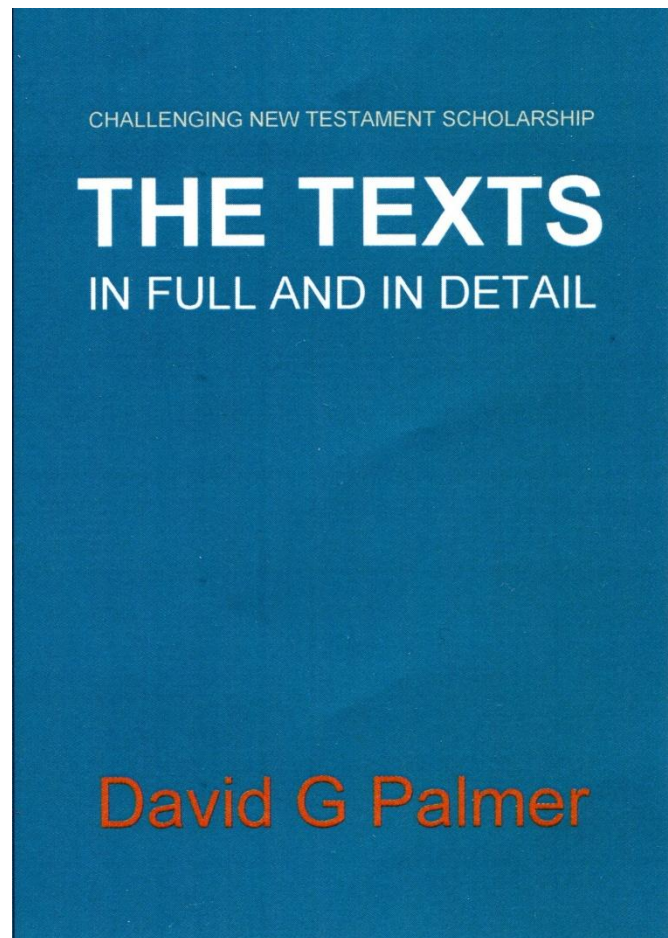


NEW BOOK to be launched on 26th May 2023:

*CHALLENGING NEW TESTAMENT SCHOLARSHIP, **THE TEXTS IN FULL AND IN DETAIL:***



WITH RÉSUMÉ BELOW

This book reveals things beyond the reach of the church and academia for over eighteen-centuries and, contrary to scholarship's currents and consensuses, it shows that the texts of the New Testament are highly disciplined compositions that disclose far more than anyone has ever imagined - when they are read as the writers intended. And that is the important point! We can know today how the texts are arranged and how they were intended to be read, even, what kind of texts they are and how they can best be understood.

The author of this work trained firstly as an Architect, then for the Methodist Ministry, during which time he discovered his particular calling, to learn what he could about the New Testament's writers and their ways of working. His research over a forty-year ministry has concentrated on a purely literary analysis of the texts. It brings together rhetorical criticism and something that could be called parsing-with-a-purpose (to punctuate whole texts). His work demonstrates a strong connection between the texts themselves and the then rules of classical Greek composition on Idea, Structure, Style, Memory and Performance. Ten years into his 'retirement', Dr Palmer continues to add really important books to his list.

His thesis builds on Augustine's judgement that when the original ancient Greek texts began to be translated into Latin and Old Syriac they were translated by priests who were not qualified for the work. Left behind, unnoticed in the Greek, were significant details that would have been useful to the church for its reading of the texts over all the centuries since. It is these Dr Palmer unearths. The true characteristics of the texts will surprise and amaze.

In helpful new ways, noting the chronology of their writing, all the texts are presented to the divisions and sub-divisions of the writers, some in literal English, others in the original Greek that can be read by non-Greek readers with the help of an Interlinear Greek-English New Testament. Reading the texts in the ways that the writers' intended changes everything. The reading is disciplined. In the same way as each other, just as we have been able to describe, say, the structure of Psalm 119, we can now:

- identify the writers' writing styles for each text
- locate with pinpoint precision all the original divisions of each text
- describe the structure of each text
- use only the text's own divisions and self-referencing methods, jettisoning 'chapter and verse'
- establish each text's leading idea and purpose
- reconstitute/critically restore the original texts
- read, teach and preach the texts in the ways that the writers always intended
- delight in reading each text to its own literary presentation, and
- assess each text's contribution to our understanding of the Christian Faith.

The spread of Christianity is often said to have prospered because of the Pax Romana. Add now the availability of a writing/publishing method that had undergone *seven-hundred years* of development, from the time of Homer! All the New Testament's writers knew that if a writing for widespread public hearing (today – 'a writing for publication') was to succeed in an era of oral/aural communication, it really had to follow the rules and take account of the practical limitations of producing copy. The traditional teaching that the writers created new literature with freedom is blown absolutely away.

Because this study reveals the basic characteristics of all the texts, it will help everyone with their reading and understanding of them. All preachers, teachers and lecturers will need this book. As a technical study, it will be welcomed by scholars of all kinds. It is an important study of deep scholarship, the first publication since JA Bengel's of 1742 to present a Rhetorical Chart of the New Testament. For everyone, it establishes that the Greek texts are close to being fully intact and in good condition: the texts' structures and styles confirm this. But what really matters to this author is that the texts get to be known as they were first known and the writers themselves get to be appreciated for what they achieved long ago. Be ready to be astounded!