. baptism, the church, end of time, etc. <b>Weakness/Lesser Strength:</b> Doesn't combat Premillennialism as strongly.	<b>Weakness:</b> Misses baptism may dabble with Refurbished Earth Theory <b>Strength:</b> Combats Premillennialism – France, Turner, and Quarles in particular <b>Strength:</b> R. T. France has some of the best – if not the best material on Matthew 24
<b>Weakness:</b> Misses some of the intertextuality of Matthew.	<b>Strength:</b> Emphasizes the N.T.'s use of the O. T. <b>Weakness:</b> Though it recognizes the link, it doesn't always get the message right.
<b>Strength:</b> Readability and clarity	<b>Weakness:</b> Readability – with some exceptions such as France, Carson, and Quarles.

### **Additional Recommended Reading:**

*Handbook on the New Testament Use of the Old Testament* by G. K. Beale  
*Commentary on the New Testament Use of the Old Testament* by G. K. Beale  
*Exploring the New Exodus in John* by Paul S. Coxon

Both of these books deal with the rules of interpreting the New Testament's use of the Old Testament.

**Side Note:** Pay attention to footnotes and bibliographies. This is how you find good material.

**Coincidentally:** As I was looking through Mike Criswell's Commentary I discovered Dad's name with reference to his unpublished Sermon on the Mt. material – so you are in for a treat this week.