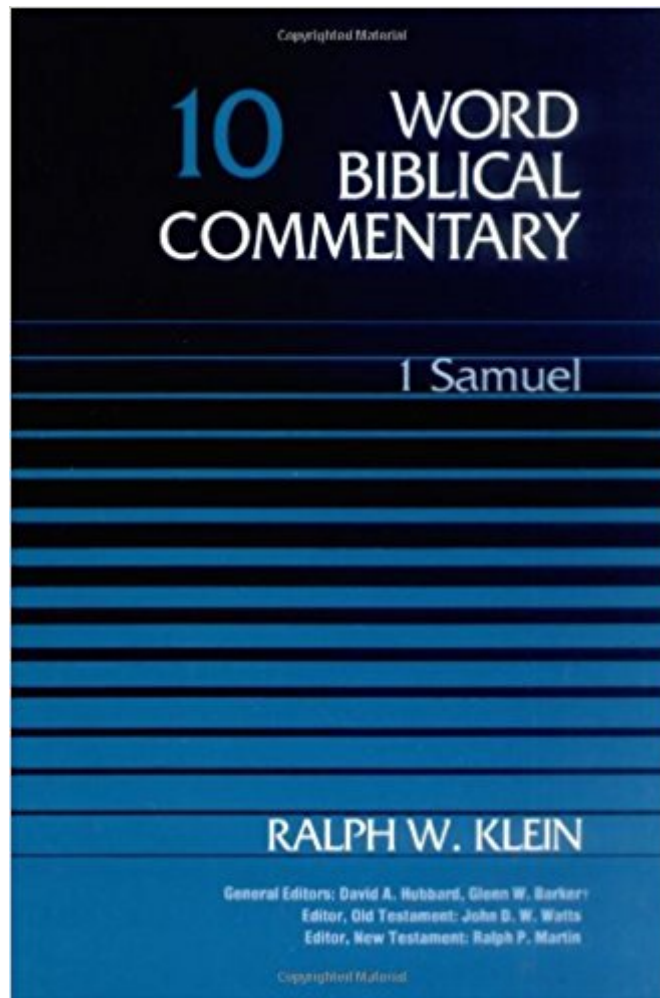




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Synopsis

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Customer Reviews

Ralph W. Klein is Christ Seminary-Seminex professor of Old Testament at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago (LSTC). He has written for numerous journals, has been editor of *Currents in Theology and Mission* since 1974, and is an associate editor of the *Catholic Biblical Quarterly*. His books include *Textual Criticism of the Old Testament*, *Israel in Exile*, *Ezekiel: the Prophet and his Message*; and the commentary on Ezra and Nehemiah in the *New Interpreter's Bible*. Klein received his M.Div. from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, and his Th.D. from Harvard University.

It is hard trying to review each of these volumes. I have read and used quite a few of these going through Wayland Baptist University. I am now slowly gathering the entire set for my own use. I have been exposed to works written during the 1800's. It only my opinion that most modern works I have

used lack the same type of depth as these works. This commentary series approaches that level of depth.

Awesome book - Awesome seller!

Good commentary. Very useful.

I got this while doing a Beth Moore study. It is very informative and easy to read. Really helped me understand the book of Samuel. I plan on getting more of these for other books in the Bible!

Most of the volumes in the Word Biblical Commentary series are scholarly but accessible works. This is true of the commentary on 1 Samuel by Ralph W. Klein. The introductory material contains a good discussion of the literary strands that preceded the final redaction of the text, and the analysis of the text itself includes some quite interesting detail about the recorded events and the geographical and cultural setting of these events. This makes many of the events described in 1 Samuel really come alive to the reader. Although quite scholarly in nature, Klein writes in a way that is reader friendly, always a nice plus in a commentary.

The commentary by Ralph W. Klein on 1 Samuel contains a significant amount of material that will be of interest primarily to the serious scholar. His introductory material, in which he deals with the literary strands that led to the final redaction of the text, is of this nature. This is one area where I wish Klein had expanded somewhat, since it contains a significant amount of potentially interesting material, but is rather short. On the other hand, his commentary of the specific passages of the book is clearly topnotch and provides a significant amount of interesting detail regarding the various events taking place in the book as well as important detail concerning the geographical and cultural setting. There is a lot that the serious student of this book can learn. The more technical material, particularly discussion of the Hebrew text, is confined to the "notes" sections that follow the translations of the individual passages. Thus, this material does not clutter the text that will be of most value to the average reader.

Ralph W. Klein's commentary on First Samuel contains a significant amount of scholarly material. The introductory material, in which he deals with the literary strands that led to the final redaction of the text, is of this nature. I wish Klein had expanded this somewhat, since it contains a significant

amount of potentially interesting material, but is rather short. This minor criticism notwithstanding, Klein's commentary of the specific passages of the book is topnotch and provides a significant amount of interesting detail regarding the various events recorded in the book as well as important detail concerning the geographical and cultural setting. The more technical material in the commentary, particularly discussions of the Hebrew text, is placed in the "notes" sections that follow the translations of specific passages. Thus, the material that will be of interest primarily to the scholar doesn't clutter the text for the average reader.

Ralph W. Klein's commentary on 1 Samuel contains a fair amount of information that will be of interest primarily to the serious scholar. His introductory material, in which he deals with the literary strands that led to the final redaction of the text, is of this nature. This is an area which Klein could have expanded significantly, since it contains a significant amount of potentially interesting material, but is rather short. However, his commentary of the specific passages of the book is clearly topnotch and provides a great deal of interesting detail regarding the various events recorded in the book as well as important detail concerning the geographical and cultural setting. There is a lot that the serious student of this book can learn. The more technical material, particularly discussion of the Hebrew text, is confined to the "notes" sections that follow the translations of the individual passages. Thus, this material does not clutter the text that will be of most value to the average reader.

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