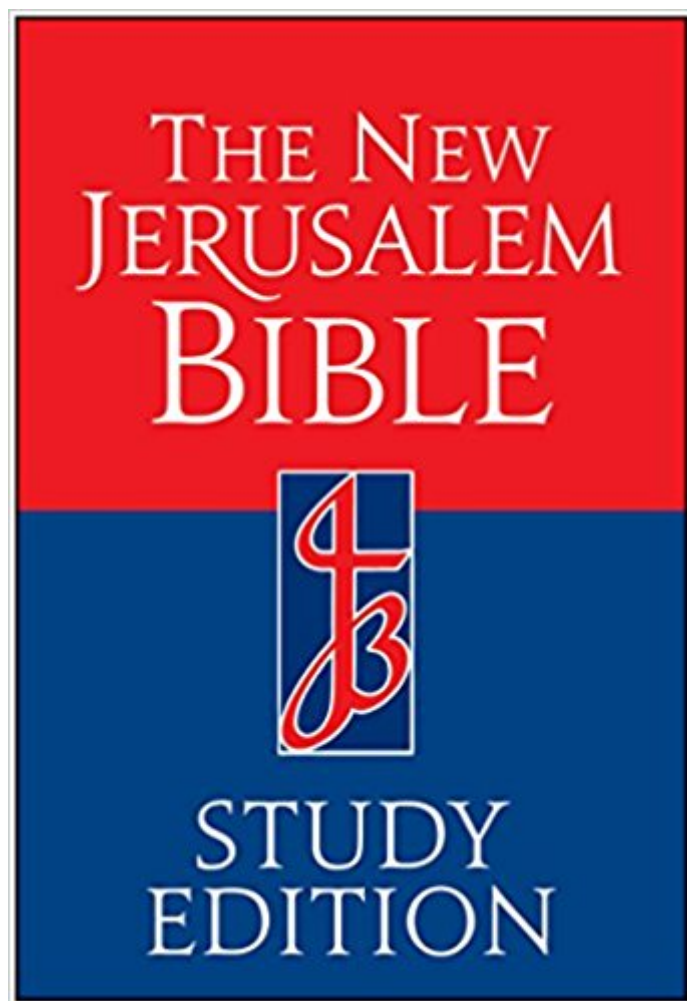


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The New Jerusalem Bible, Study Edition



Synopsis

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Customer Reviews

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I bought the New Jerusalem Bible after reading the reviews. One thing I was unsure of was buying a Bible that was "gender inclusive." To date, I haven't found that to be an issue for me. I rarely see it in the text. I have had the original Jerusalem Bible (1966) for quite a few years and I really like that version. In comparing the two, the new version is not as thick and the text looks to be the same size. This is a revised Jerusalem Bible and in comparing various passages of Scripture this Bible fares well. A few examples that I look at: + I Samuel 6:19 renders the number of those struck as 70. Some Bibles have 50,000 or 50,070. + Revelation 22:19 has "tree of life" where some have "book of life." + Matthew 6:13 has "and do not put us to the test" rather than "lead us not into temptation." + I Timothy 5:17 has "double reward" rather than "double pay." + I John 5:7 doesn't include the "Erasmus Addition." - Another verse that has different renderings is Mark 10:25. Some use "large rope" where this version uses the common "camel." Those are some of my personal observations of verses that are commonly translated differently. In the Preface the editor states that when a choice had to be made, "fidelity to the text" was preferred over "literary quality." For modern English versions of Scripture this one reads as well as any of the others that I have used. I personally prefer a good "study" Bible. This book fits that bill superbly! Like the original, this newer version is loaded with

footnotes that are keyed to the chapter. That is especially helpful when there is a difference between source texts. I like to know the differences whether they are used or not. The paragraphs have captions which is also helpful. Particularly for navigating. There are Scriptural cross-references in the outer margins. There are lengthy, educational Introductions at the beginning of each section. "Yahweh" is used in the Old Testament. I Like The New Jerusalem Bible a lot. Slightly better than the original. There does not appear to be any doctrinal bias. This has become my daily reader and a favorite.

I bought this as a reading bible, for devotional rather than study purposes. I found this printing of the NJB at my local Catholic bookstore, but the only copy available was the display, which was damaged from repeated perusal. I decided to grab a copy here, since I'd never had a chance to read the NJB. As a Catholic convert, I gravitated towards the RSV-2CE that mirrored the text I'd memorized as a child, but I wanted to know more about traditionally Catholic translations. While it's strange to read at times due to my familiarity with the RSV and its offspring, I've really enjoyed it. The NJB is dynamic, lyrical, and oftentimes easier to understand. The poetry books and Psalms are particularly beautiful. This will easily become my daily reading bible, and I'm looking forward to working my way through the scripture with it. This is not, as many of the other reviews appear to indicate, the "Big Blue" single-column NJB. This is a small book, with two-column text and only the most necessary translation footnotes. Some cross-references are included. Text taken from other locations is italicized and footnotes listing the parallel usages are across the bottom. They aren't complete cross references, but this does at least indicate where scripture is quoted. The text is a bit small--of course, that's necessary for such a small footprint. What's more problematic is the size of the page margins. It's not an issue at the edges unless you're a note-taker, but the text can get difficult to read towards the spine. My book is new, so hopefully it will loosen and lie flat with time. I really wanted a bible just for daily reading in a portable size that I wouldn't mind marking up with pencil or pen, and this fits the bill nicely. Now if only Doubleday would reprint the single-column reader's edition in a hardcover...

Readable with many USEFUL footnotes. Larger print a great help to enjoyment. Introductions for sections very useful and also informative. Those and footnotes are necessary for understanding these very old writings for a much different time than today. Much can only really be understood with knowledge of the context and time in which they were written

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