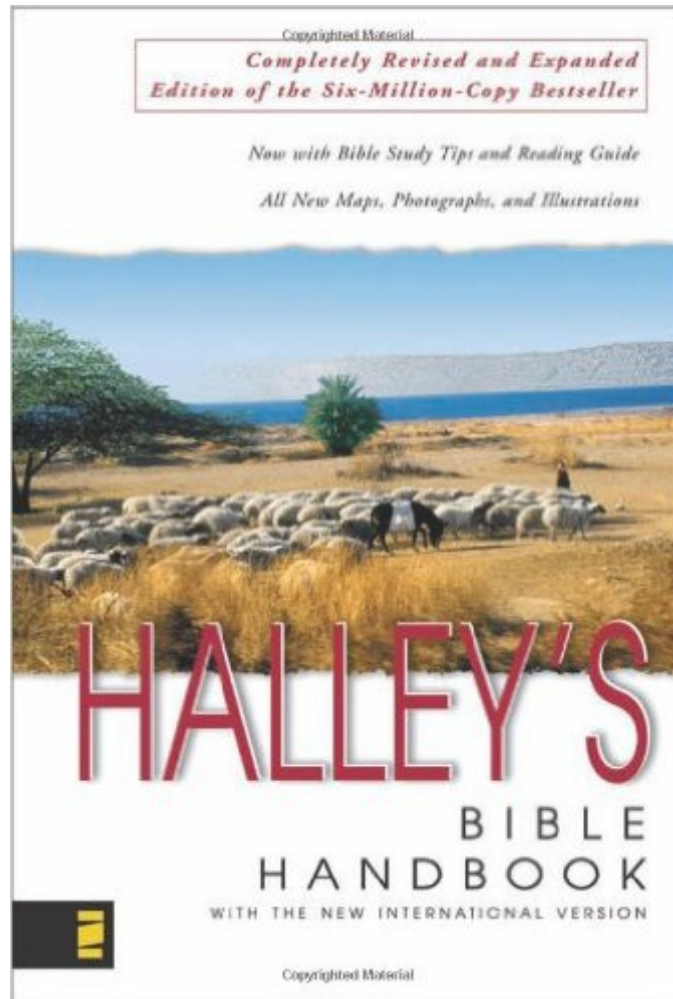


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# Halley's Bible Handbook With The New International Version



## Synopsis

This revised and updated 25th edition of the Bible handbook includes a concise Bible commentary, important discoveries in archaeology, related historical data, church history, maps, and more.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 1136 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (146 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #413,925 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #80 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Bible Study & Reference > Handbooks](#) #607 in [Books > Reference > Encyclopedias & Subject Guides > Religion](#) #2111 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Bible Study & Reference > Commentaries](#)

## Customer Reviews

Although this handbook is not a verse by verse commentary it thoroughly covers the scriptures. It is so clearly written and complete that beginners as well as more advanced Bible students will find it useful. The scripture commentary contains chronologies, tables and sidebars which bring together information on the books, people, chronology, geography, and even musical instruments. With Halley's Bible Handbook you can find Old Testament scriptures which predict the coming of the Messiah, compare the Gospels, read and see pictures of archeological finds, learn about the life of Paul and much more. Some of the articles included are: Bible Backgrounds, A Brief History of the Western Church and How We Got the Bible. As well as students I recommend this book for Sunday School Teachers who want to expand and make their lessons more interesting.

This book provides a great background for both the Bible in its entirety and for each book of the Bible. It gives a brief introduction with details such as the probable writer for the book, its theme, and important notes to keep in mind while reading the book. Each book summary is then broken down into individual chapter summaries. The book also contains some basic Bible study techniques and maps of locations talked about (i.e.- the location of the seven churches in Revelation). In

response to the criticism other reviews have given this book: This book is intended to encourage and supplement Bible reading. It is not intended to provide what the Bible provides nor is it intended as a commentary. Everything is based on facts as opposed to theory/opinion unless otherwise stated. The intention is to point the reader to the Bible. The second important thing to remember is that Halley originally published this book in 1924. It is natural that some of the new criticisms and ideas may not be mentioned. This does not make the author a liar or the book false; it simply means that every criticism and idea mentioned since that time is not worthwhile considering the purpose of this book. One final note: Henry Halley devoted his life to helping others get into God's word, and was known for the large portions of the Bible he had memorized. There is no questioning that he had the credentials to write such a handbook.

Some years ago at a friend's house with whom I was in a Bible study, I picked up an old edition of Halley's Bible Handbook, and thumbed through it. It appeared to be a great resource with lots of useful and interesting cultural and textual background on the entire Bible. I decided I needed to get myself a copy. What I found in a Christian bookstore was a new edition of the Handbook that was distinctly different from the older edition I had looked at, in both style and substance. The book is attractively presented with photos of the regions pertinent to various parts of the Bible, with text "chunked" out into digestible sections and sidebars. As I started to read through it, though, I realized how different this really was from the previous Halley's. It appears that what happened is that after Dr. Halley passed away, those who continued in his estate, including subsequent revisions of the Handbook, replaced what was an informative and useful guide into something that is instead distinctly fundamentalist and anti-intellectual in tone. You should realize that I am an evangelical Christian, so when I say "fundamentalist," I mean just totally ignorant of modern scholarship, evangelical scholarship or otherwise. Other reviewers have already pointed out this general and widespread characteristic, and I wanted to register my agreement while making it clear that I'm not coming from some "liberal," loosey-goosey perspective. An example: in introducing the book of Daniel, it starts right off the bat with something like "Unbelieving minds deny the authorship of Daniel, but..." and then proceeds to be simply dogmatic instead of presenting the perfectly respectable scholarship which defends the authorship of Daniel in the era when it was purported to be written. This kind of tone is present throughout the book. Looking at its offerings, I see another edition of Halley's Handbook dating from 1961, and it would appear that that is more or less the one I was originally attracted to. That one I recommend, and that much more than this 1100-page tract.

This is a wonderful book. Every Christian should have one in their library. It is very helpful when studying the Bible. I have now ordered the CD-Rom version of this book. I am so glad it has come out in CD-Rom because I am now legally blind and cannot use it in book form anymore.

I bought this book because I couldn't afford the one I wanted (Ungers). So I knew this book came with some weaknesses. However, don't believe the comments that refer to this book as a bad purchase. It is not as detailed as some MORE EXPENSIVE bible handbooks, but it is a quality reference within its price range. It does seem to be geared toward beginning biblical students, that I will give you. But look at some of the historical data that I feel it covers really well. It gives you the history of the books of the bible, and why Roman Catholic bibles have the apocrypha and protestant bibles don't. It gives you the history of how we got the original manuscripts. There is a decent bible study directive in the back (what resource books do what and why they are important). All this, and I see has this book under thirteen dollars (as of 9/9/07 at 1036 PM westcoast time). This is all coming from a guy who doesn't really like the NIV translation, and would pick up a KJV any day of the week. I just don't understand where the couple bad reviews are coming from. Internet searches and an upgraded bible handbook (thirty dollar range) will give you any information you might be missing. Honestly this is a solid book FOR THE MONEY... Bottom line, don't expect a steak for McDonalds money.

I'm 63, I have used 3 or 4 versions over the years, 30 plus years. It's the only Bible reference I carry when I travel. Fun stuff, informative. An easy read, This is the latest version. I'll be buying quite a few as Christmas gifts,

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