be a valuable resource for theologians investigating particular biblical issues. It is an essential resource for any theological library.

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Accordance Review, version 11, by OakTree Software, Inc., 2014-2015. US$49.90-59.90. Anchor Yale Bible Commentaries: Old Testament and Apocrypha US$999.00 and New Testament US$599.00.

In the fall of 2014 Oak Tree Software launched the newest update to their renowned Bible software. Accordance version 11 builds on the successful version 10 by adding helpful features to the existing program: Quick entry, info pane, increased customization, and user tools.

Accordance's software is well known for its speed, as well as user-friendly approach. Indeed the software exhibits a single entry pane that allows the user to search the selected database with ease. In contrast, the producers of other Bible software solutions have up to 13 different entry fields with varying search syntax and features. In version 11, Accordance expanded the single entry line to include a new feature labeled "quick entry." Similar to the search field found in a web search, the software offers the user a drop-down list of suggested entries based upon the typed letters. Despite the apparent similarity, the "quick entry" by Accordance is more powerful than that of other popular search engines due to the flex-search functionality, transferal of an English entry into Biblical languages, and suggestions for alternate spelling. Based on the flex search capability in Biblical databases, introduced in version 10, the software presents both the applicable Bible book and a list of relevant words after entering a few letters. This quick-entry feature is especially useful when searching for words in a Biblical language in a corresponding module. The software recognizes English letters and searches for the Greek/Hebrew/Aramaic equivalent. For example, the English entry of "mar" in the NA28 module results in the suggestion of the Bible book "Mark," as well as an exhaustive list of Greek words beginning with these letters along with a one or two word definition such as "Μάρθα Martha." Additionally, the suggestions of similar spelled words is particularly useful as users can easily misspell a word in a Biblical language if the transliteration of letters from English to the Biblical language is not fully memorized. Akin to searches on the web, the user can press "enter" or scroll to any item in the drop-down list using their mouse

or cursor at any given time. In summary, the "quick entry" feature is a tremendous addition and worth the price of the upgrade price by itself. After using the feature for a few days it is hard to imagine returning to a static entry bar. One suggestion to expand the usefulness of this "quick entry" field is to offer a text passage with a short description (e.g. "Mar 7:1-23 *Purity Conflict*")—once the program recognizes that a numeral is entered after a reference to a Bible book. Not everyone would want such an option (advanced scholars vs. novices), but for some this could facilitate quick access to sections of scripture.

The new "info pane" is a parallel tab that gives instant access to your favorite resources. The pane has five expandable headings: "Commentaries, Cross-References, Topics, Parallel Passages, and Apparatus." Each heading provides links to the user's favorite resources in each category based on the top Bible verse. The text of each highlighted resource is displayed in the instant dialog box by hovering with the mouse pointer over the module thus giving immediate access to the content without having to open that resource. Alternatively, the resource can also be opened in a new window at the relevant location. While all the headings clearly identify the resource type, the "Topics" heading includes multiple subheadings: the theological topic, names, places, text, and atlas. Each of the items identified in the subheading links to the appropriate dictionary article or map location. Most importantly, the info pane only serves as the link between the text and the user-defined resource. The user specifies the preferred modules for each section and the order in which they appear. The importance of this cannot be overstated as the results of competitive software programs do not indicate where they receive their information or allow the user to define this feature. Prior to this info pane, users often had a cluttered workspace with several open parallel tabs or had to alternate between modules. This tool greatly simplifies the process of accessing top resources without taking up a lot of space. As a minor quibble, customization is still somewhat limited. The order of the headings cannot be changed. As a personal preference, the critical apparatus should be first rather than last in this list. Also, the number of commentaries that are initially displayed (a plus button can always expand the initial setting) can only be set to 2, 5, 10, 15, 20, etc. More customization in the info pane would make it an even more user-friendly resource. Additionally, this user for multiple reasons (customizable sizing/placement, keyboard shortcut, and seeing the text in context) would have preferred the info pane to be a tool much more like the "instant details" tool rather than a parallel text module.

Finally, a host of smaller features add improved searches, user notes, and organizational features. Accordance features three ways to search modules in the past. The default—and for many reasons preferable—search function is to query a single module at a time. The "amplify" button next

to a module in the library allows users to search a different module with a highlighted term using the simple click of a mouse button. Finally there is a "search all" entry, entitled "Research." This last function faces an impressive speed increase in version 11 by yielding almost instantaneous results without the need of lengthy indexing process as required by competitive software programs. The results can now be organized according to categories defined in the library catalog leading to a clear overview. User notes are expanded as well to include more customization, which includes adding pictures and hyperlinks. Finally, the library can now be organized according to Accordance's categories or personal preference. Either way, modules can be placed in personalized folders or subfolders, or moved from one category to the other. This allows users to customize the library according to his or her liking.

The *Anchor Yale Bible Commentary* module is a highly respected scholarly series that has produced some of the leading commentaries on various books; Jacob Milgrom's three volume *magnum opus* on Leviticus and Joel Marcus' two volume Mark commentary are just two of many. Serious scholars cannot ignore the contributions from this series, either because of their historic value (Raymond Brown's commentary on John) or their current superior standing (Craig R. Koester's Hebrew commentary). The Accordance module makes this resource easy to obtain, carry around, and integrate into the user's workflow. Additionally, it is not only significantly cheaper than the print version (with an estimated savings of around $3,000) but also $500 less than the comparable version offered by Logos software.

The commentary series is a solid module that builds on the same interface as other Accordance modules. This allows the user to open the module in a parallel tab scrolling alongside the biblical text or in an independent tab or window. The latter allows a browsing function as well as detailed search options. The user can navigate the module via a menu column that displays a structure of the individual books and detailed book sections following the table of contents. The module can also be searched by a variety of parameters: English, Greek, or Hebrew content, title, scripture reference, and page number just to name a few. Page breaks are easily recognizable making the process of referencing easy, even if the included bibliographic copy tool is not used. As with other modules, the module can be highlighted, sections copied and pasted into Word, user notes added, and many other features. In addition to the current volumes in the series, this module includes alternate volumes accessible as a secondary file. The newer commentaries, such as Joel Marcus' two-volume Mark commentary, are in the main file, while older versions, in this case C. S. Mann's Mark commentary, are in the secondary file. Both the availability of the older volumes and its place as a separate file are very helpful features. It isn't quite clear though why the OT commentaries in the *Anchor Yale Bible Commentary* series are

divided into four separate files (Gen-Deut, Josh-Esth, Job-Song, Isa-Mal). The NT on the other hand is a single file. Other commentary series are not divided in the same manner and are either a single OT-NT file (e.g. NAC) or one file for each testament (f.e. WBC-OT, WBC-NT). It is possible to combine them as "combined resources" in a parallel pane, but this requires several extra steps and only works in the parallel pane. Additionally, it is unfortunate that licensing problems between the publisher and the copyright holders (not OakTree software) prohibit the inclusion of Albright's Matthew as well as Craig R. Koester's new Revelation commentary at this time. It should be noted that all software distributors are affected by this situation.

Unrelated to the module itself, a personal wish is that the library books be accessible in a "reading mode," that is a page-by-page viewer much like an iBook or Kindle book, that facilitates *reading* rather than just *searching* a book. This would be especially interesting for the mobile Accordance app. The recent free app upgrade to version 2 is a vast improvement of an already stellar program that allows all modules to be accessed on- and offline with the same depth of search options.

In conclusion, the upgrade to version 11 is a must have enhancement for any Accordance user. This update once more underlines the leading position of Accordance among Bible software options. The *Anchor Yale Bible Commentary* series is a crucial resource for any serious scholar. Lay members and undergraduate students will find the *New American Commentary* or the *Pillar Commentary* series more accessible. Yet the portability, accessibility, and inexpensive price point make this an important and valuable addition to any scholar's library.

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Psalms, by Nancy DeClaissé-Walford, Rolf A. Jacobson, and Beth LaNeel Tanner. NICOT, Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 2014. 1073 pp. ISBN 978-0-8028-2493-6 Hardcover, US$60.00.

This benchmark new commentary on the book of Psalms begins with an informative introduction and is divided into eight sections. The first section deals with the title, text, and translation of the Psalter. The authors have attempted to establish the text and offer a translation based on the critical edition of the Hebrew text of the psalms in the *Biblica Hebraica Stuttgartensia*. In connection to this, the author's preference to transliterate the Hebrew