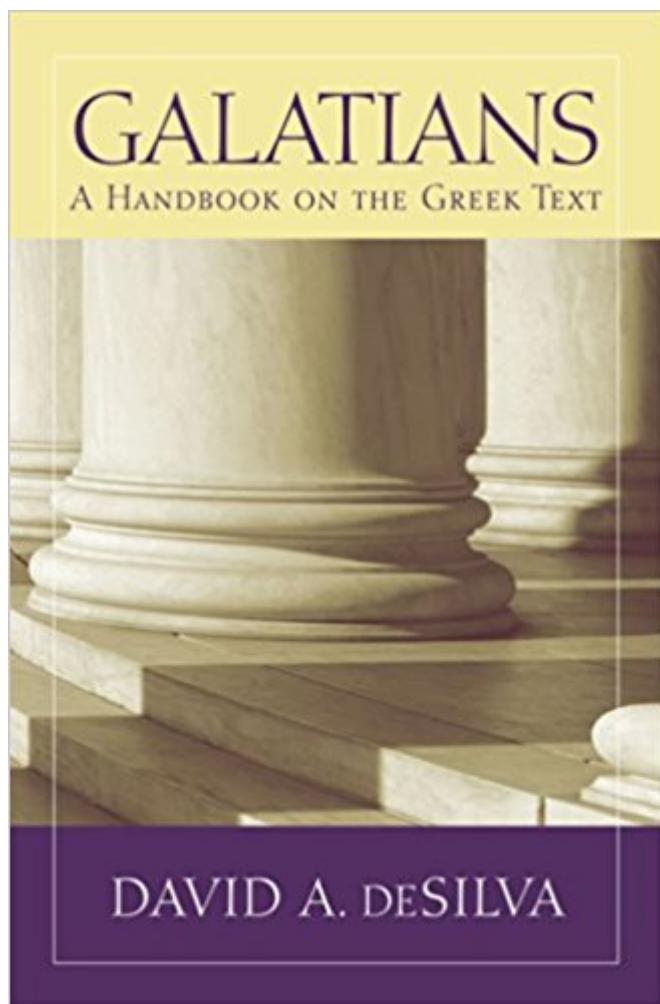


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# Galatians: A Handbook On The Greek Text



## **Synopsis**

Galatians: A Handbook on the Greek Text offers teachers and students a comprehensive guide to the grammar and vocabulary of Galatians. A perfect supplement to any commentary, this volume's lexical, analytical, and syntactical analysis is a helpful tool in navigating New Testament literature. David A. deSilva leads students toward both a greater understanding of the Greek text and an appreciation for the textual and rhetorical intricacies not available in English translations.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

"True to its title, Galatians: A Handbook on the Greek Text provides a ready reference of essential information. For busy scholars, pastors, and students it will expedite working with the content of Galatians in Greek and as such is a tremendous resource." --L. Ann Jervis, Professor of New Testament, Wycliffe College, University of Toronto " Galatians: A Handbook on the Greek Text shares all the strengths of the series with its focus on close and organized analysis of the Greek text and an engaging and insightful translation of Galatians." --Lewis R Donelson, Professor of New Testament, Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary

David A. deSilva is Trustees' Distinguished Professor of New Testament and Greek at Ashland Theological Seminary.

deSilva is an excellent author and this book is no exception. The series is excellent overall and his

contribution to the Handbook series on Galatians is pure gold.

This is my 'go to' book for syntax.

After having published 8 books of this series in one format, the publishers changed the format. Now the books are almost one inch taller. See the result in the shelf in the attached photo. Of course I won't stop buying them, because the content is excellent, but aspect in the library is terrible, and not a good "business card" for the publishers. This is why I cannot give five stars.

in verse 1:12 (p. 14): *Means* *act ind 1st sg*

Other times it is even more brief, as with the prepositional phrase *Means* *ind 1st sg* | in 2:21, for which deSilva offers only the synthetic category, *Means* *act ind 1st sg* (p. 50). As mentioned above, this conciseness is a strength. DeSilva could fill such entries with more text, but it would diminish this handbook as a reference work. Minimal doesn't mean insufficient; deSilva provides the necessary information for the reader to understand the word and how it relates to the words around it, such as with *Means* *ind 1st sg* in 4:12: *Accusative direct object of* *Means* *act ind 1st sg* | in 2:16. Where he feels it necessary, deSilva spends more time on a given word or phrase, such as with the long-debated

*Means* *act ind 1st sg* |

*Means* *act ind 1st sg* | in 2:16. Here he helpfully summarizes the debate over whether this is objective or subjective genitive, providing references for further study. For any disputed word or phrase, he will offer his own conclusion which is ultimately reflected in his translation. Since ultimately the grammatical analysis influences theology, some readers may object to his conclusions, should his conclusions clash with the readers' own beliefs. There is no way around this, though, as part of what deSilva offers is a translation. He is relatively thorough in providing the tools and references for readers to formulate their own conclusions, and in that lifts himself above reproach. Since this is a handbook on the Greek text, and since the Greek text often varies from manuscript to manuscript, deSilva has peppered his analysis with brief text-critical discussions, such as concerning the debated variation in 4:25 regarding Hagar, Sinai, and a mountain in Arabia (p. 97). The text-critical analysis is not, of course, as thorough as it could be (or probably needs to be in some cases), but it is helpful nonetheless and again points readers to other resources. DeSilva appears to use the NA27/UBS4 critical edition in his text-critical analysis. I have not seen any other volumes from the BHGNT series to compare deSilva's analysis against, but what he does offer in Galatians is, as a reference work, extremely helpful to students of the Greek New Testament and biblical scholars alike.

Baylor Greek handbook series is good for studying and understanding GNT Greek syntax and

meaning. This commentary is carefully written to carefully and clearly explain the context. However, I would not agree with the author's option on page 92. I do not think Christian transformation is the very heart or central message of the gospel of Jesus Christ that is proclaimed by Paul. It is very obvious that Paul talked about the gospel message in Galatians 1.1 and 1.3. I think the difference between good and evil is subtle and often deceiving. Paul made a very clear warning (twice in Galatians) on anyone who distorts the gospel message - he or she will receive cursing from God!

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