Resources on Christian Truth-Claims

Needless to say, the amount of material in the below that I agree with varies from minute to minute, and from mood to mood (how's THAT for a clever disclaimer, eh?)

Works are not rank-ordered WITHIN a column.

- Intro means first ones to get and work through.
- 2nd is more detail and may require more critical reading
- 3rd is VERY detailed, MAY require some knowledge of the ancient languages, and often requires critical reading..

Intro

Most of these are still in print, and the hotlink will connect you to Amazon.com, in case you want to order one. [The Thinktank actually receives a small 'finders fee' for these, measured in pennies, if you purchase them from their specific links below. It doesn't raise your price any, but comes out of their profit.]

These works are generally supportive of moderate-conservative Judeo-Christian faith. They typically interact with 'liberal' or more skeptical works.

This list is offered to Christians, to those investigating the truth claims of Christianity, and to non-Christians attempting to interact with the best of Christian scholarship (for the sake of honesty and completeness).

[I do not maintain a list of skeptical materials. Those can be found at skeptical sites, academic bookstores(!), and in the bibliography/discussions within THESE books. Many of the works below are in the 'minority' position, generally, and not easy to discover--I have found. Hence this list.]

New entries since last update in RED. [last update on Sept 14/07]

Hope this helps...glenn miller....

Tonic

Торіс	Intro	2nd	3rd
Archeology, Chronology, Literary context	Archaeology and the Old Testament, Alfred J. Hoerth, Baker:1998 Chronological Aspects of the Life of Christ, Harold Hoehner, Zondervan:1977 Readings from the First-Century World, Walter A. Elwell and Robert W. Yarbrough (eds.), Baker:1998	Chronos, Kairos, Christos I, E. Jerry Vardaman (ed) Chronos, Kairos, Christos II, E. Jerry Vardaman (ed) The City in Roman Palestine, Daniel Sperber, Oxford:1998. Bible Archaeology: An Exploration of the History and Culture of Early Civilizations. Alfred Hoerth and John McRay	Brills New Pauly, Supplements I, Chronologies of the Ancient World. Walter Eder and Johannes Renger (eds)
Israel in the context of ANE/Egypt	The IVP Bible Background Commentary: Old Testament, John H. Walton & Victor Matthews, IVP:2000. A History of Israel from the Bronze Age through the Jewish Wars. Walter C. Kaiser Jr., Broadman and Holman: 1998 A Biblical History of Israel. Provan, Long, Longman III. WJK:2003. [Absolutely the best available!] A Survey of Israel's History (Revised Ed). Leon Wood and David O'Brien Kingdom of Priests: A History of Old Testament Israel. Eugene Merrill. Baker:1987/96. Life in the Ancient Near East, 3100-332 BCE, Daniel C. Snell, Yale:1997 The Pentateuch in Its Cultural Environment. Livingston, Herbert G., Baker, 1987 (2nd ed)	Ancient Israelite Literature in its Cultural	The Bible and the Ancient Near East, Cyrus Gordon and Gary Rendsburg, Norton:1997 (4th ed) Persia and the Bible, Edwin Yamauchi, Baker:1990/1996 Life and Culture in the Ancient Near East. Averbeck, Chavalas, Weisberg (eds). CDL:2003. Peoples of the Old Testament World; Hoerth, Mattingly, Yamauchi (eds.), Baker: 1994

		New Testament History. Bruce, F.F., Anchor, 1972	
New Testament History	Behind the Scenes of the New Testament, Barnett, IVP: 1990.	The Seven Cities of the Apocalypse & Greco-Asian Culture. Roland H. Worth, Jr. Paulist: 1999.	
		The Seven Cities of the Apocalypse & Roman	
		Culture. Roland H. Worth, Jr. Paulist:1999.	
		Cynic Sage or Son of God?, Gregory Boyd,	
		Bridgepoint: 1995.	
		Jesus and the Victory of God, by N.T. Wright, Fortress:1996.	Jesus as God: The New Testament Use
	Jesus Under FireModern Scholarship Reinvents the Historical Jesus., Wilkins and Moreland (eds), Zondervan: 1995.	The Christology of Jesus, Ben Witherington III, Fortress:1990	of Theos in Reference to Jesus, Murray Harris, Baker: 1998
	Jesus in an Age of Controversy, Douglas Groothuis, Harvest House: 1996.	Early Narrative Christology: The Lord in the Gospel of Luke. C Kavin Rowe	Studying the Historical Jesus: Evaluations of the State of Current Research, Bruce Chilton and Craig Evans, eds. Brill: 1994
Jesus "Theories" (& Jesus	Who was Jesus?, N.T. Wright, Eerdmans:1992.	Fabricating Jesus: How Modern Scholars <u>Distort the Gospels</u> . Craig Evans	Jesus and His Contemporaries:
Seminar)	The Historical Jesus: Ancient Evidence for the	The Jesus Quest: The Third Search for the Jew of Nazareth, Ben Witherington III, IVP: 1995	Comparative Studies, Craig Evans, Brill:1995
	Life of Christ. Gary R. Habermas. College Press:1996.	Lord Jesus Christ: Devotion to Jesus in Earliest Christianity. Larry Hurtado.	Dictionary of Jesus and the Gospels. Joel Green, Scot McKnight, I Howard Marshall (eds.), IVP:1992
	The Jesus Legend: A Case for the Historical Reliability of the Synoptic Jesus Tradition.	Eerdmans:2003.	, , ,
	Paul Rhodes Eddy and Gregory A Boyd	How on Earth Did Jesus Become God? Historical Questions about the Earliest Devotion to Jesus. Larry Hurtado.	Gospel Perspectives: The Jesus Tradition Outside the Gospels (vol 5). David Wenham (ed).
		The Pre-existent Son: Recovering the Christologies of Matthew, Mark, and Luke. Simon Gathercole	
	Biblical Exegesis in the Apostolic Period.		It is Written: Scripture Citing Scripture,
OT in the NT (& intertextuality)	Longenecker, Richard., Eerdmans Publishing, 1999.	Jesus and the Old Testament. France, R.T., Intervarsity Press, 1971	DA Carson and H.G.M. Williamson, Cambridge:1988
		Easter EnigmaAre the Resurrection accounts	Gospel Perspectives:
		in conflict? 2nd. ed., John Wenham, Baker:	Compl. Down actives. Values 6. The
	The Historical Reliability of the Gospels by	1992.	Gospel Perspectives, Volume 6: The Miracles of Jesus. David Wenham
	Craig Blomberg, IVP: 1987.	The Gospel and the Gospels, Peter Stuhlmacher, ed. Eerdmans: 1991	(Editor), Craig Blomberg (Editor). Wipf & Stock.
	On the Reliability of the Old Testament. KA	Stammacher, ed. Ecramans. 1991	_
	<u>Kitchen</u> . Eerdmans:2003.	Redating Matthew, Mark, and Luke by John	Gospel Perspectives, Volume 1: Studies
		Wenham, IVP: 1992	of History and Tradition in the Four Gospels. R. T. France (Editor), David
	The Case for Christ, Lee Strobel,		Wenham (Editor) . Wipf & Stock.
	HarperCollins:1998.	The Gospels for All Christians: Rethinking the Gospel Audiences, Richard Bauckham (ed),	, , ,
	Is the New Testament Reliable? Barnett, Paul.	Eerdmans:1998	Gospel Perspectives, Volume 3: Studies
	, Intervarsity Press, 1986	Derumani, 1790	in Midrash and Historiography. R. T.
BIBLICAL criticism/reliability	The New Testament Documents: Are They	<u>Jesus and the Eyewitnesses: The Gospels as</u> <u>Eyewitness Testimony</u> . Richard Bauckham	France (Editor), David Wenham (Editor) . Wipf & Stock.
Criscisiii renabiiity	Reliable?, F. F. Bruce, Eerdmans: 1943.	The Origins of Mark: The Markan Community	Gospel Perspectives, Volume 2: Studies
	The Old Testament Documents: Are They Reliable & Relevant? Walter C. Kaiser, Jr.	in Current Debate. Dwight Petersen. Brill:2003.	of History and Tradition in the Four Gospels. R. T. France (Editor), David Wenham (Editor). Wipf & Stock.
	IVP:2001.	Rethinking the Synoptic Problem. David Alan	Gospel Perspectives, Volume 4: The
	Jesus and the Gospels: An Introduction and	Black and David R Beck (eds). Baker:2001.	Rediscovery of Jesus' Eschatological
	<u>Survey</u> , Craig L. Blomberg, Broadman &	The Case Against O. Studies in Markon	<u>Discourse</u> . David Wenham (Editor) .
	Holman:1997.	The Case Against Q: Studies in Markan Priority and the Synoptic Problem. Mark	Wipf & Stock.
	Misquoting Truth: A Cuida to do E-Hoot was	Goodacre. Trinity:2002.	
	Misquoting Truth: A Guide to the Fallacies of Bart Ehrman's Misquoting Jesus. Timothy		The Past of Jesus in the Gospels,
	Paul Jones	Questioning Q: A Multidimensional Critique.	Eugene Lemcio, Cambridge: 1991.
		Mark Goodacre and Nicholas Perrin (eds)	What are the Gospels: A comparison with Graeco-Roman Biography,
1		Foundations for Biblical Interpretation,	

		Dockery, Mathews, Sloan (eds.), Broadman&Holman: 1994	Richard A. Burridge, Cambridge: 199 Expositor's Bible Commentary: Introductory Articles
Acts Historicity	Is the New Testament Reliable? Barnett, Paul. , Intervarsity Press, 1986 The New Testament Documents: Are They Reliable?, F. F. Bruce, Eerdmans: 1943.	The Book of Acts in the Setting of Hellenistic History, Colin Helmer, Eisenbrauns: 1989 Acts and the History of Earliest Christianity. Martin Hengel. WipfandStock: 1979	The Book of Acts in its First Century Setting: Ancient Literary Setting The Book of Acts in its First Century Settling: Diaspora Setting The Book of Acts in its First Century Settling: Graeco-Roman Setting The Book of Acts in its First Century Setting: Palestinian Setting The Book of Acts in its First Century Setting: Palestinian Setting The Book of Acts in its First Century Setting: Paul in Roman Custody
Text Criticism	Misquoting Truth: A Guide to the Fallacies of Bart Ehrman's Misquoting Jesus. Timothy Paul Jones	The Text of the New TestamentIts Transmission, Corruption, and Restoration, Bruce Metzger, Oxford 1992 (3rd ed) Textual Criticism of the Hebrew Bible, Emanuel Tov, Fortress: 2001 (2ndE)	
Early Church history and issues (heresy, canon)	The Canon of Scripture, F. F. Bruce, IVP: 1988 The Rise of Christianity: A Sociologist Reconsiders History, Rodney Stark, Princeton: 1996.	The Bauer Thesis Examined: The Geography of Heresy in the Early Christian Church, T.A. Robinson, Edwin Mellen: 1988 Hellenists and Hebrews: Reappraising Division within the Earliest Church, Craig C. Hill, Fortress:1992. The Rise of Christianity Fortress: 1984. pp1022	
JEDP/DocuHypo (see ANE also)	Before Abraham Was: The Unity of Genesis 1-11, Kikawada and Quinn, Ignatius: 1985. The Old Testament Documents: Are They Reliable & Relevant? Walter C. Kaiser, Jr. IVP:2001.	ReThinking Genesis, Duane Garrett, Baker: 1991 On the Reliability of the Old Testament. KA Kitchen. Eerdmans:2003. The Pentateuch in Its Cultural Environment. Livingston, Herbert G., Baker, 1987 (2nd ed)	The Redaction of Genesis, Gary A. Rendsburg, Eisenbraus: 1986 Place of the Law in the Religion of Ancient Israel. Moshe Weinfeld
Biblical Intro (author, date, etc.)		An Introduction to the New Testament (2nd Ed). DA Carson and Douglas Moo. New Testament Introduction, Donald Guthrie, IVP:1990 (rev.ed) Introduction to the Old Testament. Harrison, R.K., Eerdmans Publishing, 1969.	
Commentaries/ Reference works/ Bible Background/ Ency/Dictionaries	The Bible Background Commentary-NT. Keener, Craig. S., IVP, 1993. Zondervan Illustrated Bible Backgrounds Commentrary (4 vols). Clinton Arnold (ed). Zondervan:2002. The IVP Bible Background Commentary: Old Testament, John H. Walton & Victor Matthews, IVP:2000. The Expositor's Bible Commentary of the OT. Gaebelein, Frank E., ed., The Expositor's Bible Commentary: NT Set. Zondervan Pictorial Ency. of the Bible 1986.	New International Commentary on the Old Testament (series) New International Commentary on the New Testament (series) Dictionary of the Old Testament Pentateuch, T. Desmond Alexander and David W. Baker. IVP:2003 The IVP Women's Bible Commentary. C.C. Kroeger and Mary J. Evans. IVP:2002 Harper's Encyclopedia of Bible Life. Madeline and J Lane Miller	New Intl Dictionary of Old Testament Theology and Exegesis, Willem A. VanGeren (gen. Ed.), Zond:1997 (5 vols) New Intl Dictionary of New Testament Theology, Colin Brown, eds. Zond. Word Biblical Commentary (multi-vol

	Jacob Neusner and William Scott Green (eds.). Hendrickson:1996 Nelson's Illustrated Encyclopedia of Bible Facts, eds. Packer, Tenney, White. Thomas Nelson: 1995 (2nd ed) Dictionary of New Testament Background. Craig Evans and Stanley Porter (eds). IVP:2000. Encyclopedia of Bible Difficulties, Gleason L.	Life and Culture in the Ancient Near East. Averbeck, Chavalas, Weisberg (eds).	
Difficulties	Archer, Zondervan: 1982 Hard Sayings of the Bible, Kaiser/Davids /Bruce/Brauch, IVP:1996	Difficult Sayings in the Gospels: Jesus' Use of Overstatement and Hyperbole., Robert H. Stein. Baker: 1985.	
ExtraBiblical/	The Dead Sea Scrolls Today, James VanderKam, Eerdmans:1994. From Text to Tradition: A History of Second Temple & Rabbinic Judaism, Lawrence H. Schiffman, KTAV:1991 Noncanonical Writings and New Testament Interpretation, Craig Evans, Hendrickson: 1992	Judaism and Hellenistic: Studies in their Encounter in Palestine during the Early Hellenistic Period, Martin Hengel, Fortress:1974 Jews in the Mediterranean Diaspora,	Jewish Writings of the Second Temple Period: Apocrypha, Pseudepigrapha, Qumran Sectarian Writings, Philo, Josephus. Michael E. Stone (ed.), Fortress: 1984 Mikra: Text, Translation, Reading and Interpretation of the Hebrew Bible in Ancient Judaism and Early Christianity, Martin Jan Mulder (ed.).
Intertestamental Lit&Hist	Ancient Texts for New Testament StudiesA Guide to the Background Literature. Craig Evans Exploring Jewish Literature of the Second Temple Period, Larry R. Helyer, IVP:2002. Introduction to the Apocrypha: Message, Context, and Significance. David deSilva. Baker:2002.	Jews in the Mediterranean Diaspora, Barclay:1996. Introduction to the Talmud and Midrash, H.L. Strack and Gunter Stemberger, Fortress:1992	Prophetic Figures in Late Second Temple Jewish Palestine: The Evidence from Josephus, Rebecca Gray, Oxford:1993. The Literature of the Sages: Oral Tora, Halakha, Mishna, Tosefia, Talmud, External Tractates, Shmuel Safrai (ed), Fortress:1987
Messianic beliefs, Judaism issues	The Messiah in the Old Testament, Walter Kaiser, Jr., Zondervan: 1995, 256p. Judaism Before Jesus: The Events and Ideas that Shaped the New Testament World. Anthony Tomasino. IVP:2003. Answering Jewish Objections to Jesus: Messianic Prophecy Objections. Michael L Brown. Baker:2003. Answering Jewish Objections to Jesus, vol 4: New Testament Objections. Michael Brown	The Lord's Anointed: Interpretation of Old Testament Messianic Texts. Satterthwaite, Hess, and G. Wenham (eds.), Paternoster:1995 Answering Jewish Objections to Jesus: General and Historical Objections. Michael L. Brown. Baker:2000. Answering Jewish Objections to Jesus: Theological Objections. Michael L. Brown. Baker:2000 The Messiah TextsJewish Legends of Three Thousand Years, Raphael Patai, Wayne State: 1979. Jesus in the Talmud. Peter Schafer Jewish Believers in Jesus: The Early Centuries. Oskar Sharsaune and Reidar Hvalvik (eds)	The Scepter and the StarThe Messiahs of the Dead Sea Scrolls and Other Ancient Literature, John J. Collins, Doubleday: 1995 Christianity in Talmud and Midrash, R. Travers Herford, KTAV: 1903 Israel's Messiah in the Bible and the Dead Sea Scrolls. Richard Hess and M Daniel Carroll R (eds). Baker:2003. Where is Boasting? Early Jewish Soteriology and Paul's Response in Romans 1-5. Simon J. Gathercole. Eerdmans:2002. The Limits of Orthodox Theology: Maimonides' Thirteen Principles Reappraised. Marc Shapiro. Littman:2004. Jewish Christianities Reconsidered: Rethinking Ancient Groups and Texts. Matt Jackson-McCabe The Suffering Servant: Isaiah 53 in Jewish and Christian Sources. Bernd Janowski and Peter Stuhlmacher (eds)
Paul / James	What Saint Paul Really SaidWas Paul of Tarsus the Real Founder of Christianity?, by N.T. Wright, Eerdmans:1997 PaulFollower of Jesus or Founder of Christianity?, David Wenham, Eerdmans: 1995.	Paul between Damascus and Antioch, Martin Hengel and Anna Maria Schwemer, WJK:1997 The Pre-Christian Paul, Martin Hengel, SCM/Trinity:1991 The Paul Quest: The Renewed Search for the Jew of Tarsus, Ben Witherington III, IVP:1998	James the Just and Christian Origins. Bruce Chilton and Craig A. Evans (eds.). Brill:1999 Where is Boasting? Early Jewish Soteriology and Paul's Response in Romans 1-5. Simon J. Gathercole. Eerdmans:2002.

		A Challenge to the New Perspective: Revisiting Paul's Doctrine of Justification. Peter Stuhlmacher. IVP:2001. Perspectives Old and New on Paul: The Lutheran Paul and his Critics. Shephen Westerholm. Eerdmans:2004. A Challenge to the New Perspective: Revisiting Paul's Doctrine of Justification. Peter Stuhlmacher	Dictionary of Paul and his Letters. Gerald Hawthorne, Ralph Martin, Daniel G. Reid (eds.), IVP:1993.
Philosophy/Apologetics	No Doubt About It: The Case for Christianity, Winfried Corduan, Broadman&Holman:1993. Philosophers Who Believe, IVP. God and the Philosophers, Morris. Why Believe? Reason and Mystery as Pointers to God. C. Stephen Evans, 1996. A Concise Encyclopedia of the Philosophy of Religion. Anthony Thiselton To Everyone an Answer: A Case for the Christian Worldview. Beckwith, William Lane Craig, Moreland (eds).	Reasonable Faith, William Lane Craig, Crossway Books:1994. Experience of God and the Rationality of Theistic Belief. Jerome Gellman Reason and Religious Belief by Peterson, Hasker, Reichenback, and Basinger, Oxford: 1997 (2nd ed) In Defense of Miracles, Geivett & Habermas (eds.) Christianity and Western Thought: A History of Philosophers, Ideas and Movements: From the Ancient World to the Age of Enlightenment, Colin Brown:1990 Philosophy and the Christian Faith: A Historical Sketch from the Middle Ages to the	Risen IndeedMaking Sense of the Resurrection, Stephen T. Davis, Eerdmans: 1993 Reason for the Hope Within. Michael Murray (ed.). Eerdmans:1999 [the Best!] The Evidential Argument from Evil. Daniel Howard-Snyder, 1996. God and Evil: An Introduction to the Issues. Michael L. Peterson, 1998.
World Religions	The Supremacy of Christ, Ajith Fernando, Crossway: 1995. Neighboring Faiths: A Christian Introduction to World Religions, Winfried Corduan, IVP:1998. A Tapestry of Faith: The Common Threads between Christianity and World Religions. Winfried Coruan. IVP:2002 Christianity and World Religions, JND Anderson, IVP: 1984 (rev.ed.). The Bible and the Quran: A Question of Integrity. Steven Masood. [Exceptionally useful book] Kissing Cousins? Christians and Muslims Face to Face. Bill Musk. [absolutely the first book you should ever read on Islam—this has the God's heart in it]	Christian Faith and Other Faiths by Stephen Neill, IVP:1984 Answering Islam, Norman Geisler and Abdul Saleeb, Baker: 1993 The Bible and the Quran. Jacques Jomier. Ignatius:1959 (trans. 1964) Leaving Islam: Apostates Speak Out. Ibn Warraq (ed). Prometheus:2003. The Quran. M A S Abdel Haleem. [The best and most helpful translation of the Quran I have found. Beautiful tone, helpful explanations.]	Religions and the Truth by Hendrik M. Vroom, Eerd: 1989. The Global God: Multicultural Evangelical Views of God, Aida Besancon Spencer and William David Spencer (eds.), Baker:1998. The Quran and its Exegesis: Selected Texts with Classical and Modern Muslim Interpretations. Helmut Gatje Quranic Christians: An Analysis of Classical and Modern Exegesis. Jane Dammen McAuliffe
Source Materials:			
Dead Sea scrolls	The Dead Sea Scrolls Translated: The Qumran Texts in English, Florentino Martinez, Brill: 1996 (2nd ed.)		
Judaism in Antiquity	The Jews among the Greeks & Romans:A <u>Diaspora Sourcebook.</u> Margaret K. Williams. Johns Hopskins:1998.		Greek and Latin Authors on Jews and Judaism (3vols), Menahem Stern, The Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities:1980
NT papyri	New Documents Illustrating Early Christianity (volumes 1- 6) New Documents Illustrating Early Christianity (volume 7)		

NT Apocrypha	New Documents Illustrating Early Christianity (volume 8) New Testament Apocrypha, Wilhelm Schneemelcher (ed) and R. McL. Wilson (trans.), Westminster/John Knox:1991 [Vol 1] and Vol 2]	
OT Pseudepigrapha	The Old Testament Pseudepigrapha, Charlesworth (ed), 1983. [Vol 1] and Vol 2]	
ANE literature	The Ancient Near East: An Anthology of Texts and Pictures. JB Pritchard. Princeton:1958 The Ancient Near East: A New Anthology of Texts and Pictures. JB Pritchard. Princeton:1975.	Ancient Near Eastern Texts: Relating to the Old Testament (Supplement Included) JB Pritchard. Princeton: 1969 (3rd ed) The Context of Scripture: Canonical Compositions from the Biblical World, William W. Hallo and K. Lawson Younger, eds., Brill: 1997. The Context of Scripture, vol 2: Monumental Inscriptions from the Biblical World. Hallo and Younger (eds.). Brill:2000. [Volume 3 in the above series]

 $\underline{The\ Christian\ ThinkTank...}[http://www.Christian-thinktank.com]\ \underline{(Reference\ Abbreviations)}$

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