

A collection of vintage tools is arranged on a dark, textured workbench. At the top is a long wooden level with a bubble level and the word 'DEFIANCE' visible. Below it are a square, a hammer, and a hand saw. In the center, a white rectangular box contains the text 'PREACHING TOOLS'. Below the box is a red book or folder. At the bottom are two large wooden vices, a smaller vice, a pair of pliers, and a drill bit.

PREACHING TOOLS

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AN ANNOTATED SURVEY OF COMMENTARIES AND
PREACHING RESOURCES FOR EVERY BOOK OF THE BIBLE

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*Preaching Tools: An Annotated Survey of Commentaries and Preaching Resources
for Every Book of the Bible*

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ISAIAH

EXEGETICAL COMMENTARIES

Alexander, J. A. *Isaiah: Translated and Explained*. 2 vols. New York: John Wiley, 1851-1852.

Remains a classic among older commentaries from a Hebrew scholar. Reformed perspective.

Delitzsch, Franz. *Isaiah*. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1976.

A classic commentary that, though dated, is still of great exegetical value today. Better know your Hebrew for this one! Viewed from an amillennial perspective.

EXPOSITIONAL COMMENTARIES

Bultema, Harry. *Commentary on Isaiah*. Grand Rapids: Kregel, 1981.

Bultema pastored Christian Reformed churches until he became persuaded of dispensational premillennialism. Verse by verse and more than 600 pages long, there is much help here for pastors.

Goldingay, J. *Isaiah*. UBCS. Grand Rapids, Baker. 2001.

Goldingay denies complete Isaianic authorship but offers good exposition.

Grogan, G. *Isaiah*. REBC 6. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2008.

Strongly argues for unity of authorship and strong on theology as well.

Kelly, William. *An Exposition of the Book of Isaiah*. 4th ed. Minneapolis: Klock & Klock, 1979 reprint.

Premillennial commentary on Isaiah by a man well-versed in eschatology. Barber states it is “well worth the time spent on mastering its contents.”

Lessing, R. Reed. *Isaiah 40-55. Concordia Commentary Series*. St. Louis: Concordia, 2011.

Lessing serves as Senior Pastor at Saint Michael Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne, Indiana. Previously, he was a professor of exegetical theology and director of the graduate school at Concordia Seminary. This Concordia series of commentaries is committed to the inerrancy of Scripture, the exegetical, theological, and practical analysis of Scripture. This is a top notch work on Isaiah. Highly recommended.

Lessing, R. Reed. *Isaiah 56-66*. CCS. St. Louis: Concordia, 2014.

See above under Lessing.”

Motyer, J. A. *The Prophecy of Isaiah: an Introduction and Commentary*. Downers Grove: InterVarsity, 1993.

This is one of the best commentaries on Isaiah that would be most helpful to the expositor. Motyer writes from a Reformed theological perspective.

Oswalt, John N. *Isaiah 1–39*. NICOT. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1986.

This is a must-have for the expository preacher. Conservative and expositional Vol. 1 of 2 vols.

_____. *Isaiah 40–66*. NICOT. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1998.

See above.

_____. *Isaiah*. NIVAC. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2003.

Excellent exposition as in his NICOT volumes but here with a specific focus on application. A must-have for the expository preacher.

Smith, George Adam. *The Book of Isaiah*. The Expositor’s Bible. 2 vols. London/New York: Harper & Bros., 1927.

Wilbur Smith said Smith’s work is “written in elegant style ... pages sparkle with brilliance, and are so suggestive that one preaching on the text he is commentating upon cannot get away from his remarks.” But as Smith continues, the volume is “vitiating by his bondage to the theories of the higher critical school, and he does not mind chopping up the text when he feels so inclined.” Extract the gold and discard the dross.

Young, E. J. *The Book of Isaiah*. 3 vols. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1965, 1969, 1972.

Although 1,700 pages total, preachers will find lots of help from Young. Solidly conservative. Don’t miss his comments on Isaiah 53. Amillennial in perspective.

DEVOTIONAL COMMENTARIES

Jennings, F. C. *Isaiah*. Neptune, N.J.: Loizeaux Brothers, 1966.

A very fine combination of devotional and expository approach. Plymouth Brethren background. Wilbur Smith recommends him but notes his exposition of some prophecies seem not to be based solidly on the text itself.

SPECIAL STUDIES

Baron, David. *The Servant of Jehovah*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1954 reprint.

Excellent study of Isaiah 53.

Bock, Darrell, and Mitch Glaser, eds. *The Gospel According to Isaiah 53: Encountering the Suffering Servant in Jewish and Christian Theology*. Grand Rapids: Kregel Academic & Professional, 2012.

Excellent treatment of Isaiah 53 by a bevy of evangelical scholars.

Lindsey, F. Duane. *The Servant Songs: A Study in Isaiah*. Chicago: Moody, 1985.

Excels at showing Christ in the Old Testament. "Preachers will find this volume invaluable," claims Barber.

Meyer, F. B. *Christ in Isaiah*. Fort Washington, PA: Christian Literature Crusade, 1973.

Devotional treatment of Isaiah 40–55 from the pen of a well-loved Baptist pastor, preacher and writer who was a contemporary of Spurgeon. Own anything written by Meyer.

Redpath, Alan. *The Promise of Deliverance*. In *Faith for the Times: Studies in the Prophecy of Isaiah 40 to 66. Part I*. Old Tappan, NJ: Fleming Revell, 1972.

I read everything I can get my hands on by this former pastor of Moody Church. If Redpath has written on it, I try to read it before I preach it.

_____. *The Plan of Deliverance*. In *Faith for the Times: Studies in the Prophecy of Isaiah 49 to 54. Part II*.

See above.

_____. *The Fruit of Deliverance*. In *Faith for the Times: Studies in the Prophecy of Isaiah 55-66. Part III*.

See above.

SERMONS

Criswell, W. A. *Isaiah: An Exposition*. Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 1977.

Excellent preaching material from the venerable pastor of FBC Dallas for 50 years (1944-1994).

Every effective preacher needs tools to craft faithful, text-driven sermons. However, since pastors have limited time each week and there are thousands of potential preaching resources, knowing the best commentaries and books to help in sermon preparation can be a daunting task.

In *Preaching Tools*, David Allen draws from the well of more than 40 years of experience in the pulpit, both as a pastor and preaching professor, to provide the top commentaries and resources for every book of the Bible. Resources are categorized for quick reference, and Allen's annotations provide insight into the books' strengths, weaknesses, and backgrounds.

“What I’ve tried to do in this book is provide an annotated bibliography for preachers of helpful resources, mostly commentaries, for every book of the Bible, in English. Most of the books listed in this bibliography I own in my personal library. These are the works that I have found to be the most helpful in sermon preparation.” – David Allen



David Allen serves as dean of the School of Preaching, distinguished professor of preaching, George W. Truett Chair of Ministry, and director of the Center for Expository Preaching at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas. He has led or been a part of more than 400 revivals, Bible conferences, and lecture series, including study tours in the Philippines, Israel, Oxford, and Germany. He is the author of *1–3 John: Fellowship in God’s Family* in Crossway’s Preaching the Word series and *Hebrews* in the New American Commentary series. He is also co-editor of *Text-Driven Preaching: God’s Word at the Heart of Every Sermon*.

