

## Digital Tools for Exegesis

### 1. Textual Tools: *Listen to the Text*

- Textual Analysis
  - [Stepbible.org](http://Stepbible.org) for an interactive search of original language terms and basic reference resources
    - Look at several translations at once!
    - ASK: What's going on in this text? Are there any words I should define?
  - [Blueletterbible.org](http://Blueletterbible.org) for the original language terms and basic reference resources (Strong's Concordance, Lexicons, Theological Dictionaries)
- **Bible dictionaries:** These works include a short description and key bibliography. Use for all kinds of terms (like "literary criticism" or "Essene" or "pericope" or "Mary Magdalene")
  - *New Interpreters* is available through Ministry Matters (along with some commentaries)[Discount for Alums]:  
<http://www.ministrymatters.com.proxy.library.emory.edu/library/#/nidb/8f907aa606bb0064beb31df68edcfc3d/editorial-board.html>
  - *HarperCollins* is available at Bible Odyssey [Free]:  
<http://www.bibleodyssey.org/tools/harper-collins-dictionary>

### 2. Secondary Sources (Commentaries, Articles): *Test What You Heard*

- Armed with a list of questions produced in your textual analysis, approach secondary sources with an eye to fleshing out the **historical, literary, and theological** elements in your text.
  - Choose a *critical* (that is, technical rather than devotional) commentary
    - Based in the original language, explores historical/text critical issues along with theological ones, has substantive supporting bibliography
  - *Which* critical commentary?
    - Recommended Commentary LibGuide:  
[pitts.emory.edu/commentaries](http://pitts.emory.edu/commentaries)
    - Particularly Suggested Commentary series:
      - a. **Hermeneia:** Deep dive into the textual and historical issues, your *best* bet for academic exegesis. Available online (to current students *and* alums) at  
[pitts.emory.edu/hermeneia](http://pitts.emory.edu/hermeneia)
      - b. **Abingdon:** Through Ministry Matters:  
[http://www.ministrymatters.com.proxy.library.emory.edu/library\\_beta/](http://www.ministrymatters.com.proxy.library.emory.edu/library_beta/)
    - Limit your search in DiscoverE to "available online"
- **ATLA:** A journal database with stellar resources for exegesis
  - [pitts.emory.edu/atla](http://pitts.emory.edu/atla); also available to alums ([pitts.emory.edu/alum](http://pitts.emory.edu/alum))
  - Scripture Search feature allows you to target a particular text: located above the main search field with title "Scriptures"

## STEP Steps

- Pick your languages: Click on search box and then select “Pick Bible”
  - Key:
    - N = Notes and cross references
    - V = Vocabulary details when hovering over words
    - I = Interlinear display with other interlinear texts
    - S = Interlinear for the Septuagint - the Greek OT.
    - R = Red letters for the words of Jesus
  - Ancient:
    - Greek: LXX (OT), SBL (NT)
    - Hebrew: OHB
- Analyze a specific section:
  - Change display by clicking the **gear menu** (interlinear, comparison (only available when you have two Bibles in the same language), etc.)
  - Hover over the **verse number** to get
    - Vocabulary Statistics
    - Related subjects/verses
    - Select each of these items and a new window will appear with those new search parameters
  - To see lexical data on a single word, **click on that word** and then a new window will open on the right.
- Broader searches:
  - In the **search box**, start typing a term/person/place (transliterated or in English): once you’ve put in at least two letters, the system will suggest searches for the following (color coordinated to differentiate):
    - Original language terms
    - English words
    - General subjects
    - Books of the Bible (or specific sections)—you can put in more than one book!
  - Think of it like a recipe or formula: put in your parameters (word, book(s), Bible text in translation or in original language) and out will pop your completed masterpiece!
- Visualizations/Saved Searches: Box on the right includes many other options
  - **Graph**: visualizations (word clouds) for vocabulary and subjects
  - **Flag**: log of all your searches, which you can then re-use
- Commentaries: All older, in the public domain—but still useful resources, especially Wesley’s!