

# THE CAMBRIDGE BIBLE COMMENTARY NEW ENGLISH BIBLE

GENERAL EDITORS
P. R. ACKROYD, A. R. C. LEANEY, J. W. PACKER

THE LETTERS OF PAUL
TO THE PHILIPPIANS
AND TO THE
THESSALONIANS



### THE CAMBRIDGE BIBLE COMMENTARY

The Gospel according to Matthew A. W. Argyle
The Gospel according to Mark C. F. D. Moule
The Gospel according to Luke E. J. Tinsley
The Gospel according to John A. M. Hunter
Acts of the Apostles J. W. Packer
The Letter of Paul to the Romans Ernest Best
The Letters of Paul to the Corinthians Margaret Thrall
The Letters of Paul to the Galatians W. Noil
The Letters of Paul to the Ephesians, to the Colossians and to Philemon
G. H. P. Thompson
The Letters of Paul to the Philippians and to the Thessalonians K. Grayston
The Pastoral Letters A. T. Hanson
A Letter to Hebrews J. H. Davies
The Letters of John and James R. R. Williams
The Letters of Peter and Jude A. R. C. Leaney
The Revelation of John T. F. Glasson
Understanding the New Testament edited by O. Jessie Lace
New Testament Illustrations Maps, diagrams, and photographs collected and

introduced by Clifford M. Jones

© Cambridge University Press



# THE LETTERS OF PAUL TO THE PHILIPPIANS AND TO THE THESSALONIANS

COMMENTARY BY

KENNETH GRAYSTON

Professor of Theology, University of Bristol



CAMBRIDGE AT THE UNIVERSITY PRESS 1967



### CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS Cambridge, New York, Melbourne, Madrid, Cape Town, Singapore, São Paulo

Cambridge University Press
The Edinburgh Building, Cambridge CB2 8RU, UK

Published in the United States of America by Cambridge University Press, New York

www.cambridge.org
Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9780521042246

© Cambridge University Press 1967

This publication is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception and to the provisions of relevant collective licensing agreements, no reproduction of any part may take place without the written permission of Cambridge University Press.

First published 1967
Re-issued in this digitally printed version 2008

A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library

Library of Congress Catalogue Card Number: 67-18312

ISBN 978-0-521-04224-6 hardback ISBN 978-0-521-09409-2 paperback



# GENERAL EDITORS' PREFACE

The aim of this series is to provide the text of the New English Bible closely linked to a commentary in which the results of modern scholarship are made available to the general reader. Teachers and young people preparing for such examinations as the General Certificate of Education at Ordinary or Advanced Level in Britain, and for similar qualifications elsewhere, have been especially kept in mind. The commentators have been asked to assume no specialized theological knowledge, and no knowledge of Greek and Hebrew. Bare references to other literature and multiple references to other parts of the Bible have been avoided. Actual quotations have been given as often as possible.

Within these quite severe limits each commentator will attempt to set out the main findings of recent New Testament scholarship, and to describe the historical background to the text. The main theological content of the New Testament will also be critically discussed.

Much attention has been given to the form of the volumes. The aim is to produce books each of which will be read consecutively from first to last page. The introductory material leads naturally into the text, which itself leads into the alternating sections of commentary.

The series is prefaced by a volume—Understanding the New Testament—which outlines the larger historical background, says something about the growth and transmission of the text, and answers the question 'Why should we study the New Testament?' Another volume—New Testament Illustrations—contains maps, diagrams and photographs.

P. R. A. A. R. C. L. J. W. P.



## **CONTENTS**

THE	THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE PHILIPPIANS										pag	ge I
*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
The Letter or Letters											3	
An Outline of the Letter											4	
Paul's Imprisonment											5	
Paul and the Philippian Church											9	
*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
The Apostle and his Friends												II
*	*	*	<b>*</b>	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
The Significance of the Letter											45	
A No	A Note on Books											48
*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
THE FIRST AND SECOND LETTERS OF PAUL TO THE THESSALONIANS											HE	49
*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
The '	The Thessalonian Church											51
The I	The Letters											53
The Contents of the Letters												57
*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
The First Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians											59	
Hope and Discipline												59
*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
						vii						



### CONTENTS

The Second Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians											pag	e 94
Hope and Discipline											94	
*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
The Significance of the Letters											108	
A Note on Books											113	
*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*
INDEX												114
Maps: Paul and Philippi											7	
Paul in Macedonia and Achaia											50	