

Perspectives on Paul, Justification, and the Law
Annotated Bibliography
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Introductory Readings:

Barclay, John M. G. *Paul and the Power of Grace*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2020.

Barclay's work on Paul is a good example of scholarship which moves the discussion beyond the old vs new perspective clinch. This book presents the content of Paul and the Gift in a shorter and more accessible form.

**Stuhlmacher, Peter. *Revisiting Paul's Doctrine of Justification: A Challenge to New Perspective*.
With an Essay by Donald A. Hagner. Downers Grove, ILL: InterVarsity Press, 2001.**

Stuhlmacher provides an excellent short response to the new perspective from a more traditional Lutheran perspective. Due to its brevity and lucidity this book is a great starting point for approaching the questions relating to justification in Paul.

**Wright, N. T. *What Saint Paul Really Said: Was Paul of Tarsus the Real Founder of Christianity*.
Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1997.**

In this short and accessible volume, Wright introduces his thoughts on several key themes in Pauline interpretation. It is a good entry into the new perspective written by one of the chief advocates of this movement.

Intermediate Readings:

Gathercole, Simon J. “Justification by Faith.” Pages 422–440 in Matthew V. Novenson, and R. Barry Matlock, ed. *The Oxford Handbook of Pauline Studies*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2022.

Gathercole’s essay in the new handbook of the Pauline Studies discusses major issues pertaining to justification in the apostle’s writings (individual vs corporate justification, works of the law, faith of/in Christ). It is a helpful overview and assessment of the major issues.

McKnight, Scot and B. J. Oropeza, ed. *Perspectives on Paul: Five Views*. Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2020.

This volume contains essays from five different perspectives on Paul: Roman Catholic (Brant Pitre), Traditional Protestant (A. Andrew Das), New Perspective (James D. G. Dunn), Paul within Judaism (Magnus Zetterholm), and Gift Perspective (John M. G. Barclay). It is a good a good resource to get familiar with all the major views and their principal arguments.

Martin, Neil. *Galatians Reconsidered: Jews, Gentiles, and Justification in the First and the Twenty-First Centuries*. Leicester: Apollos, 2022.

Martin’s book adapts his doctoral research for wider readership. Much of the discussion between old and new perspectives focused on how Jewish Christ-followers understood the relationship between justification and obedience to the law. Martin argues, however, that perhaps at the root of controversy in Galatia was pagan background of Paul’s converts which prompted them to legalism.

Advanced Readings:

Barclay, John M. G. *Paul and the Gift*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2015.

Paul and the Gift is one of the most influential recent books on the New Testament. He nuances the discussion on grace in Second Temple Judaism by showing that while grace is present everywhere, it is not always understood in the same way. Thus, Paul and other Jewish writers can both see God's salvation as gracious and yet disagree about how exactly it is gracious. Barclay's work moves the discussion beyond simple old-new perspective binary, showing that both are right about some things.

Carson, D. A., Peter T. O'Brien, and Mark A. Seifrid, ed. *Justification and Variegated Nomism*. 2 vols. WUNT II/140, 181. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2001–2004.

Two volumes consisting of essays written by critics of the new perspective on Paul. First of the two volumes evaluates Sanders' assessment of Second Temple Judaism, the second volume focuses on the interpretation of Paul.

Chester, Stephen J. *Reading Paul with the Reformers: Reconciling Old and New Perspectives*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2017.

Chester's book responds to mischaracterisations and dismissals of the Reformers which often feature in new perspective discussions. He shows that close reading of how Reformers interpreted Paul still pays off for modern interpreters of Paul.

Dunn, James D. G. *New Perspective on Paul: Collected Essays*. Tübingen: Mohr Siebeck, 2005.

Dunn launched the new perspective and was one of its chief advocates. His views are further explained in his commentaries on Romans and Galatians, as well as his Theology of Paul the Apostle. But this volume collects his major essays on the subject.

Gathercole, Simon. *Where is Boasting?: Early Jewish Soteriology and Paul's Response in Romans 1-5*. Grand Rapids: Eermands, 2002.

Gathercole takes an issue with too simplistic description of Second Temple Judaism as a religion of grace. He shows how especially the texts on the final judgment often show a soteriology based on works.

Novenson, Matthew V. "Wither Paul within Judaism Schule?" Pages 132–139 in *Paul, Then and Now*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2022.

Novensons' essay reflects on the Paul within Judaism school and its future. Along with Zetterholm's essay in *Perspectives on Paul*, it is a helpful introduction to this approach.

Westerholm, Stephen. *Perspectives Old and New: The "Lutheran" Paul and His Critics*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2004.

Westerholm's book consists of an extensive overview of the history of interpretation of Paul followed by his own discussion of the main issues dividing old and new perspective. He defends the traditional reading of Paul albeit incorporating some insights from the new perspective.

Wright, N. T. *Pauline Perspectives: Essays on Paul 1978–2013*. London: SPCK, 2013.

Wright, next to Dunn, is one of the chief proponents of the new perspective. This volume collects his writings on Paul from different periods of his life. Along with his massive *Paul and the Faithfulness of God*, this is a good place to learn his views on the apostle.