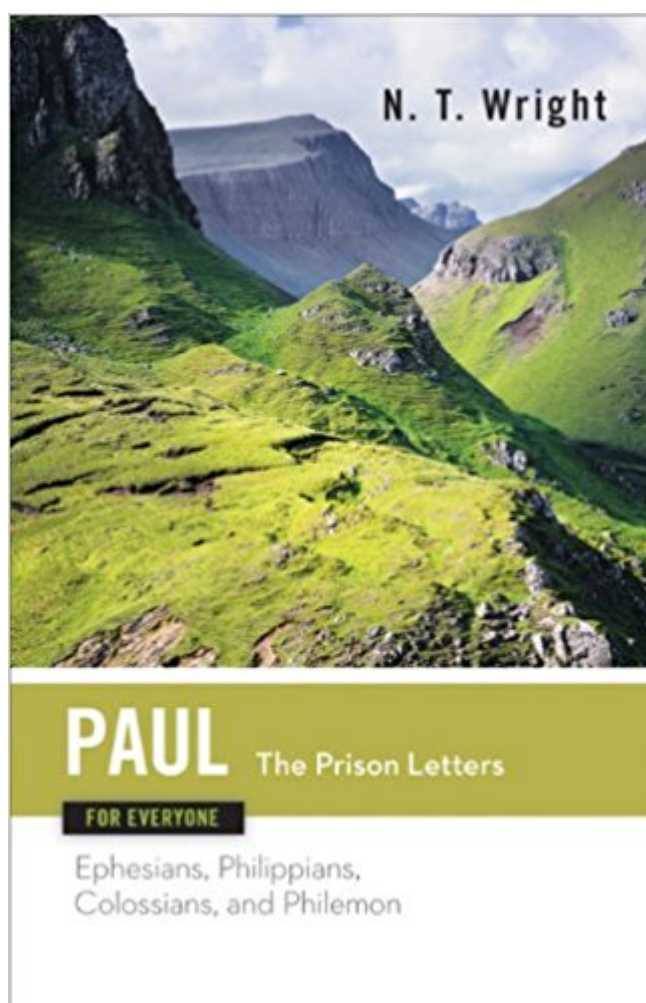


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# Paul For Everyone: The Prison Letters: Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, And Philemon (The New Testament For Everyone)



## Synopsis

Making use of his scholar's understanding, yet writing in an approachable and anecdotal style, Tom Wright captures the verve and sparkle of these letters. Paul wrote the letters while in prison facing possible death, but their passion and energy are undimmed. They reveal Paul's longing to see young churches grow in faith and understanding, rooted in Jesus himself, and to see this faith worked out in practice. Wright's stimulating comments are combined with his own fresh and inviting translation of the text. Tom Wright has undertaken a tremendous task: to provide guides to all the books of the New Testament, and to include in them his own translation of the entire text. Each short passage is followed by a highly readable discussion, with background information, useful explanations and suggestions, and thoughts as to how the text can be relevant to our lives today. A glossary is included at the back of the book. The series is suitable for group study, personal study, or daily devotions.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"No other commentary series comes even close." --The Christian Century "Readers who have been frustrated by the lack of accessible biblical commentaries for laypersons will welcome the series."

--Publishers Weekly "Well grounded in scholarship, accessible, and intensely contemporary. The series is a most welcome one!" --Walter Brueggemann, Emeritus, Columbia Theological

Seminary "Wright has accomplished a feat in this series. All the time, I tell Bible readers, 'Begin

here!" --Scot McKnight, North Park University

N. T. Wright is the Chair in New Testament and Early Christianity at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland. He is the former Bishop of Durham in the Church of England and is a prolific author and noted New Testament scholar. His books include *Scripture and the Authority of God*, *Surprised by Hope*, *Simply Christian*, and *Evil and the Justice of God*.

This commentary is written in a style that is much more like a devotional with depth. Wright uses a brief illustration before getting into the meaning of the passage. He has translated the scriptures himself and uses that version to introduce each section. The translation brings his perspective into play, of course, but that helps to make the points he is emphasizing about each portion of the scripture. Reading it with another translation by the side is helpful. There isn't the deep Greek word exposition and other overwhelming-to-the-layperson that is in other commentaries that I also appreciate, like the *New International Commentary on the New Testament* by Simpson and Bruce for two of the same epistles. However, Wright's friendly and approachable style is wonderful to read and very uplifting while also holding Christians to the expectations in the Word of God.

Well written and great use of stories that connect well with the text, but not as deep as I would have liked. If your looking for an expository commentary with definitions of Greek words and deeper connections look elsewhere. If your a first time commentary reader looking for something to take you a little deeper then this would be the book for you.

Bishop Wright's commentaries, which is really what this series is (i.e., *Paul for Everyone*, *John for Everyone*, *Luke for Everyone*, etc.) are a superb gift to the Church. Though one of the finest academic New Testament scholars alive, his commentaries are extremely readable and accessible for the layman. Even though his audience is the layman or woman, his work is rooted in serious thought, scholarship and reflection. He doesn't always try to solve or answer every textual or theological problem but he will always give the basic tools or parameters allowing the reader to make one's own decision. He is quite reliable in his underlying exegesis of the text. His tone is pastoral, hortatory and narrative. I use these commentaries for devotional reading. Highly recommend Dr. Wright and this "Everyone" series.

Perhaps I have a bias because I have been a fan of Tom Wright for many years now, but I found

this book to be incredibly helpful and informing. Dr. Wright had great insight to the meaning of Paul's letters and does a wonderful job of placing the scriptures in their context as well as relating it to the modern world. This commentary can not be pigeonholed as an Anglican work, but it seems to transcend denominational lines and speak to any Christian. I highly recommend this book.

A great insight this author has. I used this book for a bible study. I learned many things with this book and our small group.

N T Wright is absolutely one of the best modern theologians and writers capable of making the scriptures more insightful to everyone. Great for small group Bible studies as well as personal spiritual growth.

As with all books in the series Bishop Tom Wright has provided all members of the church a careful explanation of the text in the framework he has come to understand within Second Temple Judaism.

NT Wright's thoughtful commentary is thought provoking and inspiring.

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