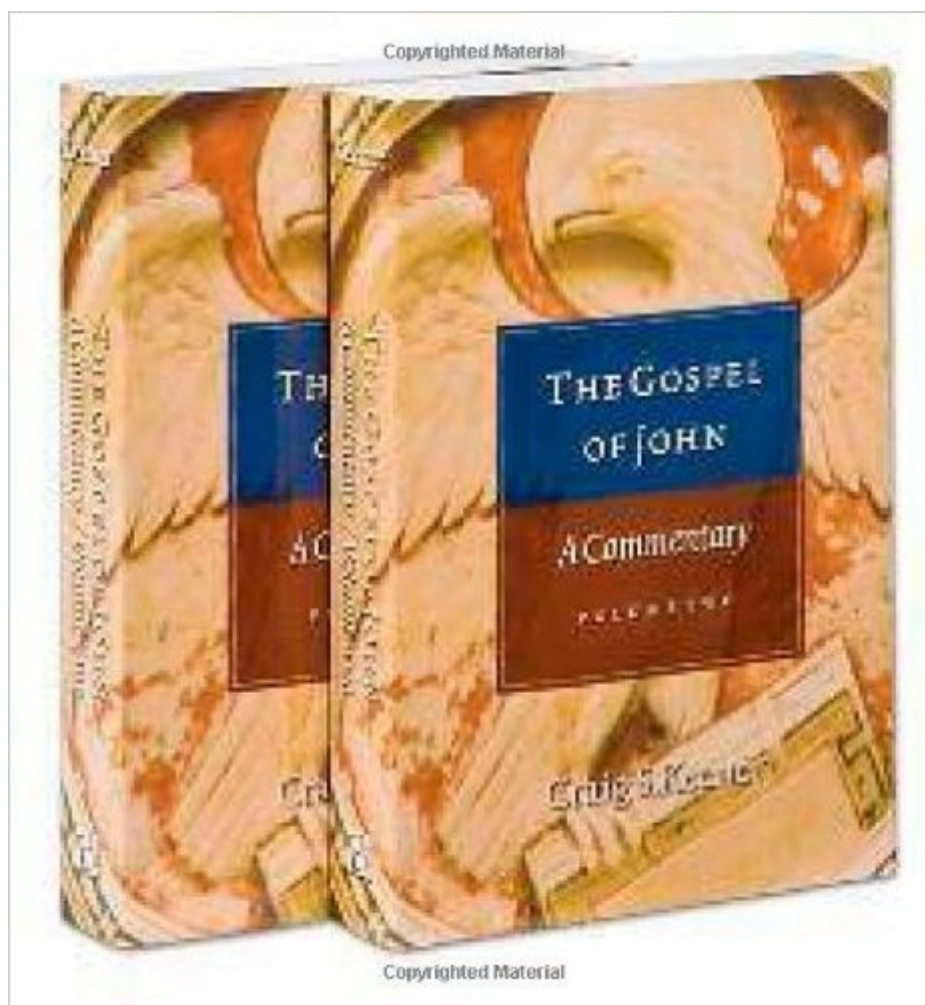


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# The Gospel Of John, Volume One & Volume Two



## Synopsis

Keener's commentary explores the Jewish and Greco-Roman settings of John more deeply than previous works, paying special attention to social-historical and rhetorical features of the Gospel. It cites about 4,000 different secondary sources and uses over 20,000 references from ancient literature.

## Book Information

Paperback: 1696 pages

Publisher: Baker Academic; Reprint edition (March 1, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0801046750

ISBN-13: 978-0801046759

Product Dimensions: 2.8 x 6.8 x 9.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.4 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (13 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

Since [has not moved](#) the seven reviews originally appearing on the site of the hardcover, I'm re-doing a review here for this new edition: This two-volume work is one that I keep right on my desk every day, year in and year out, as I study Scripture. What astonishes me is the sheer scope of Keener's knowledge, and the clear and engaging way that he presents his conclusions. He treats the skeptics with the requisite generosity and patience to which I've become accustomed when reading the brilliant scholarship of a believer, and his knowledge of ancient Greek, Roman and Jewish writers is breath-taking. This and his work on Matthew are immense contributions to the field of New Testament Scholarship. I find all Keener's work to be accessible for mainstream people such as myself, who cannot read the ancient languages. The comprehensive nature of Keener's approach, the way he truly does explain just about every conceivable interpretation of a passage is simply amazing. I turn to him constantly for insight, and go back over material again and again discovering something new each time. Make this part of your library. I wrote the above in 2008. It's

now 2013. This is still far and away the best and most helpful commentary on John that I have ever found. I recommend this book to anybody and everybody. These books, along with Keener's Commentary on Matthew are books I keep right near my desk.

This commentary is amazing. Keener's depth of knowledge of the ancient sources is staggering. With over 30,000 ancient sources, including Jewish, Greek and Christian, the reader will no doubt come understand the hermeneutics of the Gospel of John after reading this scholarly commentary. My only warning would be that the material may be out of some people's league. It could baffle the layman I'm sure. So if you are just looking for something a little less refined then a good start would be Keener's IVP Bible Background Commentary on the New Testament. It has a little less rhetoric and lacks the vast amount of footnotes. However, this is not to say the John Commentary is lacking but that it's readers maybe be. The book is definitely filled with amazing facts and enlightens any reader who picks it up. It revealed things that I, having read the Gospel of John numerous times along side other commentaries of it, had certainly never known and much more. This just shows again Keener's brilliance when it comes to ancient sources and his vast understanding of the history of the first century. I highly recommend the two volume commentary on the Gospel of John.

On my bookshelf a dozen commentaries on the Gospel of John. In my opinion this book is by far the most comprehensive source for the gospel.

Firstly, a confession. I have not read this commentary. But before you throw your hands in the air in disgust, let me explain why I have chosen to submit this review. I started my search for a commentary on John by consulting Professor D. A. Carson's highly regarded New Testament Commentary Survey (6th edition). He rates Keener's commentary highly. Given that strong endorsement I was a little surprised to find that no one has reviewed this work. So for the benefit of those who looking for some commentary on Keener's work I hope the following extract from D. A. Carson's NT survey is useful. (Keener's) "two volume work - a total of 1,636 pages - is very impressive. There are few questions that Keener has not addressed. Despite the sheer quantity of material, the writing is accessible, so the work can be skimmed until you reach what is of immediate interest to you. It may function for our generation as Brown functioned in the previous generation; the breadth of learning and the bibliographical richness combine to make this work indispensable for the serious student." Carson, D.A. (2007) New Testament Commentary Survey (6th ed., pp. 69)

Grand Rapids: Baker Academic. My justification for five out of five stars is based on the strength of Professor Carson's recommendation.

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