


A GUIDE TO USING THIS COMMENTARY

Several features have been incorporated into the design of this commentary. The following comments are intended to assist readers in making full use of this volume.

Pericopes of Scripture

The scriptural text has been divided into pericopes, or passages, usually several verses in length. Each of these pericopes is given a heading, which appears at the beginning of the pericope. For example, the first pericope in the commentary on Genesis is “1:1 The Beginning of Creation.” This heading is followed by the Scripture passage quoted in the Revised Standard Version (RSV) across the full width of the page. The Scripture passage is provided for the convenience of readers, but it is also in keeping with medieval patristic commentaries, in which the citations of the Fathers were arranged around the text of Scripture.



Overviews

Following each pericope of text is an overview of the patristic comments on that pericope. The format of this overview varies within the volumes of this series, depending on the requirements of the specific book of Scripture. The function of the overview is to provide a brief summary of all the comments to follow. It tracks a reasonably cohesive thread of argument among patristic comments, even though they are derived from diverse sources and generations. Thus the summaries do not proceed chronologically or by verse sequence. Rather they seek to rehearse the overall course of the patristic comment on that pericope.

We do not assume that the commentators themselves anticipated or expressed a formally received cohesive argument but rather that the various arguments tend to flow in a plausible, recognizable pattern. Modern readers can thus glimpse aspects of continuity in the flow of diverse exegetical traditions representing various generations and geographical locations.

Topical Headings

An abundance of varied patristic comment is available for each pericope of these letters. For this reason we have broken the pericopes into two levels. First is the verse with its topical heading. The patristic comments are then focused on aspects of each verse, with topical headings summarizing the essence of the patristic comment by evoking a key phrase, metaphor or idea. This feature pro-

vides a bridge by which modern readers can enter into the heart of the patristic comment.

Identifying the Patristic Texts

Following the topical heading of each section of comment, the name of the patristic commentator is given. An English translation of the patristic comment is then provided. This is immediately followed by the title of the patristic work and the textual reference—either by book, section and subsection or by book-and-verse references.

The Footnotes

Readers who wish to pursue a deeper investigation of the patristic works cited in this commentary will find the footnotes especially valuable. A footnote number directs the reader to the notes at the bottom of the right-hand column, where in addition to other notations (clarifications or biblical cross references) one will find information on English translations (where available) and standard original-language editions of the work cited. An abbreviated citation (normally citing the book, volume and page number) of the work is provided except in cases where a line-by-line commentary is being quoted, in which case the biblical references will lead directly to the selection. A key to the abbreviations is provided on pages xv-xvi. Where there is any serious ambiguity or textual problem in the selection, we have tried to reflect the best available textual tradition.

For the convenience of computer database users the digital database references are provided to either the Thesaurus Lingua Graecae (Greek texts) or to the Cetedoc (Latin texts) in the appendix found on pages 177-82.

ABBREVIATIONS

ACW	Ancient Christian Writers: The Works of the Fathers in Translation. Mahwah, N.J.: Paulist Press, 1946-.
AF	J. B. Lightfoot and J. R. Harmer, trans. <i>The Apostolic Fathers</i> . Edited by M. W. Holmes. 2nd ed. Grand Rapids, Mich.: Baker, 1989.
AHSIS	Dana Miller, ed. <i>The Ascetical Homilies of Saint Isaac the Syrian</i> . Boston, Mass.: Holy Transfiguration Monastery, 1984.
ANF	A. Roberts and J. Donaldson, eds. <i>Ante-Nicene Fathers</i> . 10 vols. Buffalo, N.Y.: Christian Literature, 1885-1896. Reprint, Grand Rapids, Mich.: Eerdmans, 1951-1956. Reprint, Peabody, Mass.: Hendrickson, 1994.
ARL	St. Athanasius. <i>The Resurrection Letters</i> . Paraphrased and introduced by Jack N. Sparks. Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1979.
CCL	Corpus Christianorum. Series Latina. Turnhout, Belgium: Brepols, 1953-.
CSCO	Corpus Scriptorum Christianorum Orientalium. Louvain, Belgium, 1903-.
CSEL	Corpus Scriptorum Ecclesiasticorum Latinorum. Vienna, 1866-.
ESOO	J. A. Assemani, ed. <i>Sancti Patris Nostri Ephraem Syri Opera Omnia</i> . Rome, 1737.
FC	Fathers of the Church: A New Translation. Washington, D.C.: Catholic University of America Press, 1947-.
FGFR	F. W. Norris. <i>Faith Gives Fullness to Reasoning: The Five Theological Orations of Gregory Nazianzen</i> . Leiden and New York: E. J. Brill, 1990.
GNOS	Hadwiga Hörner, ed. <i>Gregorii Nysseni Opera Supplementum</i> . Leiden: E. J. Brill, 1972.
HOG	Bede the Venerable. <i>Homilies on the Gospels</i> . Translated by L. T. Martin and D. Hurst. 2 vols. Kalamazoo, Mich.: Cistercian Publications, 1990.
HOP	Ephrem the Syrian. <i>Hymns on Paradise</i> . Translated by S. Brock. Crestwood, N.Y.: St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, 1990.
HQG	Jerome. <i>Hebrew Questions on Genesis</i> . Translated with introduction and commentary by C. T. R. Hayward. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1995.
JCC	John Cassian. <i>Conferences</i> . Translated by Colm Luibheid. Classics of Western Spirituality. Mahwah, N.J.: Paulist Press, 1985.
JMO	Justin Martyr. <i>Opera</i> . Edited by J. C. T. Otto. 3 vols. Jena: Mauke, 1842-1848.
LCC	J. Baillie et al., eds. <i>The Library of Christian Classics</i> . 26 vols. Philadelphia: Westminster, 1953-1966.
LCL	Loeb Classical Library. Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press; London: Heinemann, 1912-.

- LQAH W. W. Harvey, ed. *Sancti Irenaei Episcopi Lugunesis Libros Quinque Adversus Haereses*. 2 vols. Cambridge: Academic Press, 1857.
- NPNF P. Schaff et al., eds. *A Select Library of the Nicene and Post-Nicene Fathers of the Christian Church*. 2 series (14 vols. each). Buffalo, N.Y.: Christian Literature, 1887-1894; Reprint, Grand Rapids, Mich.: Eerdmans, 1952-1956; Reprint, Peabody, Mass.: Hendrickson, 1994.
- OFP Origen. *On First Principles*. Translated by G. W. Butterworth. London: SPCK, 1936; Reprint, Gloucester, Mass.: Peter Smith, 1973.
- OSW Origen. *Selected Writings*. Translated by Rowan A. Greer. *Classics of Western Spirituality: A Library of the Great Spiritual Masters*. Mahwah, N.J.: Paulist, 1979.
- PG J.-P. Migne, ed. *Patrologia Graeca*. 166 vols. Paris: Migne, 1857-1886.
- PL J.-P. Migne, ed. *Patrologia Latina*. 221 vols. Paris: Migne, 1844-1864.
- PL Supp. A. Hamman, ed. *Patrologia Latina Supplementum*. 5 vols. Paris: Éditions Garnier Frères, 1958-1974.
- PMFSH Pseudo-Macarius. *The Fifty Spiritual Homilies and the Great Letter*. Translated and edited by George A. Maloney, S.J. *Classics of Western Spirituality*. New York: Paulist, 1992.
- PS R. Graffin, ed. *Patrologia Syriaca*. 3 vols. Paris: Firmin-Didot et socii, 1894-1926.
- PSD Pseudo-Dionysius. *The Complete Works*. Translated by Colm Luibheid et al. *Classics of Western Spirituality*. Mahwah, N.J.: Paulist, 1987.
- QO Theodoret of Cyrus. *Quaestiones in Octateuchum*. Edited by N. Fernandez. Madrid: Marcos A. Saenz-Badillos, 1979.
- SC H. de Lubac, J. Daniélou et al., eds. *Sources Chrétiennes*. Paris: Editions du Cerf, 1941-.
- SNTD Symeon the New Theologian. *The Discourses*. Translated by C. J. DeCatanaro. *Classics of Western Spirituality: A Library of the Great Spiritual Masters*. Mahwah, N.J.: Paulist, 1980.
- TP *The Philokalia*. The complete text compiled by St. Nikodimos of the Holy Mountain and St. Makarios of Corinth. Translated and edited by G. E. H. Palmer, Philip Sherrard and Kallistos Ware. 4 vols. London: Faber & Faber, 1979-1995.