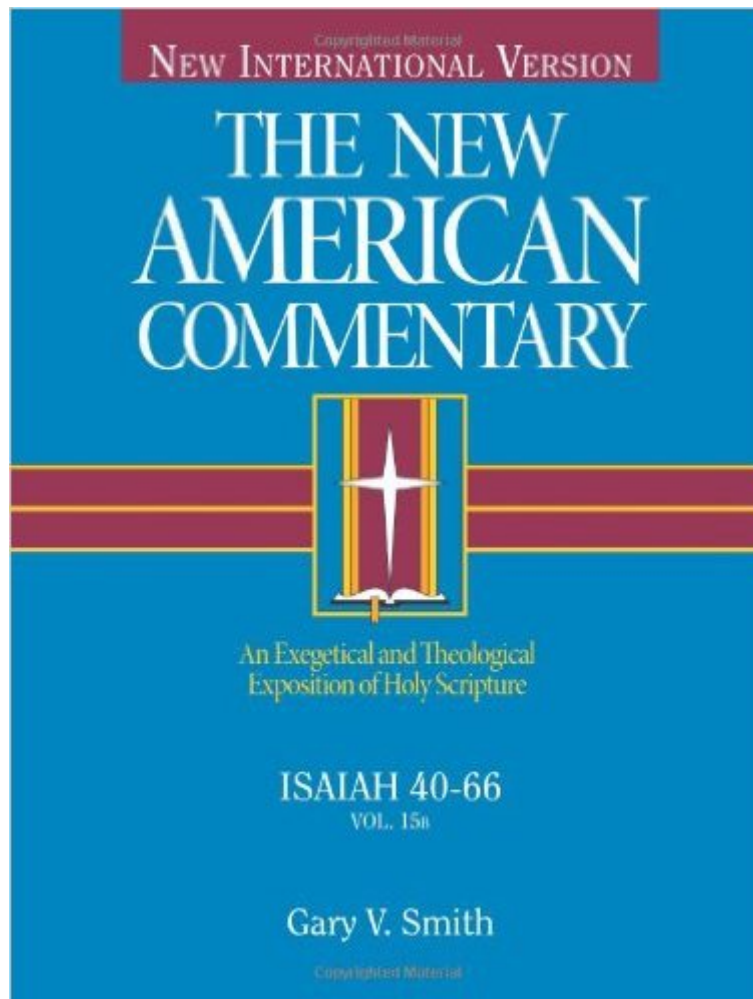


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Isaiah 40-66: An Exegetical And Theological Exposition Of Holy Scripture (The New American Commentary)



Synopsis

The New American Commentary series is an exceptionally acclaimed resource for ministers and Bible students who want to understand and expound the Scriptures. Notable features in each volume include:

- Commentary based on the New International Version (NIV).
- NIV text printed in the body of the commentary.
- Sound scholarly methodology reflecting capable research in the original languages.
- Interpretation emphasizing the theological unity of each book and Scripture as a whole.
- Readable and applicable exposition.

Gary V. Smith's second volume on Isaiah looks deeply and in wonder at the God who is both intimate and compassionate (Isaiah 40:28: "He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak") and larger than our comprehension of time and space (Isaiah 66:1: "Heaven is My throne, and the earth is My footstool").

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Conservative commentators like Oswalt try to reconcile the "Return to the Land" language in Isaiah 40-66 with the return from Babylon. This task is steep and rarely done well. Instead of fighting this battle, Smith proposes a different framework, stressing the work of Assyria instead of Babylon. This naturally leads to a more eschatological reading of "Return" passages. Though this is not the traditional way of reading these chapters, Smith's contribution provides an astonishingly consistent system historically, biblically, and theologically. This commentary (along with 1-39) is a highly

underrated and exceptional work that confessional scholars must take into consideration if they want to do any serious work in the 40-66 section.

It's sad that there seem to be very few who have interacted with Prof. G. Smith on Isaiah. The two volumes are rich in theological exposition, as Smith takes time to reflect on the given passage theologically. He begins each section with a general introduction, a discussion of its genre, historical setting, structure and theological analysis. His exegesis is detailed and sound. Excellent for in-depth study and preaching purposes. Students and pastors will greatly benefit. Oswalt or Smith? both but I rank Smith first.

Smith's commentary is a perfect example of how presuppositions can put blinders on the plain meaning of Scripture. Smith, unlike other conservative interpreters like Leupold and Oswalt refuses to understand the context of chapters 40-66 as reflecting the exile and Cyrus' edict that the exiles can return to the land. Because of this his understanding and applications are skewed and essentially unhelpful. If you want a conservative take on Isaiah 40-66 get Oswalt. If you want something that will preach go for Brueggemann, Hanson, or perhaps best of all, the old Interpreter's Bible on Isaiah 40-66 by Muilenburg.

I compared more than 10 Isaiah commentaries and I found out that this is the best! I eagerly expected this one after I read the first volume. I love it!

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