

## Library Classification and Filing System for Biblical and Theological Studies

4th edition

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I am frequently asked about organizing a biblical studies library—usually by students, but others inquire as well. After many years of such queries I decided that I should take the time to make my own system available in a form that I can share with others. The outline below is based on 35 years of sifting, sorting, consulting, adapting, inventing, revising, etc. my own personalized classification system for biblical studies. I've rummaged in many, many different published systems and libraries (Dewey, LC systems, and some less common ones) over the years and most of them have had their own impact on the eclectic results shown here. Some of the categories given here are not exactly my own system but instead reflect changes that I'd make if I were beginning again. It explicitly reflects the needs of the pastor and seminary prof's professional library (probably in the "several thousand volumes" range) and also reflects my own idiosyncratic interests, needs, and teaching areas. It is not perfectly consistent (e.g., OT and NT subdivisions are not exactly parallel in some cases). It does not pretend to be adequate for a large institutional library, though I suspect that it might adequately handle, say, a 10 or even 20,000 volume library of biblical studies without too much further adaptation or expansion. (If someone were to use this for a large library, they should be aware that there is no attempt here to provide a detailed breakdown for church administration, Christian education, or counseling materials [some of the basics are here], primarily because this system is designed for biblical studies proper rather than its various applications.) The greatest detail will be found in New Testament followed by theology. It also reflects my own theological position: Baptist, premillennial, etc., with a noticeable conservative slant (and the list of attributives could surely go on!). In most cases I have not attempted to "generalize" the system to be more generic. You will want to make your own "tweaks" to compensate for my idiosyncrasies (and to accommodate your own!). Perhaps you will find it useful, but, as they say, *caveat emptor* (just remember what you paid for this system!).

- 0.1 **Bibliographies**
- 0.2 **Library materials, filing/classification systems**
- 0.3 **Dictionaries (of the English language), thesauruses, encyclopedias (general)**
- 0.4 **Writing and style guides**
- 0.5 **Journals** (cutter by title)
- 01 **Christianity** (in general and Christian “philosophy of religion”) For “religion” and other religions, see 90.
- 03 Dictionaries & encyclopedias of Christianity, etc,
- 06 Christian organizations (parachurch, not churches)
- 07 **Christian Thought** (Christian use of the mind, thinking as a Christian; teaching Christianity [but not evangelism, for which see 48.5, 66, 69]; for Christian higher education [Bible colleges, Christian colleges/ universities, seminaries], see 61.9.)
- 07.5 Epistemology, logic, and philosophy (cf. apologetics, 39)  
If quantity of material justifies, these topics could be split into separate entries, perhaps .5–.7.
- 10 **Natural Religion** (Christian perspective; non-Christian views of natural religion = 90) Serves as a general heading for 11-19. Remember that there are other headings s.v. Bible (20f) that address these same topics from a biblical perspective rather than that of natural religion.
- 11 **God** (in natural theology; revealed doctrine = 31)
- 11.3 Theism (cf. 12)
- 11.4 Rationalism
- 11.5 Deism
- 11.6 Humanism, secularism, “New Age,” etc.
- 11.7 Agnosticism
- 11.8 Atheism
- 12 **Nature of God**

- 12.2 Polytheism
- 12.3 Dualism
- 12.4 Monotheism
- 12.5 Pantheism
- 13 Origin of Life & the Universe**
- 13.2 Evolution
- 13.5 Creation
- 14 Theodicy**
- 14.8 Providence
- 15 Science and Religion, Christian view of science**  
(If interest warrants, this can be subdivided into categories related to each of the major areas of science. I personally use only a few sub-headings, some of which are not necessarily purely “natural religion.”)
- 15.9 Technology & cyberspace (computer, Internet, etc.)
- 15.95 Computer use in biblical research, etc.
- 20 Bible, Bibliology, Doctrine of Scripture**
- 20.1 Canon, canonicity
- 20.12 Inspiration & authority of Scripture, inerrancy/  
infallibility
- 20.13 Criticism and defense of the Bible as the Word of God
- 20.14 Authorship of the Bible
- 20.15 Versions & translations (history & discussion of),  
translation theory (put various translations in  
20.5)
- 20.159 History of the English Bible (or your own primary  
language)
- 20.19 History of the Bible as a book (How we got our Bible,  
including how it was originally written)
- 20.2 Concordances (but Hebrew and Greek concordances go in  
21 & 25)

- 20.3 Bible dictionaries, encyclopedias, & handbooks (Sets or reference works devoted strictly to OT or NT may be classed in 21.03 and 25.03 respectively.)
- 20.4 Original texts (but only those that include both Hebrew and Greek); early/ancient versions (this section can be subdivided into specific versions if necessary)  
Hebrew OT = 21.2, Greek NT = 25.2
- 20.47 Vulgate (see also 25.615\* for the Vulgate's use in NT textual criticism)
- 20.5 Modern versions/translations (This could be subdivided into English and other languages if necessary. For translation theory, see 20.15.) Cutter by standard abbrev.; e.g., 20.5/NIV.
- 20.6 Bible Interpretation/Hermeneutics** (general), Bible study (inclgd. Bible study methods), & application
- 20.601 Holy Spirit & hermeneutics/interpretation
- 20.602 Genre
- 20.603 Historical/narrative approaches (including New Yale School)
- 20.604 Hermeneutics of prophecy/eschatology
- 20.605 Allegory, allegorical interpretation
- 20.606 Figurative speech/language, metaphor, symbolism, interpretation of symbols
- 20.607 Midrash, pesher, and other Jewish hermeneutical methods
- 20.61 Linguistic Interpretation:** language & words in interpretation & biblical theology (usually OT & NT together: word studies, semantics [diachronic, synchronic], linguistics, discourse analysis, literary structure, chiasm)
- 20.62 Contextualization, cultural aspects of interpretation
- 20.63 Hermeneutical theory**  
(Hermeneutical *systems* go in sub-div. below.)

- 20.631 Dispensational theology (including hyperdispensationalism)
- 20.632 Covenant theology
- 20.633 “New Covenant” theology
- 20.634 “People of God” (the term/concept in Scripture)
- 20.635 Authorial intent
- 20.636 Contemporary hermeneutics: deconstruction, structuralism, post-structuralism, post-modern hermeneutics (Gadamer, Rorty, Riceour, etc.; for intertextuality, see 25.843)
- 20.637 Speech-Act theory
- 20.65 Harmonization, Bible difficulties (so-called “contradictions”)
- 20.66 Exegesis, exegetical method (see 21.22, OT; 25.55, NT)
- 20.67 Biblical/historical/literary criticism (includes higher criticism, source, redaction, form, social-scientific criticism, etc.) For Documentary Hypothesis, see 22.1; Synoptic Problem, see 26.11.
- 20.68 Esoteric interpretation, i.e., esoteric attempts to find hidden meanings in Scripture such as Bible numerics/numerology, etc.
- 20.7 Commentaries, Whole Bible**
- 20.8 Special Subjects in the Bible** (e.g., “priest” OT & NT)  
Expand as needed.
- 20.81 Covenants, biblical (covenants in general; Noahic, Abrahamic, Davidic covs.) For new cov., see 20.815; for Mosaic cov., see 22.16)
- 20.815 New covenant
- 20.83 Biblical theology (OT & NT; OT = 21.83; NT = 25.83),  
*eine gesamtbiblische Theologie*
- 20.9 Geography, Biography, and History of the Bible**

- 20.91 Geography
- 20.92 Biography, biblical: individual (cutter by individual)
- 20.920 Biography, biblical: collective (cutter by author)
- 20.93 Archaeology
- 20.94 Books & literacy in the ancient world (OT & NT together; if only OT, 21.9; if only NT, 25.9)
- 20.95 History
- 21 Old Testament**  
(include OT surveys here, “introductions” in 21.1)
- 21.03 OT dictionaries and handbooks (*not* language dictionaries/lexicons)
- 21.1 OT introduction
- 21.2 OT/Hebrew texts (e.g., BHS)
- 21.21 OT textual criticism
- 21.22 OT/Hebrew exegesis
- 21.3 OT/Hebrew lexicons & concordances
- 21.4 OT/Hebrew word studies
- 21.5 Hebrew grammar
- 21.55 Aramaic grammar, texts, etc.
- 21.6 Septuagint and Old Greek versions of the OT** (here cited collectively as LXX)  
In this main heading include discussions re. the LXX, its text and history, etc
- 21.62 LXX texts (e.g., Rahlfs or Göttingen eds.)
- 21.63 LXX lexicons, concordances
- 21.65 LXX grammar & syntax

- 21.67 Commentaries on the LXX versions of OT canonical books  
Subdivide by appending the numbers from the OT book section (22–24) but omitting the first digit and the decimal point. Thus a LXX commentary on Exodus would be 21.67212 (Exodus = 22.12). On spine labels, place the last digits on a 2d line: 21.67-212. For the apocryphal books in the LXX, see 29.
- 21.7 OT commentaries (sets covering the entire OT)
- 21.8 Special subjects in the OT
- 21.81 Tabernacle, temple
- 21.83 OT biblical theology (OT & NT together = 20.83)
- 21.9 OT geography, history, & archaeology
- 21.91 OT geography
- 21.93 OT archaeology
- 21.95 OT history
- 21.96 Second-Temple Judaism, inter-testamental period  
(Include here works that span related topics, e.g., the literature of 2d Temple Judaism. See also Septuagint/LXX, 21.6; Apocrypha, 29; Pseudepigrapha, 29.6.)
- 21.961 Dead Sea Scrolls (cf. 96.817, Qumran)
- 22 Historical Books**
- 22.1 **Pentateuch** (include discussion of authorship and composition here, whether Mosaic or any of the critical theories)
- 22.11 Genesis
- 22.12 Exodus
- 22.13 Leviticus
- 22.14 Numbers
- 22.15 Deuteronomy

- 22.16 Old/Mosaic covenant, “The Law” (but only OT perspective; see 27.02 for NT perspective), Ten Commandments/Decalogue
- 22.17 OT feasts, Passover, etc.
- 22.18 OT sacrificial system; priesthood
- 22.2 Joshua
- 22.3 Judges and Ruth
- 22.32 Judges
- 22.35 Ruth
- 22.4 Samuel
- 22.43 1 Samuel
- 22.45 2 Samuel
- 22.5 Kings
- 22.53 1 Kings
- 22.54 2 Kings
- 22.6 Chronicles
- 22.63 1 Chronicles
- 22.64 2 Chronicles
- 22.7 Ezra
- 22.8 Nehemiah
- 22.9 Esther
- 23 Poetic Books** and OT poetry
- 23.1 Job
- 23.2 Psalms
- 23.7 Proverbs
- 23.8 Ecclesiastes
- 23.9 Song of Solomon
- 24 Prophetic Books** and OT prophetism



- 24.1 Isaiah
- 24.2 Jeremiah
- 24.3 Lamentations
- 24.4 Ezekiel
- 24.5 Daniel
- 24.6 Hosea
- 24.7 Joel
- 24.8 Amos
- 24.9 Minor Prophets**
- 24.91 Obadiah
- 24.92 Jonah
- 24.93 Micah
- 24.94 Nahum
- 24.95 Habakkuk
- 24.96 Zephaniah
- 24.97 Haggai
- 24.98 Zechariah
- 24.99 Malachi

- 25 New Testament (include NT surveys here)**
- 25.03 NT dictionaries and handbooks (*not* language dictionaries/lexicons)
- 25.1 New Testament introduction
- 25.2 New Testament Greek texts/testaments (e.g., UBS or NA texts)
- 25.3 New Testament (Greek) lexicons and concordances
- 25.309 Lexicography and history of lexicons

- 25.4 New Testament word studies and semantics (include the multi-vol. “lexicons” such as TWNT/TDNT here)
- 25.41 Semantics (NT; see 20.61 for broader treatments)
- 25.42 Word studies (can subdivide alphabetically for individual words if desired)
- 25.43 Idioms (Greek/NT)
- 25.5 Greek grammar and language  
(See appendix for a detailed elaboration of this section that may be useful to those doing extensive work in this area. Most users will be adequately served by the single number as given here.)
- 25.57 Greek exegesis (including exegetical method)
- 25.58 Other Greek texts (classical, koine, etc.)
- 25.6 New Testament textual criticism  
(See appendix for a detailed elaboration of this section that may be useful to those doing extensive work in this area. Most users will be adequately served by the single number as given here.)
- 25.7 New Testament commentaries (sets that cover the entire NT)
- 25.8 New Testament special subjects
- 25.81 Prophecy in the NT
- 25.82 Critical Methods in NT Study (see 20.67; 26.11)
- 25.84 Use of the OT in the NT; OT quotations; continuity/discontinuity between the Testaments
- 25.841 Typology
- 25.842 *Sensus plenior*
- 25.843 Intertextuality
- 25.85 New Testament biblical theology (Pauline theology may go in 27.02; OT & NT = 20.83)
- 25.9 New Testament geography, history, archaeology, backgrounds

- 25.91 New Testament geography
- 25.92 New Testament history
- 25.93 New Testament archaeology

**26 Gospels and Acts**

- 26.09 History and backgrounds of the Gospels (only; for general NT, see 25.9)
- 26.1 Gospel harmonies & synopses
- 26.11 Synoptic Problem
- 26.2 Matthew
- 26.3 Mark
- 26.4 Luke
- 26.5 John (Also class here Johannine literature.)
- 26.6 Acts
- 26.8 Parables
- 26.9 Sermon on the Mount
- 26.96 Lord's Prayer

**27 Epistles**

- 27.02 Paul and Pauline studies & theology; Paul and The Law; the “new perspective” on Paul, covenantal nomism, etc.
- 27.1 Romans
- 27.2 1 Corinthians
- 27.3 2 Corinthians
- 27.4 Galatians
- 27.5 Ephesians
- 27.6 Philippians
- 27.7 Colossians
- 27.81 1 Thessalonians

- 27.82 2 Thessalonians
- 27.83 1 Timothy  
(Pastoral Epistles as a whole go here also.)
- 27.84 2 Timothy
- 27.85 Titus
- 27.86 Philemon
- 27.87 Hebrews
- 27.9 Catholic Epistles**
- 27.91 James
- 27.92 1 Peter
- 27.93 2 Peter
- 27.94 1 John (& Johannine Epistles together)
- 27.95 2 John
- 27.96 3 John
- 27.97 Jude
- 28 Revelation** (NT book of; the Apocalypse)
- 29 Apocrypha, Pseudepigrapha, Deuterocanonical Books** (both “OT” & “NT” groups), **Apocalyptic Literature** Include texts (original or translations) here along with introductions to and commentaries on these books. Should collection size warrant, this could be subdivided by book or category, in which case, see the Appendix.
- 29.01 Origins and authenticity of the Apocrypha, etc.; pseudonymity
- 29.1 Introductions
- 29.2 Texts (collections of texts)
- 29.5 Apocrypha (See the optional
- 29.6 OT pseudepigrapha expansion of 29.5–7
- 29.7 NT pseudepigrapha in the Appendix)
- 30 Theology** (systematic/dogmatic theology, doctrine)

- 30.01 Theological prolegomena, theological method
- 30.03 Theological dictionaries and handbooks
- 30.09 Liberation Theology
- 30.8 Theology, special topics (esp. topical collections, *Festschriften*, etc.); but biblical theology: OT & NT = 20.83; OT = 21.83, NT = 25.85)
- 30.9 Historical & contemporary theology, history of Christian doctrine
- 31 Theology Proper, doctrine of God; Trinity**
- 31.1 God the Father
- 31.2 God the Son (as related to the Trinity, but use 32 for Christology)
- 31.3 Pneumatology, God the Holy Spirit**
- 31.31 Spiritual gifts
- 31.32 Deity of the Holy Spirit
- 31.33 Work of the Holy Spirit
- 31.4 Attributes of God
- 31.5 Providence
- 31.51 "Open theism," open view of God (& process theology)
- 31.7 Sovereignty, divine decrees
- 31.73 Miracles (class all discussions of miracles here)
- 31.74 Revelation, doctrine of; general revelation; special revelation; propositional truth/ revelation; include theophanies/ Christophanies here
- 31.8 Theodicy, problem of evil/suffering (sickness)
- 32 Christology, Jesus Christ**
- 32.09 Contemporary Christology
- 32.1 Incarnation, virgin birth, kenosis, Messiah, messianic prophecies

- 32.2 Deity of Jesus Christ, “Word of God” (as reference to Jesus), Logos
- 32.3 Crosswork of Jesus, atonement, sacrifice/death/ blood of Christ
- 32.5 Resurrection and ascension of Christ
- 32.6 Present work/session of Christ (2d Coming = 36.9)
- 32.8 Hypostatic union, divine/human nature of Christ, humanity of Christ
- 32.9 Life of Christ
- 32.903 Language/s of Jesus (& of his time/culture)
- 32.908 Jesus studies (modern), including the various “Quests” and the “Jesus Seminar”
- 32.91 Mary (mother of Jesus), but “Mariolatry” = 82
- 32.95 Transfiguration
- 32.96 Passion Week
- 33 Anthropology**, theological; doctrine of man/humanity
- 33.1 Creation & fall of man/humanity (theology of; for “mechanics” see 13.5); image of God
- 33.2 Hamartiology**, doctrine of sin
- 33.5 Immaterial part of a person: soul, spirit, conscience (cf. 41.1), mind, heart, etc., di/trichotomy; sin(ful) nature, “flesh” (ethical)
- 33.7 Total depravity
- 34 Soteriology**, doctrine of salvation (*application* of Jesus’ crosswork; provisions of the crosswork = 32.3)
- 34.1 Grace; positional truth
- 34.2 Faith, hope (include the “Lordship salvation” debate)
- 34.3 Redemption, reconciliation
- 34.4 Regeneration, conversion
- 34.5 Repentance, forgiveness

- 34.6 Destiny of the unevangelized, inclusivism, exclusivism, pluralism, universalism (annihilationism = 36.22)
- 34.7 Justification and adoption; positional righteousness
- 34.8 Sanctification, assurance, security, perseverance; practical righteousness
- 34.9 Predestination, election, free will (cf. 31.5, 31.7)
- 35 Angelology, doctrine of angels**
- 35.4 Demonology, demons
- 35.47 Satan, Satanology; the Devil; Lucifer
- 36 Eschatology, doctrine of future things**
- 36.1 Death
- 36.2 Life after death; future state of man, eternal life
- 36.22 Immortality, conditional immortality, annihilationism (cf. 34.6)
- 36.24 Heaven, Paradise; eternal rewards
- 36.25 Hell, Sheol, Hades, Lake of Fire
- 36.3 Millennium
- 36.31 Premillennialism
- 36.35 Postmillennialism
- 36.36 Theonomy, reconstructionism
- 36.37 Amillennialism
- 36.5 Rapture of the church, second coming of Jesus Christ
- 36.7 Tribulation, 70th week of Daniel
- 36.8 Resurrections (all)
- 36.9 Judgments (all)
- 37 Ecclesiology, Doctrine of the Church** (Place here primarily positive treatments of the doctrine; include denominational distinctives of one's own affiliation [e.g., Baptist distinctives]. 62 = primarily administrative matters and "applied ecclesiology.")

- 37.1 Local church, doctrine of (administration of the local church = 54)
- 37.2 Body church, “the church which is his body” (universal/invisible church), doctrine of
- 38 Creeds**, doctrinal statements, confessions of faith
  - 38.1 Early creeds (Apostles, Nicene, Constantinopolitan, Athanasian, Chalcedonian)
- 39** Apologetics
- 40** Applied Theology; moral and devotional theology
- 41** Christian Ethics
  - 41.1 Conscience (cf. 33.5)
  - 41.2 Entertainment (music, amusements, sports, etc.)
  - 41.3 Deportment, dress/clothing
  - 41.4 Sexual issues of all sorts (reproduction, in vitro fertilization, chastity, homosexuality, etc.) Sub-divide as needed.
  - 41.5 Drugs, alcohol, tobacco issues
  - 41.6 Medical ethics and issues related to death
    - 41.61 Medical ethics
      - 41.611 Cloning
      - 41.62 Death issues
        - 41.621 Euthansia
        - 41.622 Suicide
        - 41.623 Abortion
        - 41.624 Cremation
    - 41.7 Work and business ethics
      - 41.75 “Non-work” ethics such as gambling
  - 41.8 Food, diet (biblical doctrine; for fasting, see 48.2)
- 42** **Devotional Literature and Practice**



- 43 Evangelistic Writings**
- 46 Art in Christianity, Aesthetics**
- 47 Church Architecture, Design, Furnishings**
- 48 Spiritual Life** (but private worship = 64)
  - 48.2 Religious experience, pietism, mysticism, asceticism, fasting, etc.
  - 48.3 Prayer, meditation (private; public prayer = 64.1)
  - 48.4 Will of God (personal), decision making
  - 48.5 Witnessing, personal evangelism
  - 48.6 Stewardship (general; time, resources, money, etc.)
    - 48.6.1 Money; giving; financial management
  - 48.7 Fellowship, inter-personal relationships
- 49 Christian Home**
- 50 Local Church Ministry** (general heading for broader treatments that cannot be classed below)
- 51 Homiletics, Preaching**
  - 52 Texts/transcripts of sermons (can be sub-divided by occasion, etc.)
- 53 Pastoral Ministry/Duties, Pastoral Theology**
  - 53.2 Pastor, life and person
  - 53.5 Pastoral counseling
  - 53.6 Ministry to afflicted & bereaved
  - 53.7 Pastoral evangelism (personal evangelism = 48.5)
  - 53.8 Discipleship, follow-up work
- 54 Church Administration**
  - 54.1 Local church constitutions, by-laws, etc.
  - 54.4 Public relations, publicity
  - 54.5 Church membership
  - 54.6 Church programs, reports, records

- 54.7 Church buildings (administration; design, etc. = 47)
- 54.8 Church finances
- 59 Chaplains, Chaplaincy**
- 60 Social and Ecclesiastical Theology; Theological Systems; Worldviews**
- 61 Culture (Christian views/critiques of, relation to); Social Theology**
- 61.1 Church and society
- 61.2 Relationship of Christianity and churches to other churches and religions; separation
- 61.21 Ecumenism
- 61.3 Evangelicalism (in the broad sense)
- 61.31 Fundamentalism (cf. 61.2)
- 61.32 Neo-evangelicalism; “evangelicalism” (when used in contrast to fundamentalism)
- 61.4 Neo-orthodoxy
- 61.5 Other nominally Christian anti-supernatural systems: (neo-)liberalism, theological modernism
- 61.6 Modernity & postmodernity; philosophical pluralism; “truth” (put pluralism as re. soteriology in 34.6)
- 61.7 Church and government relations, separation of church and state, civil disobedience, legal issues
- 61.8 Socioeconomic and political issues (& church)
- 61.81 Women, role of in the church; feminism; etc. (both complementarian and egalitarian views)
- 61.83 Society, race, crime, etc.
- 61.835 Capital punishment, death penalty
- 61.85 Economics (capitalism, socialism, etc.)
- 61.86 Environmental issues
- 61.87 War and peace; international affairs

- 61.9 Church and (higher) education (Bible colleges, Christian colleges/universities, seminaries); intellectual development; cf. 07
- 61.91 Pastoral/ministry training (academic), and apprenticeships, internships, etc.

## **62 The Contemporary Church**

- 62.1 Church polity (In a Baptist church this category would normally include items related to congregational polity. In other settings it might include matters related to elder rule, etc.)
- 62.15 Deacons (for pastor, see 53)
- 62.2 Church governance (i.e., how a church's polity is implemented functionally), business meetings, parliamentary guidelines/procedure, etc. (In a Baptist church this normally refers to congregational business meetings, etc., but in other settings could refer to elder/board meetings, etc.)
- 62.3 Current fads in church models (church growth movement, "seeker-sensitive," emergent church, etc.) These come and go, so no system can include all the possibilities. Lump them all in here together as they develop, or create your own subdivisions as needed (62.3001, -002, etc.).
- 62.9 Church discipline

## **63 Religious Observance**

- 63.1 Sunday, first day of the week, "Sabbath" question
- 63.9 Other church observances (Christmas, Easter, etc.; can subdivide)

## **64 Worship (Private and Public)**

- 64.1 Public prayer, doctrine of prayer (private prayer = 48.3)
- 64.2 Music (in worship/church services), hymnology
- 64.3 Scripture reading/s

## **65 Ordinances and Other Religious Ceremonies**

- 65.1 Baptism (water/ritual baptism; Spirit/real baptism = 31.33)
- 65.12 Infant baptism, baptismal regeneration
- 65.3 Lord's Table/Supper, Communion
- 65.4 Ordination
- 65.5 Weddings, marriage (see also Christian home, 49; premarital counseling, 53.5)
- 65.6 Divorce and remarriage
- 65.7 Recognition councils (local churches)
- 65.8 Funerals (see also 41.62)
- 66 Missions, Missiology**
- 66.1 Missionary finances
- 66.2 Missionary conferences in the local church
- 66.3 Missionary, person & work (cf. pastoral ministry, 53); missionary methods
- 66.4 Mission fields (subdivide alpha)
- 66.5 Mission agencies (subdivide alpha)
- 66.6 Cross-cultural communication
- 66.7 Church planting (home missions)
- 66.92 Missionary biographies
- 67 Religious Associations, Organizations**
- 68 Christian Education**
- 68.1 CE, administration
- 68.2 CE, agencies (SS, VBS, jr. church, etc.)
- 68.21 Christian Day Schools
- 68.25 Age groups (can sub-divide)
- 68.3 CE, audio-visual media, technology
- 68.4 CE, curriculum
- 68.5 CE, crafts and projects

- 68.6 CE, recreation
- 68.7 CE, special days
- 68.8 CE, supplies
- 68.9 CE, teaching methods
- 69 Public Evangelism** (praxis; *doctrine* of evangelism = 34)
- 69.9 History of evangelism & revivals
- 70 Church History**
- 70.09 Christian view of history; historiography
- 70.1 Ch. Hist., Apostolic – 325 AD
- 70.2 Ch. Hist., 325 – 787 AD
- 70.3 Ch. Hist., 787 – 1054 AD
- 70.4 Ch. Hist., 1054 – 1200 AD
- 70.5 Ch. Hist., 1200 – 1517 AD
- 70.6 Ch. Hist., 1517 – 1648 AD
- 70.7 Ch. Hist., 1648 – 1789 AD
- 70.8 Ch. Hist., modern
- 70.81 Ch. Hist., 19th C.
- 70.82 Ch. Hist., 20th C. (fundamentalism = 61.31)
- 70.83 Ch. Hist., 21st C.
- 70.92 Church history, biographies
- 72 Persecutions in Church History**
- 73 Doctrinal Controversies & Heresies** (Subdivisions are possible if there is a large quantity of material, either by century or by name.)
- 74 Christian churches in Europe
- 75 Christian churches in Asia
- 76 Christian churches in Africa
- 77 Christian churches in North America

- 78 Christian churches in South America
- 79 Christian churches in other parts of the world
- 80 Denominations & Sects**
- 81 Apostolic church, Apostolic Fathers, patristics  
(See the Appendix for an optional expanded classification for the Apostolic Fathers.)
- 81.9 Eastern Orthodox Church (Greek, Russian, etc.)
- 82 Roman Catholic Church & distinctive dogmas (Mariolatry, Mass, etc.)
- 83 Anglican and Episcopal churches
- 84 Protestant Denominations, Protestantism, Denominationalism
- 84.1 Lutheran Churches
- 84.2 Calvinistic & Reformed Churches in Europe
- 85 Presbyterian, American Reformed, and Congregational churches
- 85.1 Presbyterian churches
- 85.7 Reformed churches (American)
- 85.8 Congregational churches
- 85.9 Puritans, Puritanism
- 86 Baptist, Bible, and Brethren churches
- 86.1 Regular Baptists  
(Calvinistic as well as Reformed Baptists)
- 86.2 Free Will Baptists (Arminian)
- 86.3 Other Baptists
- 86.5 Bible churches (and other independent, fundamental churches, but those charismatic churches that use a "Bible" label go in 88.4)
- 86.6 Brethren churches
- 87 Methodist Churches

- 88 Other denominations
  - 88.1 Mennonite and Amish churches
  - 88.2 Disciples of Christ (Campbellites)
  - 88.3 Holiness movement and churches
  - 88.4 Pentecostal and charismatic churches
  - 88.45 Vineyard movement and churches; “power theology”
- 89 Sects, cults, other religious movements claiming association with Christianity**
  - 89.1 Jehovah’s Witnesses, Watchtower Society
  - 89.2 Adventism, Seventh Day and other adventist groups
  - 89.3 Mormons, Latter Day Saints (include the various schismatic groups which originated in Mormonism)
  - 89.5 Christian Science
  - 89.7 Unitarian churches; antitrinitarianism
  - 89.8 British/Anglo Israelism
  - 89.9 Other sectarian, cult, and “alternative religious” groups that claim association with Christianity
- 90 Religion (non-Christian religions)**
  - 91 Comparative religion
  - 92 Classical (Greek & Roman) religion
  - 94 Eastern religions (Include related groups and literature in the headings here, or subdivide as needed; e.g., The Vedas, Brahmanism, and Hare Krishna can all go in 94.1.)
    - 94.1\* Hinduism
    - 94.2\* Buddhism
    - 94.3\* Jainism
    - 94.4\* Sikhism
    - 94.6\* Unification Church (Sun Yun Moon)
  - 95 Zoroastrianism

96	Judaism
96.817	Qumran
97	Islam
97.87	Religions related to Islam (Black Muslim, Bahá'í Faith, etc.)
<b>99</b>	<b>Other Religions</b>
99.51	Chinese religions (Confucianism, Taoism)
99.56	Japanese religions (Shinto, etc.)

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**Appendix: Expanded Classification Sections for:**

- **Greek Grammar and Syntax** (see 25.5)
- **NT Textual Criticism** (see 25.6)
- **Literature of Second Temple Judaism/Pseudepigrapha** (see 21.96 & 29.6–7)  
This section generally follows the headings, order, and terminology of Charlesworth, *The OT Pseudepigrapha* and Ehrman, *Lost Scriptures*.
- **Apostolic Fathers** (see 81) This section follows the headings, order, and terminology of Lightfoot/Holmes, *The Apostolic Fathers*.

Most personal theological libraries do not need the level of detail provided here for these topics. In most cases all related material may be placed in the broader heading given in the main system above. If you work in these areas or have greater interest than normal, then these optional expansions will provide a helpful starting point for classifying the technical materials in this field. They may be more useful in filing systems than for book classification.

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<b>25.5</b>	<b>Greek Grammar, Syntax, and Language:</b> General (include book-length grammars, etc. here)
25.501	Morphology (general; includes enclitics & proclitics; see also 25.528)
25.502	Phonology & pronunciation
25.503	Pedagogy
25.504	Linguistics (and Greek)
<b>25.51</b>	<b>Nouns, etc.</b>
25.511	Case



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- 25.512 Article
  - 25.513 Gender (includes pronouns & participles also)
  - 25.52 Verbs**
    - 25.521 Tense/aspect/*Aktionsart*
      - 25.5211 Present tense
      - 25.5212 Imperfect tense
      - 25.5213 Aorist tense
      - 25.5214 Perfect & pluperfect tense
      - 25.5215 Future tense
      - 25.5216 Temporal deixis
    - 25.522 Voice (active, middle, passive) & deponency
    - 25.523 Mood
    - 25.524 Finite verbs
    - 25.525 Infinitives
    - 25.526 Participles
    - 25.527 Periphrastics
    - 25.528 Verb morphology (including contract vbs.)
  - 25.53 Adjectives & Adverbs**
  - 25.54 Pronouns**
  - 25.55 Other parts of speech**
    - 25.551 Prepositions
    - 25.552 Particles
    - 25.553 Numbers and numerals
  - 25.56 Clauses, clause structure, syntax, word order**
    - 25.561 Conjunctions
    - 25.562 Conditional statements
    - 25.563 Commands and prohibitions
    - 25.564 Direct & indirect discourse

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- 25.565 Colwell's Rule/construction
  - 25.567 Granville Sharp Rule
  - 25.568 Apollonius' Canon
  - 25.569 Discourse analysis
  - 25.57 Exegetical method & issues**
  - 25.571 Synchronic and diachronic
  - 25.579 History of NT exegesis
  - 25.58 Non-NT Greek**
  - 25.581 Koine Greek
  - 25.582 Classical Greek
  - 25.583 Later Greek (Byzantine, Modern)
  - 25.59 History of the Greek Language**
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- 25.6 NT Textual Criticism**  
(Class here general surveys and bibliographical material.)
- 25.61 Materials for Textual Criticism**
- 25.611 History & transmission of text; scribes; etc.
- 25.612 Types of Greek manuscripts (include palimpsest MSS)
- 25.6121 Papyri
- 25.6122 Uncials
- 25.6123 Minuscules
- 25.6124 Lectionaries
- 25.613 Specific manuscripts [May append sub-folders for individual MSS if quantity justifies.]
- 25.614 Patristic materials (include Hexapla)
- 25.615 Ancient versions
- 25.63 Method in Textual Criticism**

- 25.631 Modern critical text theory (20th C.>)  
 [May append sub-folders with collected writings of major scholars on this topic if quantity warrants (e.g., E. J. Epp, G. Fee, K./B. Aland, etc.)]
- 25.632 Modern critical text editions (20th C.>)  
 [disc. of UBS, NA, GECM, IGT, etc.; Greek Testaments go in 225.2]
- 25.633 Historical disc. of theory/editions, pre-20th C.
- 25.634 Text Types
- 25.635 Minority methods
- 25.6351 Rigorous Eclecticism
- 25.6352 Majority Text, Byzantine Priority
- 25.6353 TR/KJV-Onlyism
- 25.6354 Conjectural emendation
- 25.64 Praxis of Textual Criticism**  
 [Include here discussions of specific textual variants. If an entire article is devoted to a single passage or NT book, then it may alternately be filed under that passage in 226.2–228. Major crux passages may be appended here in their own folder; e.g., Mark 16; John 7–8; etc.]
- 25.65 Theological issues re. to textual criticism**  
 (Classify here general discussions, etc.)
- 25.651 Inerrancy and textual criticism
- 25.652 Preservation of the text
- 25.653 “Original text,” etc. (Is there “an original text?” etc.)
- 25.654 Canonicity, etc.

- 29 Apocrypha & Pseudepigrapha**
- 29.1 Introductions
- 29.2 Texts (collections of texts)
- 29.5 OT Apocrypha
- 29.51 Baruch

29.52	Esdras (1 & 2, 3 & 4)
29.53	Judith
29.54	Maccabees (1-2)
29.541	1 Maccabees
29.542	2 Maccabees
29.55	Prayer of Manasseh
29.56	Sirach (Ecclesiasticus)
29.57	Tobit
29.58	Wisdom of Solomon
29.59	Additions to OT canonical books (& those closely connected to specific OT books)
29.591	Daniel (Additions to Daniel, including: Prayer of Azariah, Bel and the Dragon, Song of the Three Young Men, and Susanna) (See also 24.5)
29.592	Esther (see also 22.9)
29.593	Psalm 151 (see also 23.2)
29.594	Epistle of Jeremiah (see also 24.2)

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**29.6**      **OT Pseudepigrapha**

**29.61**      **Apocalyptic Literature**

29.6101	Enoch
29.61011	1 Enoch (Ethiopic Apocalypse of)
29.61012	2 Enoch (Slavonic Apocalypse of)
29.61013	3 Enoch (Hebrew Apocalypse of)
29.6102	Sibylline Oracles
29.6103	Treatise of Shem
29.6104	Apocryphon of Ezekiel
29.6105	Apocalypse of Zephaniah
29.6106	Ezra-related texts

- 29.61061 Fourth Ezra
- 29.61062 Greek Apocalypse of Ezra
- 29.61063 Vision of Ezra
- 29.61064 Questions of Ezra
- 29.61065 Revelation of Ezra
- 29.6107 Apocalypse of Sedrach
- 29.6108 Baruch (see 29.51)
- 29.61081 2 Baruch (Syriac Apocalypse of)
- 29.61082 3 Baruch (Greek Apocalypse of)
- 29.6109 Apocalypse of Abraham
- 29.6110 Apocalypse of Adam
- 29.6111 Apocalypse of Elijah
- 29.6112 Apocalypse of Daniel
- 29.62 Testaments**
- 29.621 Testaments of the Twelve Patriarchs
- 29.622 Testament of Job
- 29.623 Testaments of the Three Patriarchs
- 29.6231 Testament of Abraham
- 29.6232 Testament of Isaac
- 29.6233 Testament of Jacob
- 29.624 Testament of Moses
- 29.625 Testament of Solomon
- 29.626 Testament of Adam
- 29.63 Expansions of the OT and Legends**
- 29.6301 Jubilees
- 29.6302 Martyrdom and Ascension of Isaiah
- 29.6303 Joseph and Aseneth
- 29.6304 Life of Adam and Eve

- 29.6305 Pseudo-Philo
- 29.6306 The Lives of the Prophets
- 29.6307 Ladder of Jacob
- 29.6308 Jannes and Jambres
- 29.6309 History of the Rechabites
- 29.6310 Eldad and Modad
- 29.6311 History of Joseph
- 29.64 Wisdom and Philosophical Literature**
- 29.641 Ahiqar
- 29.642 3 Maccabees
- 29.643 4 Maccabees
- 29.644 Pseudo-Phocylides
- 29.645 The Sentences of the Syriac Menander
- 29.65 Prayers, Psalms, and Odes**
- 29.651 More Psalms of David (Pss. 151 A/B, 152, 153, 154, 155)
- 29.652 Psalms of Solomon
- 29.653 Hellenistic Synagogal Prayers
- 29.654 Prayer of Joseph
- 29.655 Prayer of Jacob
- 29.656 Odes of Solomon
- 29.66 Fragments of Lost Judeo-Hellenistic Works**
- 29.6601 Philo the Epic Poet
- 29.6602 Theodotus
- 29.6603 Orphica
- 29.6604 Ezekiel the Tragedian
- 29.6605 Fragments of Pseudo-Greek Poets
- 29.6606 Aristobulus
- 29.6607 Demetrius the Chronographer

29.6608	Aristeas the Exegete
29.6609	Eupolemus
29.6610	Pseudo-Eupolemus
29.6611	Cleodemus Malchus
29.6612	Artapanus
29.6613	Pseudo-Hecataeus

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**29.7 NT Pseudepigrapha**

**29.71 Non-Canonical Gospels**

29.7101	The Gospel of the Nazareans
29.7102	The Gospel of the Ebionites
29.7103	The Gospel According to the Hebrews
29.7104	The gospel According to the Egyptians
29.7105	The Coptic Gospel of Thomas
29.7106	Papyrus Egerton 2: the Unknown Gospel
29.7107	The Gospel of Peter
29.7108	The Gospel of Mary
29.7109	The Gospel of Philip
29.7110	The Gospel of Truth
29.7111	The Gospel of the Savior
29.7112	The Infancy Gospel of Thomas
29.7113	The Proto-Gospel of James
29.7114	The Epistle of the Apostles
29.7115	The Coptic Apocalypse of Peter
29.7116	The Second Treatise of the Great Seth
29.7117	The Secret Gospel of Mark

**29.72 Non-Canonical Acts of the Apostles**

29.7201	The Acts of John
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- 29.7202 The Acts of Paul
- 29.7203 The Acts of Thecla
- 29.7204 The Acts of Thomas
- 29.7205 The Acts of Peter
- 29.73 Non-Canonical Epistles and Related Writings**
- 29.7301 The Third Letter to the Corinthians
- 29.7302 Correspondence of Paul and Seneca
- 29.7303 Paul's Letter to the Laodiceans
- 29.7304 The "Letter of Peter to James" and its "Reception"
- 29.7305 The Homilies of Clement
- 29.7306 Ptolemy's Letter to Flora
- 29.7307 The Treatise on the Resurrection
- 29.7308 The Preaching of Peter
- 29.7309 Pseudo-Titus
- 29.74 Non-Canonical Apocalypses and Revelatory Treatises**
- 29.741 The Apocalypse of Peter
- 29.742 The Apocalypse of Paul
- 29.743 The Secret Book of John
- 29.744 On the Origin of the World
- 29.745 The First Thought in Three Forms
- 29.746 The Hymn of the Pearl

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**81 Apostolic Fathers**

- 81.1 Clement
- 81.11 The Letter of the Romans to the Corinthians  
(1 Clement)
- 81.12 An Ancient Christian Sermon (2 Clement)



- 81.2      The Letters of Ignatius, Bishop of Antioch
- 81.21      To the Ephesians
- 81.22      To the Magnesians
- 81.23      To the Trallians
- 81.24      To the Romans
- 81.25      To the Philadelphians
- 81.26      To the Smyrnaeans
- 81.27      To Polycarp
- 81.3      Polycarp
- 81.31      The Letter of Polycarp to the Philippians
- 81.32      The Martyrdom of Polycarp
- 81.4      The Didache (The Teaching of the Twelve Apostles)
- 81.5      The Epistle of Barnabas
- 81.6      The Shepherd of Hermas
- 81.7      The Epistle to Diognetus
- 81.8      The Fragments of Papias

Note: There is a Subject Index in a separate downloadable file.

#### **But what about...?**

Where do I put all those items that don't fit in the number system above? I put almost everything within these categories under the assumption that if it isn't related to anything here, then it probably isn't part of a biblical/theological library per se. But there are a few odd pieces that don't quite fit that I do keep in my main collection in my study (I also have a library at home with other materials). The most obvious of these are reference tools for other languages (e.g., German, French, Latin dictionaries and grammars), science, and (nonbiblical) history. You could simply shelve these (unnumbered) at the end of the system above. If you have many such books, then you might be better served by using the regular Dewey system and incorporating the sort of revisions that I've made above in the 200 section. (You'll find that if you add a "2" to the front of many of the numbers above you will sometimes end up with something close to a Dewey number, which also explains a few of the otherwise odd-looking numbers used.) Or you might adapt a Dewey number by prefixing a '1' to the first two digits (e.g., Dewey 930, "History of ancient

world,” might become 193; or Dewey 430, “Germanic languages, German,” might become 143). In this way you could extend the present system without it becoming too complex. (You can find tables of Dewey numbers on the web.) This enables you to use a system that is simpler, yet to which you can relate without too much difficulty if you’re using a library that still employs Dewey.

I recommend that you use the same classification system for both your books and your files. That keeps everything synchronized and makes vertical files much easier to access than an alphabetical system. Whatever you do, start soon. The more books you have when you first start classifying your library, the bigger a job it is. It’s much easier to begin when you have only a few hundred volumes and then process additional ones as your collection grows—which it should! If you are a theological student or a young pastor, I’d suggest that your initial goal ought to be a minimum of 1,000 well-selected volumes as a working library.

My own library still uses the traditional card file index simply because I don’t have the time or resources to enter thousands of vols. into a database. If I were starting from scratch, I’d almost certainly use a computerized catalog system, though realizing that every time you depend on such technology you introduce a greater element of risk in accessing your data when you want it. So make a paper printout periodically, and back up your files frequently. I would prefer to use a database manager, not a specialized library program. Many database managers are simple to use (that does not include such programs as Access!) and you can make it reflect your own system rather than what someone else thought it ought to look like. And you don’t need all the fields and features of a commercial library program anyway. A good database is also usually much more robust than the free library programs. Just create fields for title, author/s, publication info, and classification number. If you want to go a bit deeper, then add fields for cost and source (helps at tax time), and other keywords for which you want to be able to search. (FileMaker is one of the best and easiest to use database managers and it runs on both Mac and Windows: <[www.filemaker.com](http://www.filemaker.com)>. Or perhaps the new version of Panorama is worth a look: <<http://www.provue.com/panorama5.html>>.)