Citation in Turabian/ Chicago/ SBL Style
Pitts Theology Library

Book

One author


Two or more authors


Four or more authors


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2 Each of the following entries contains three examples: Footnote (N), Shortened Footnote (SN), and Bibliographic Entry (B).

3 The same rule applies to three or more authors for SBL style.
Editor or translator instead of author


Editor or translator in addition to author


Chapter or other part of a book


Preface, foreword, introduction, or similar part of a book


18. Cronon, foreword, x–xi.

**Book published electronically**


**Journal Article**

**Article in a print journal**


**Article in an online journal**


**Magazine Article**


**Newspaper Article**


**Book Review**


**Thesis or Dissertation**


40. Levin, “Let’s Talk about Sex,” 98.


**Paper Presented at a Meeting or Conference**


17. Adelman, “Such Stuff as Dreams.”

Website

Include an access date and, if available, the date the website was last modified.4


15. Google, “Privacy Policy.”


Blog Entry or Comment


E-mail or Text Message


Comment on a Social Networking Service


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4 Do not include a date of access for SBL style.
Biblical Commentaries

Single-Volume Commentary in a Series


Multivolume Commentary on a Single Biblical Book by One Author


If the paper refers to only one or two of the three volumes, cite each volume individually.


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Article in a Multivolume Commentary for the Entire Bible by Multiple Authors


Article in a Single-Volume Commentaries on the Entire Bible


Biblical Citations

**Biblical Chapters and Verses**

Citations of modern Bible versions do not require publisher’s information in either footnotes or bibliography; instead, use the standard abbreviation for the Bible version (e.g., NRSV, RSV, NIV, NASB; see SBLHS 8.2). If citing scripture from a single version, include the abbreviation of the version following the chapter and verse on the first scripture reference only.

“Now Ahab had seventy sons in Samaria” (2 Kgs 10:1 NRSV).

When citing specific chapters or chapters and verses, use the standard abbreviated titles of biblical books provided in SBLHS 8.3.1–3. If, however, a biblical book is the first word of the sentence, do not abbreviate it.

Correct: Revelation 3 begins with the letter to the church in Sardis. We know little about the historical Habakkuk.

Incorrect: Rev 3 begins with the letter to the church in Sardis. We know little about the historical Hab.

Cite biblical verses with chapter and verse(s) using Arabic numerals separated by a colon. Do not write out the numbers. When referencing consecutive verses, separate the first and last verse numbers with an en dash, not a hyphen (see SBLHS 2.1.3.4).

Correct: John 5:8–9

Incorrect: John chapter five verses eight and nine.

John 5:8-9
Multiple Biblical Passages

Correct: Matt 2:3; 3:4–6; 4:3, 7; Luke 3:6, 8; 12:2, 5; Acts 15:1–5; Rom 1:8–12

Matt 2:3, 3:4–6; 4:3; Luke 3:6, 8 and 12:2
Rom 1:8–12; Matt 2:3; 4:3, 7; 3:4–6

Notes from Study Bibles

Study notes are written by authors or editors whose names are included in the front matter of the study Bible. If these notes are cited, all the relevant information from the specific study Bible should be included.


Bible Dictionaries and Encyclopedias

Cite the author of the article, not the editor of the work as a whole (SBLHS 6.3.6). Most Bible dictionaries and encyclopedias put the author’s name at the end of the article that he or she wrote.


When multiple articles from the same dictionary or encyclopedia have been used, list the work as a whole under the editor in the bibliography, but cite the individual authors and articles in the footnotes as above.


Special Examples

**Context of Scripture**


**Loeb Classical Library**


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Find Out More

Style Guides

For further examples and information, please see the following style guides:

The SBL Handbook of Style
- Pitts Theology Library Ready Reference PN147 .S26 2014

Kate L. Turabian: A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations
- Pitts Theology Library Ready Reference LB2369 .T8 2013

The Chicago Manual of Style
- Pitts Theology Library Ready Reference Z253 .U69 2010
- Also available online through discoverE

For examples of citations in a paper, see the Purdue OWL:

Purdue OWL CMS Sample Paper
- https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/717/11/
Ask a Librarian

Citation Research Guide
http://guides.theology.library.emory.edu/cite

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