

Unlocking the Bible: A Unique Overview of the Whole Bible

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A unique overview of both the Old and New Testaments, from internationally acclaimed evangelical speaker and author, David Pawson. Unlocking the Bible opens up the word of God in a fresh and powerful way. Avoiding the small detail of verse by verse studies, it sets out the epic story of God and his people in Israel. The culture, historical background and people are introduced and the teaching applied to the modern world. Eight volumes have been brought into one compact and easy to use guide to cover both the Old and New Testaments in one massive omnibus edition. The Old Testament: The Maker's Instructions -- The five books of law A Land and A Kingdom -- Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1&2 Samuel, 1&2 Kings Poems of Worship and Wisdom -- Psalms, Song of Solomon, proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Job Decline and Fall of an Empire -- Isaiah, Jeremiah and other prophets The Struggle to Survive -- Chronicles and prophets of exile The New Testament: The Hinge of History -- Mathew, Mark, Luke, John and acts The Thirteenth Apostle -- Paul and his letters Through Suffering to Glory -- Revelation, Hebrews, the letters of James, Peter and Jude Already an international best-seller, this new North American edition includes nearly 100 revisions and updates from the best-selling original; the first and only updated English language version in the world. The North American edition has been completely reformatted and resized, so it's easier to read and easier to handle, but nothing left out; a massive 1,119 pages!

David Pawson occupies a key position among British Christian writers. His best known work, Unlocking the Bible, continues to be a worldwide bestseller in print, audio and video formats. Unlocking the Bible and other works such as The Normal Christian Birth have been called Pawson's legacy to the church. Pawson is known for accepting biblical text as the authoritative word of God while explaining its meaning and context in a practical and understandable language. Because he follows the teaching of Scripture where it clashes with church tradition, his books are often controversial. Today David speaks around the world and is received on God TV by millions of viewers in almost every country. Born in 1930, David, determined to become a farmer, began his career with a B.Sc. in agriculture at Durham University in England. He was surprised when God intervened and led him to become a Christian minister. Studying for an advanced degree in theology at Cambridge University, under the influence of liberal educators, Pawson lost his trust in the Bible and very nearly his faith in God. After a short spell in ministry for the Methodist church, he regained his trust in the infallibility and inerrancy of the Bible while a chaplain in the Royal Air Force of Great Britain. During this period he decided to preach the Bible systematically from start to finish. The results among the servicemen surprised both him and them, and confirmed to him Scripture's inspiration. Since then, his preaching has either been Bible study or topical studies based on a detailed, contextual examination of what the Bible says. As pastor of Guildford Baptist Church (the Millmead Centre), Pawson established a reputation among both evangelicals and charismatics as an effective and balanced expositor of the Bible. Under Pawson's ministry, Millmead became the largest Baptist church in Britain. The church was unusual in that attendance was double the membership number; people regularly came from London to hear Pawson preach. Cliff Richard, who had been baptized by Pawson, was a regular attendee. From here his teaching tapes - originally made for the church's sick and elderly members - became popular worldwide. Behind the communist Iron Curtain these tapes struck a chord with the persecuted church. Missionaries and spiritual leaders in far-off corners of the world, without the opportunity to sit under a regular teaching ministry, became a significant audience for Pawson's preaching. In the last forty years literally millions of David's messages on cassette tape (CD,

DVD and MP3 today) have been distributed around the world. Pawson left Millmead in 1979 and engaged in an itinerant worldwide Bible teaching ministry, which has been his main work to the present. During this time he has written a number of books. He is a frequent speaker in the UK and throughout Europe; his speaking engagements have taken him to many parts of the world, including Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, The Netherlands, Israel, Southeast Asia and the United States. David Pawson lives near Basingstoke, Hampshire in southern England with his wife Enid. In his 70s he remains busy with speaking engagements in Europe, the US and at the Festival of Tabernacles in Israel, which he was a pioneer in encouraging Christians to attend. For anyone who's ever scratched their heads trying to make sense of the bible, this is the book for you. David Pawson's clear, easy to follow, erudite prose opens up the bible. He doesn't pretend the bible is a simple document, but does shine a light on the text to make it easier to get to grips with. The book is filled with examples and stories, and it also tracks Pawson's own journey in trying to understand scripture. There's a great explanation of "Song of Songs", which Pawson says he avoided for years because it just seemed to be too carnal: about the sexual relationship between a man and a woman. To find out his refreshing conclusion about the Song of Solomon, buy this book! It's rare to find a commentary with so much humour in it. I haven't read it in order, but in random chapters as I've read the bible. This may not be the best way to read the book, but it's worked for me. This is one of those books that has helped me understand God's word better, and also (by extension) His character. I can't offer a better accolade than that. Mark Trudinger (Singapore) --Amazon UK

22 of 23 people found the following review helpful: 4.0 out of 5 stars Good overview recommended for new believers, 18 Dec 2004 By A Customer This is really a very good book for the believer who hasn't done too much Bible studying and would give a good overview of intention and meaning of a whole book. The author points out and rightly so, that we tend to just focus on a short passage, rather than reading several chapters in order to get the context. The whole Bible was written for our instruction. I really enjoyed the section on Jonah and Job (although I think behemoth and leviathan are dinosaurs instead of hippopotamus and crocodile). He quotes a section, which really spoke to me: "You who treat this crown of writings as you treat no other book. Just a paragraph disjointed, just a crude impatient look. Try a worthier procedure, try a broad and steady view; you will kneel in awesome wonder, when you read the Bible through" This book will help you to do just that! --Amazon UK

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Other Books

Unlocking the Bible Story: Old Testament, For all who are wondering how the pieces fit into the jigsaw of God's revelation, Colin Smith has provided an answer, which is refreshingly simple, biblically accurate, and will prove phenomenally helpful to the serious Bible student and the new beginner alike. – Alistair Begg, senior pastor, Parkside Church In Unlocking the Bible Story, Colin Smith moves gradually through portions of the Bible to explain how it all holds together. He tells God's one grand story of salvation and reflects on major themes along the way. In volume 1 he moves through the Pentateuch and Historical Books of the Old Testament, which tell the story of God creating the world, choosing a people for Himself, and loving them despite their continued sin. Includes the study guide formerly sold separately. One of the most urgent needs in the church today is for a crisp and comprehensive knowledge of the Bible's storyline. To grasp how the sacred history moves from Genesis to Revelation not only brings fresh insight into how the Bible hangs together, and what each part contributes to the whole, but also is crucial for developing a Christian worldview. Colin Smith has met these needs admirably. I hope these volumes will circulate widely and be read and re-read. – D. A. Carson, research professor New Testament at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, cofounder of The Gospel Coalition

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