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Revelation (Baylor Handbook Of The Greek New Testament)



Synopsis

Revelation: A Handbook on the Greek Text offers teachers and students a comprehensive guide to the grammar and vocabulary of Revelation. A perfect supplement to any commentary, this volume's lexical, analytical, and syntactical analysis is a helpful tool in navigating New Testament literature. But more than just providing an analytic key, David Mathewson leads students toward both a greater understanding of the Greek text and an appreciation for the textual, rhetorical, and interpretive intricacies not available in English translations. This handbook is an essential tool for the serious student.

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Customer Reviews

David L. Mathewson is Associate Professor of New Testament at Denver Seminary. Mathewson earned a Ph.D. in New Testament from the University of Aberdeen, Scotland. He is the author of numerous articles and monographs on the book of Revelation, including *A New Heaven and a New Earth: The Meaning and Function of the Old Testament in Revelation 21:1-22:5* (Sheffield, 2003) and *Verbal Aspect in the Book of Revelation: The Function of Greek Verb Tenses in John*'s

Apocalypse (Brill, 2010). Most recently, In Revelation: A Handbook on the Greek Text (Baylor University Press, 2016), Mathewson has distilled nearly two decades of scholarly reflection on the Book of Revelation in his long-awaited contribution to the Baylor Handbook on the Greek New Testament (BHGNT) series. BHGNT has been a breath of fresh air for both scholars, students, and pastors alike. It has provided the reader with a trusted guide through the rigorous trenches of grammatical and textual difficulties, and thus established itself as an initial point of reference for determining the most reliable and readable translation before consulting with commentators. Mathewson's volume opens with a brief introduction that summarizes some of the most important issues related to the Greek text of the Apocalypse, including, the literary style and genre of Revelation, the language of the Book of Revelation and Semitic influences, verbal aspect, and participles. The handbook proper has broken up the Book of Revelation into approximately 53 units of text (i.e. 1:1-3, 1:4-8, 1:9-20, etc.) where the reader will find an English translation each unit followed by a verse-by-verse analysis of the Greek text including a detailed examination of relationship of each word, morphology, textual and grammatical issues, and interpretive challenges.

The book of Revelation is one of the most intriguing books in the Bible and the one that arises more curiosity among Christians. Many exegetical commentaries have been written on this book varying from technical to application commentaries. The book we have in front of us today is not a commentary but rather a handbook. Revelation: A Handbook on the Greek Text is a detailed study of the grammar and problematic issues • (Mathewson, 2016, p. 11) the book of revelation presents. This volume is part of the Baylor Handbook on the New Testament Greek (BHNTG), and initiative promoted by Baylor University Press. Readers will find an introduction to the BHNTG series and the approach adopted in this series, which is deponency. Then the author introduces readers to the book of Revelation by addressing basic issues such as literary genre and style of Revelation, the language and Semitic influence, verbal aspects, and participles. Readers will not find discussion on authorship, audience, date of writing and other elements that are commonly found in commentaries. Mathewson stated, "I have tried as much as possible to avoid commentary on this or that verse or issue" • (p. 11). This book does not offer eschatological interpretations on the book of Revelation since that is not the purpose of the book. The main body of the book offers the text translated into modern English as the result of the analysis and exegesis of the Greek text. The English translation is divided into sections, as if they were pericopes. After the English translation, the author proceeds to disseminate the Greek text by verses in a word-by-word approach. Mathewson does not spend too much time in presenting personal or secondary interpretations on

the text.

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