Library Classification and Filing System
for Biblical and Theological Studies

4th edition
Rodney J. Decker, Th.D., ©2006

<http://www.NTResources.com> or <http://faculty.bbc.edu/rdecker/library.htm>

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 (incldg. 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, 21.1; 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
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<td>27.83</td>
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<td>(Pastoral Epistles as a whole go here also.)</td>
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<td>27.95</td>
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<td><strong>Apocrypha, Pseudepigrapha, Deuterocanonical Books</strong> (both “OT” &amp; “NT” groups), <strong>Apocalyptic Literature</strong> 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.</td>
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<td><strong>Theology</strong> (systematic/dogmatic theology, doctrine)</td>
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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.)
  48.61 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
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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
Christian churches in South America
Christian churches in other parts of the world

Denominations & Sects

Apostolic church, Apostolic Fathers, patristics
(See the Appendix for an optional expanded classification for the Apostolic Fathers.)

Eastern Orthodox Church (Greek, Russian, etc.)

Roman Catholic Church & distinctive dogmas (Mariolatry, Mass, etc.)

Anglican and Episcopal churches

Protestant Denominations, Protestantism, Denominationalism

Lutheran Churches
Calvinistic & Reformed Churches in Europe

Presbyterian, American Reformed, and Congregational churches

Presbyterian churches
Reformed churches (American)
Congregational churches
Puritans, Puritanism

Baptist, Bible, and Brethren churches

Regular Baptists
(Calvinistic as well as Reformed Baptists)
Free Will Baptists (Arminian)
Other Baptists

Bible churches (and other independent, fundamental churches, but those charismatic churches that use a “Bible” label go in 88.4)

Brethren churches

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
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.

25.5 **Greek Grammar, Syntax, and Language:** 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)

25.51 **Nouns, etc.**

25.511 Case
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
25.552Particles
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
| 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 |

| 25.6 | NT Textual Criticism |
| 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)

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
The Acts of Paul
The Acts of Thecla
The Acts of Thomas
The Acts of Peter

29.73 Non-Canonical Epistles and Related Writings
The Third Letter to the Corinthians
Correspondence of Paul and Seneca
Paul’s Letter to the Laodiceans
The “Letter of Peter to James” and its “Reception”
The Homilies of Clement
Ptolemy’s Letter to Flora
The Treatise on the Resurrection
The Preaching of Peter
Pseudo-Titus

29.74 Non-Canonical Apocalypses and Revelatory Treatises
The Apocalypse of Peter
The Apocalypse of Paul
The Secret Book of John
On the Origin of the World
The First Thought in Three Forms
The Hymn of the Pearl

81 Apostolic Fathers
Clement
The Letter of the Romans to the Corinthians
(1 Clement)
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>. Or perhaps the new version of Panorama is worth a look: <http://www.provue.com/panorama5.html>.)