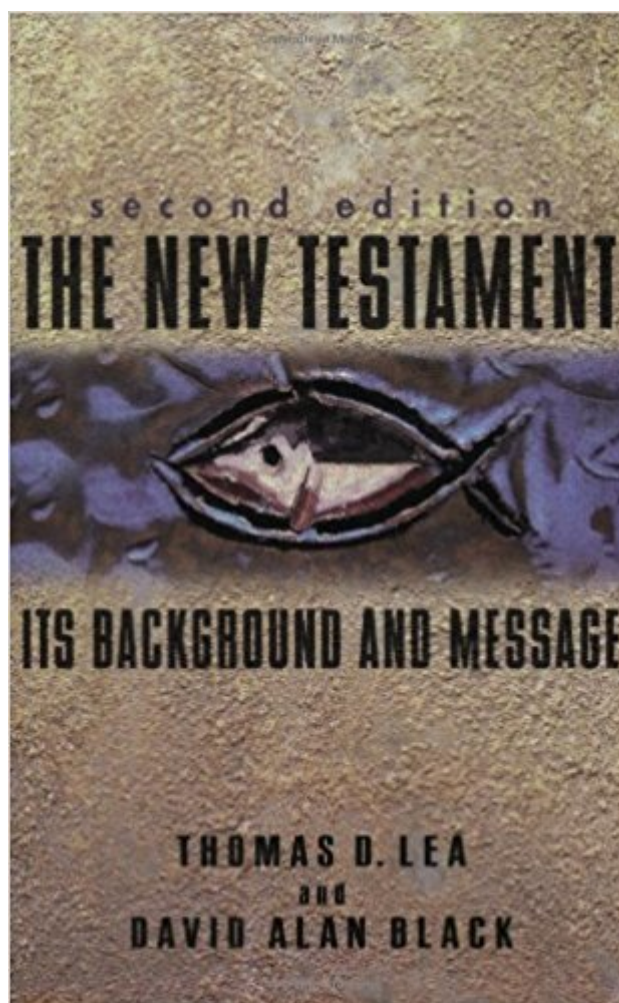


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The New Testament: Its Background And Message



Synopsis

In the comprehensive *The New Testament: Its Background and Message*, the late Thomas Lea presented a clear and concise introduction to the New Testament giving readers the key that unlocks the door to understanding these important texts. This influential work presents the background of the New Testament with broad strokes and with a focus on specific books including the Gospels, Acts, and Paul and his letters. Originally written in an easy-to-understand style and form, Lea's text continues to unlock the message of the New Testament for both new students and seasoned scholars.

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Customer Reviews

The late Thomas D. Lea was dean of the School of Theology at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. David Alan Black, a well known and highly regarded New Testament scholar, is professor of New Testament and Greek at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, NC. He is the author or editor of many books including *Learning to Read New Testament Greek* and *Interpreting the New Testament*, published by Broadman & Holman. He resides in Wake Forest, North Carolina.

It was interesting to see how and why the Pharisees and Sadducees developed the way they did. I can understand better why they had issues with Jesus. The book looked at each of the New Testament books in regard to their author, date of writing, overview of text and an outline. There

were chapters dedicated to Jesus and some to Paul. One of the things I like best about the book was that it was not one sided. The author did not claim that his understanding was the only correct one. The author did mention alternative views on the subject matter and helped us to arrive at the best possible solution. Some of the understandings were taken from those who took over from the Apostles. The author lists about 30 references at the end of each chapter. This book is over 600 pages and to sum it up is a bit challenging. I believe that the author gave us a fair and presentation of the material. The book did not seem to be to liberal or conservative, but well balanced.

Black's revision of Thomas D. Lea's classic introduction to the New Testament was one of two books that was required reading for an online course that I took at Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary. The other book, *An Introduction to the New Testament* by D.A. Carson and Douglas J. Moo, is much more academic than *The New Testament: Its Background and Message*. Lea's *The New Testament* covers different types of literature found in the New Testament and their cultural, historical, political, and religious backgrounds. Although the book is designed for seminarians, I would recommend it to any layperson who wants a systematic introduction of the New Testament. It should be noted that both of the authors come from Baptist backgrounds.

As with any biblical text, there exists too much information to put in a book. This book provides a nice introductory level of background information for those who would like understand a biblical times context. Note: this provides a background of the culture, history, and customs of biblical times. This is not a theological book by any means. In my opinion, it is hardly a religious text; rather, a historical text.

Excellent for my M.A. R class at LUO

I bought this book for a class at Liberty University. I was surprised at the easy to read writing style. This is one of my favorite books from my Master's in Theology program. I graduated in 2013 and still use it from time to time. I recommend this for anyone--you don't have to be in seminary to benefit from this book.

I've used this book for two seminary courses and found it to be an excellent reference tool. Not for the deep theological debates or studies necessarily, but an easy to read reference tool for the average person who wants to know more background about the New Testament. The book is well

organized which has been helpful on our open book quizzes! Would recommend for any library.

I purchased this book for a New Testament College Class. It has an excellent overview of each New Testament book. It does not go into each book in-depth, but gives a good overview. It also is excellent for given a chronology of the Gospels.

Awesomeness! This book has given me more insight on the word of God from a different point of view. Amazing!

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